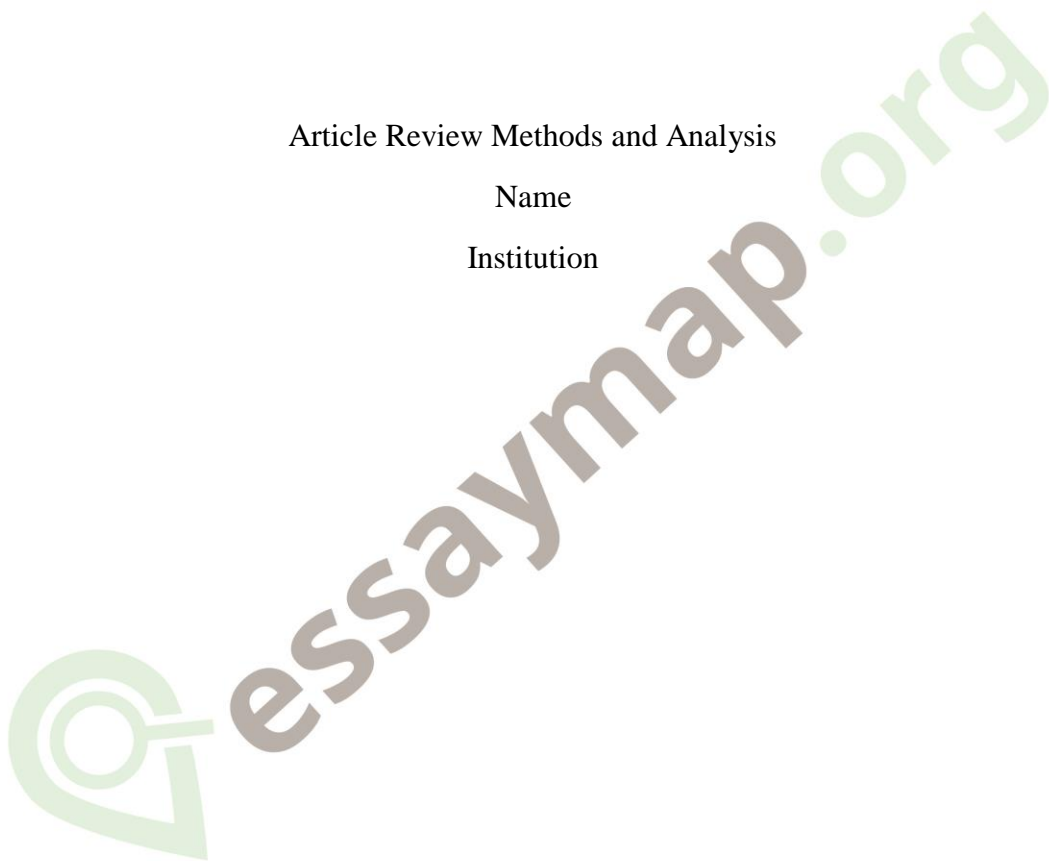


Article Review Methods and Analysis

Name

Institution



Abstract

Drug abuse is a significant factor which influences individual's wellbeing, and thus, recent trends have shown that there is an increasing trend of drug abuse among women. The increase in trend has been associated with a high level of law-breaking among women. The study has provided a more significant evaluation of different factors which influence recent drug use among women. Drug use has been associated with different factors which are detrimental to normal wellbeing. There is a need to focus on essential concepts which define critical processes regarding individual development. Drug use among women has been associated with different factors, although there is no specific understanding of the influence of drug use among women. Therefore, the research sought to investigate the association between victimization, psychological distress, law-breaking, and drug use. The findings from the study have provided a greater understanding of the fact that there is a significant relation of recent drug use to victimization, law-breaking, and psychological distress. This shows that control of recent drug use among women will lead to reduced law-breaking cases, reduced level of victimization, and lower levels of stress. The methods in the study have provided a high level of reliability, especially, considering the research question and assumptions highlighted in the study.

1. General description of the study

1a. Drug use has been a significant threat to public health and the overall wellbeing among women. Drug use has increased the number of women incarcerated within the criminal justice system, which requires more considerable attention to help limit the negative influence of drug use. In 1980, there were approximately 13,258 women who were incarcerated in both state and federal prisons. However, the number has increased significantly, with reports showing that in 2011, 111,387 women were incarcerated (Couvrette et al., 2016).

The rate of incarceration has increased significantly among women who are being convicted of drug-related offenses. Approximately 29% of jail inmates and 25% in the state prisons have been charged with drug offenses, compared to 24% jail inmates and 175 in state prisons among men who have been convicted for drug-related crimes (Golder et al., 2014). The statistics highlight the need to evaluate drug use among women and determine how drug use is related to their ability to commit crimes. A significant number, 83% of female jail detainees have experienced substance use disorder at one point in their lives while 53% have met the diagnostic criteria for substance use disorder (Golder et al., 2014).

Thus, the information that has been outlined in the articles provides a central focus on study problem through describing better background information that forms the premise of the study development. The study has fulfilled the aim of the research, especially, considering the negative influence on drug use among women, which is a significant public health issue.

Research Question

Is there an association between victimization, psychological distress, law-breaking, and recent drug use (Past 12 months)?

1b. Hypothesis

Hypothesis provides emphasis on assumptions that are included in the study and form the premise of study development. Thus, the study has integrated different factors in understanding the existing influence of drug use among women, victimization, and law-breaking. If the recent drug use levels are controlled, then victimization, psychological distress, law-breaking will decrease (Past 12months)

2. Design and Analysis

Variables in research are fundamental to adequate emphasis on essential factors which influence research development. Dependent and independent research variables form the basis of study development. Sufficient identification of these variables ensures that there are effective research processes to attain accurate results.

2a. Independent variables

These are variables that provide more information on the predictor variables included in the research. Therefore, the independent variables included in the analysis are race, type of victimization, personal resources, dynamic drug, and crime involvement. These variables were measured using different factors. The race is a categorical variable that was measured on a nominal scale. Type of victimization was evaluated based on a dichotomous input, including a Yes or No response. Thus, the respondent was asked whether they experienced any of the variables highlighted.

Personal resources were evaluated using a Likert scale where psychological distress and impulsivity are shown. The variable, thus, was operationalized using two factors, which include psychological distress and PTSD. PTSD was measured using a 49-item scale. All of these variables included in the study were active variables, although attribute variables included

education attainment, intimate partner status, and current employment. The attribute variables were categorical and measured on a nominal scale.

Independent variables

<i>2a1. Variable</i>	<i>2a2. Scale of measurement</i>	<i>2a3. Type of data</i>	<i>2a4. Variable type (Active/Attribute)</i>	<i>2a5. Subject</i>
Race	Nominal	Qualitative	Attribute	Between subject factor
Education attainment	Ordinal	Qualitative	Attribute	Between subject factor
Intimate Partner status	Nominal	Qualitative	Attribute	Between subject factor
Current employment	Nominal	Qualitative	Attribute	Between subject factor
Type of Victimization	Nominal	Qualitative	Active	Within-subject factor
Personal resources	Ordinal	Qualitative	Active	Within-subject factor

Table showing the independent variables

2b. Dependent variable

The dependent variable is recent drug use which is a categorical variable that is measured on a nominal scale.

2c. Extraneous variables

Extraneous variables are variables that are not intentionally included in the research because they are not directly linked to the findings, or research objective. Therefore, such variables include race, education attainment, intimate partner status, and current employment. These are variables that unintentionally are included in the analysis and help understand the primary variables better.

2d. Type of study

The study was a nonexperimental study that employed as a survey research approach in understanding the factors that were being analyzed. The analysis techniques that were

incorporated sought to understand bivariate analysis between the dependent and independent variables. The groups included in the analysis did not focus on control groups considering that the study was based on a cross-sectional approach.

2e. Treatment and intervention

Thus, in evaluating the validity and reliability of the study, the research focused on scientific research processes which were aimed at limiting the level of bias and improve validity and reliability. The content validity and reliability were evaluated differently to improve critical outline processes which define a well-engaged focus on essential processes that determine better outcomes. Reliability focuses on consistency of a given clinical evaluation. Essential concepts that are evaluated in this case include past results regarding the same assessment. Thus, determining a higher level of emphasis provides a strong focus on fundamental ideas which need to be adequately evaluated in ensuring that there is a high level of reliability. The intervention that is being considered in a given case is successfully assessed. Minimizing bias improves the levels of validity and reliability of the instrument, which was achieved in the study.

2f. Design

The main incorporated design was chi-square design, which sought to provide a strong emphasis on the underlying association between dependent and independent variables in the study. Chi-square analysis is the appropriate test in this case considering the nature of the data, which is categorical, hence, makes it possible to conduct a successful chi-square analysis. Correlation matrix has also been included in the study to provide information on bivariate analysis, which provides a strong emphasis on fundamental concepts which help improve understanding of the research findings based on the tests conducted.

2g. Instruments

The study enlisted the use of a survey questionnaire in data collection. The analysis was conclusively determined, which highlighted the need to provide a unique emphasis on the findings. The questionnaire was employed because it provides limited responses, hence, reducing the level of bias based on the input of the respondents. The instrument was tested to determine whether information obtained was able to help determine the research question. Validity is concerned with the accuracy of the clinical assessment. The degree of accuracy in clinical evaluation varies significantly. It is aimed at ensuring that the instruments offer a better focus on issues that are investigated. The adoption of different measures plays an integral role in outlining improved outcomes. The validity, therefore, focuses on the tests that have been made regarding a given approach to ensure that evidence-based practice is encouraged.

3. Results and Interpretation

3a. Summary of test significance

The statistical analysis of significance was evaluated based on chi-square analysis test for association. The test of the final model showed that the model was statistical reliable at $\chi^2(14) = 102.001, p < 0.05$. The findings provide an elaborate focus on different factors which help outline changes which define a strong focus on different factors which influence research development. However, the findings, as identified in the study, do not provide an emphasis on specific groups included in the analysis.

3b. Authors conclusion

The general conclusion limits the understanding of different subgroups as well as their influence on the overall model. Multivariate analysis requires a high level of focus where it would be possible to understand the needs of different groups. Maintaining a unique emphasis on these changes provides a strong focus on better research outcomes.

Conducting each test independently incorporating one independent variable and the dependent variable provide effective outcomes where it is possible to understand how each variable independently influence the dependent variable.

4. Evaluation

4a. Internal validity

Threats to validity limit the research outcome considering a high level of bias. The threats to internal validity based on the research development include the instrument used in the analysis and selection. The instrument used in data collection forms an important aspect which provides a strong emphasis on necessary changes which help outline improved outcomes. The use of the questionnaire makes it difficult to analyze the responses based on the type of questions included in the analysis. The selection process is crucial, considering that there is a need to integrate better concepts to improve the validity and reliability of the findings.

4b. External validity

External validity focuses on the outcomes of applying the scientific process in research. Thus, the findings are influenced by different factors including selection bias and the analysis methods employed, which might have a detrimental influence on the research findings. Selection bias is defined by the inability to incorporate scientific methods while the analysis methods form the basis where the hypothesis is evaluated, and thus, the choice of wrong analysis methods limits the validity of the findings.

Maintaining better outcomes provides an individual assessment of essential elements that define a high level of efficacy. The revision of the scale showed that there was a significant focus in identifying critical processes which help identify key processes which maintain an improved level of care. Reliability focuses on consistency of a given clinical evaluation. Essential concepts that are evaluated in this case include past results regarding the same

assessment. Thus, determining a higher level of emphasis provides a strong focus on fundamental ideas which need to be adequately evaluated in ensuring that there is a high level of reliability.

4c. Further research

Conducting further research will help improve the understanding of the influence of drug abuse on the behavioral changes among women, which influence their ability to commit a crime. Thus, future research should focus on each factor differently to understand the extent at which they influence recent drug use. There is also a need to evaluate the underlying risk factors which provide a greater emphasis on the outcomes based on the underlying research methods.



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