

Key Concepts : Alcohol use, Juvenile criminal behavior patterns

## Correlation between alcohol use and juvenile criminal behavior patterns in Korea\*

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### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to examine the correlation between juvenile alcohol use and their criminal patterns.

The data were collected through questionnaire surveys. Subjects serving for this study were 971 delinquent adolescents in Korea, sampled from 6 juvenile corrective institutions and 2 classification judging institutions, using a census method. Their age range was between 12 and 21. Data were analysed by IBM PC using SAS program. Statistical methods employed were Chi-square and frequency analysis.

1. Of 877 respondents, the number of adolescents committed criminal behaviors while the intoxicated were 230(26.2%), and 647(73.8%) were in a non-intoxicated state.
2. Adolescent under intoxication showed a higher rate of aggressive crimes and assault crimes, whereas adolescents under the non-influence of liquor tended to commit property crimes and violations of criminal special law.  
Drunken state adolescents during committing criminal behaviors used knives, stones or fist-kicking as criminal tools, whereas drug use or without weapons in non drunken state. Most crimes have happened without any tools in both group.
3. In comparison of the alcohol user and the non-user, most alcohol-related crimes among adolescents were committed at AM 0:00 to AM 4:00 during the weekend in the dark, cloudy, and stormy-rainy day, while non-alcohol related crimes were at afternoon of weekday in the clear day. The places that the criminal activities occurred were streets, amusement places such as disco-theque, fields and their own house among alcohol users, whereas victim's house, another person's house and restaurant were chosen among non-alcohol users.
4. The victims assaulted by juvenile offenders in both drunken and non-drunken state were mostly passer-by(65.4%), followed by their friends(25.1%). And the conditions of victims showed a significant differences between the drunken adolescents and the non-drunken adolescents. The victim's conditions assaulted by intoxicated delinquent adolescents were in quarreling or drunken state, whereas non-alcohol related crimes were directed against victims in a sleeping or irresistible state.

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5. Almost over the half of delinquent adolescents perceived their delinquency as wrong behaviors, and alcohol non-user tended to more significantly perceive their criminal acts as wrong conducts. About the half of respondents answered that they committed their criminal acts in spite of having a very good judgement while doing crimes, the author did not found a significant difference between the two groups. The reasons given for crimes were manifested as follows: it can be seen that 'to get money for amusements'(30.4 % of all motives) were most common, followed by 'to commit accidentally the offences'(23.8%), 'curiosity or heroism'(18.9%). alcohol related crimes tended to be accidental and impulsively without any clear planning, while non-alcohol related crimes tended to be purposeful, directed to make money, motivated by curiosity or a desire to live heroically.
- In Conclusions, the correlation between alcohol use and juvenile criminal behaviors has been examined in this study. Generally, alcohol use had been found to be highly correlated with aggressive assault crimes including robbery, burglary and rape etc.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Korean Adolescents are being exposed to increasing amount of alcohol and other drug recently.

Especially, the use of alcohol and other drug in younger delinquent adolescents has become a social issue, but empirical data on this issue is sparse(Ministry of Culture and Sport, 1996a).

Although the accurate statistical data was not available, it has been reported that the 27.7 % of Korean adolescents in middle school to high school was in smoking, the 57.3 % of respondents in alcohol drinking, the 31.0 % in use of stimulants, 26.2 % in use of volatile solvents, and the 25.0 % in use of sedative(Kim, Yoo, Na, Lee & Min, 1988).

Studies have consistently reported that about one-fourth of adolescents have used more than one kind of drug and generally, delinquent adolescents have the 3 times higher frequency of use of alcohol and other drugs than student adolescents(Min & Kim, 1987).

The related literature review since the year of 1970 suggests that the use of alcohol and other drugs in growing adolescents have a malicious effect upon their physiologic, psychologic, and social development as well as social issues in Korea(Min et al, 1978; Kim et al, 1988 : Ministry of Culture and Sport, 1996).

In addition, the available studies conclude that the use of alcohol and other drug among adolescents may lead to a variety of maladaptive behavior such as poor attendance to school, poor academic performance, lying and commit a theft for purchase the alcohol and other drug (Younge, Oetting & Deffenbacher, 1996; Cohen & Rice, 1997).

Moreover, the relationship between use of alcohol and other drugs and delinquent behavior among adolescents has received a great deal of attention in many studies(Simonds & Kashani, 1980; Dawkins & Dawkins, 1983; Lewis, Cloninger & Pais, 1983; Ross & Lightfoot, 1985; Anglin & Speckart, 1988; Collins, 1988; Wiczorek, Welte & Abel, 1990; Morita, Satoh, Odas, Tomita, Shoji, Seno, Abe, Konishi & Okada, 1996; Fergusson, Lynskey & Horwood, 1996).

Many alcohol and drug user seem to have moved through three fairly distinct phases in sequence leading to the violent act, that is, (1) chronic alcohol drinker, (2) an acute change in the individual's state of emotional arousal and (3) a situation that triggers the specific events leading to the act of violence(Öjesjö, 1983).

Reid(1982) reported that the crime under the drunken state was prevalent in property crime such as theft, another's house breaking, firesetting and forgery.

The studies on incarcerated offender also revealed that 42% of 307 offenders committed criminal acts under the drunken state(Mayfield, 1972) and 83 % of offenders who incarcerated by homicide show the high level of urine alcohol concentration in screening test immediately after committed criminal acts(Reid, 1982).

Like this, many studies on incarcerated offender supported the correlation between alcohol and drug use and criminal behavior.

Alcohol use also show the significantly high correlation with maladaptation in life of half-way house(Moczydlowski, 1980) as well as the rate of recidivism(Lambert & Madden, 1975).

Also, the author noticed that physio-psycho-socio-environmental and cultural factor may play as mediating variables to the correlation between substance use and criminal behavior.

Based on the previous studies(Ministry of Culture and Sport, 1996: Legal Research and Training Institute, 1994: Kim, Min, & Kim, 1996) the author arbitrarily classified the 4 juvenile criminal patterns as follows: crimes against property, aggressive crimes, assault crimes and violation of criminal special law, afterward Kim et al(1996) suggested the correlation between 4 types of crimes and family dynamic environment, family stress factor, adolescent's characteristics etc.

Moreover, a number of studies (Kim et al, 1996: Dawkins, 1997: Kims, 1998) indicated that alcohol use among delinquent adolescents may make their delinquent behavior more cruelly and more aggressively.

Therefore, this study was undertaken for comparative analysis of the difference between alcohol-related criminal behavior and non-alcohol related criminal behavior among delinquent adolescent and established to get the baseline data for the development of preventive strategies against criminal behavior under drunken state among adolescents in Korea.

## II. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

To understand the emergence of the drug-related criminal behaviors among adolescents, nursing scholars must appreciate theoretical orientation of substance abuse and criminal behavior among adolescents.

A number of theoretical models have been proposed for understanding the development of substance abuse and delinquent behavior.

The theoretical orientation was derived from problem behavior theory(Jessor & Jessor, 1977) and social learning theory(Bandura, 1977), which was described below.

Social learning theory(Bandura, 1977) suggests that individuals learn through a vicarious process of observing the behaviors of role models, particularly high-status role models.

The consequences of behavior, particularly the reinforcements that role models receive for behavior, are most salient to the observer, and behaviors that are observed to be rewarded are much more likely to be learned. Family and peer influences are important in shaping expectancies toward substance use and violent behavior. Parental drinking habits and violent behavior under drunken state clearly have an impact on adolescent drinking habit.

Problem behavior theory derives from the work of Jessor and Jessor, and is based on an empirical integration of psychological, social and biochemical factors that contribute to adolescent problem behaviors such as drinking, smoking, runaway and delinquent behavior.

According to problem behavior theory, substance use including drinking is functional for the adolescent and may even be instrumental in achieving personal goals. For example, substance use may serve as a means of demonstrating alliance with and being accepted by peers, also it may serve as a way of coping with anxiety, failure and hopelessness(Jessor & Jessor, 1977).

### III. METHODS

#### 1. Research design and procedures

A questionnaire survey was performed in conjunction with a semi-structured interview and an official record of school and juvenile corrective institutions.

The contents of the questionnaire included the existence of alcohol use and the characteristics of criminal behavior under drunken state and non-drunken state with the demographic information of subjects was administered to our subjects.

Data were collected at times that were convenient for the subject with individual's informed consent and the permission from juvenile corrective institutions and classification judging institutions where the subjects were confined. The length of data collection was in the 2 months from 1st April to 30th July of the 1998. Data were analysed using SAS program. Statistical methods for data analyses employed were Chi-square and frequency analysis.

#### 2. Subjects

A total of 971 adolescents ranging from 12 to 21 years of age was studied in 6 juvenile corrective institutions and 2 classification judging institutions, randomly sampled among 11 juvenile corrective institutions and 4 classification judging institutions in Korea, using a census method.

Among 877 subjects(90.3%) available on questionnaire, 230 adolescents(26.2%) reported that they were under drunken state when committed criminal behavior.

#### 3. Research method

Two separated research areas were issued: the existence of alcohol use when committing

the criminal behavior and the patterns of criminal behaviors while intoxicated.

##### 1) Alcohol use when committing the criminal behavior

Subjects were asked on whether or not they were drunk at the time of committing the criminal behavior. A closed question was derived based on the research purpose:

"Did you commit this criminal behavior under intoxication state?"

##### 2) The characteristics of criminal behavior patterns and victim's state

The author selected 55 crimes through the literature review on the crime of incarcerated offender(Legal Research and Training Institute, 1994; Ministry of Culture and Sport, 1996b; Kim, Min & Kim, 1996). Furthermore, these 55 items of crimes were classified as 4 types of crimes including property crimes, assault crimes, aggressive crimes and the violation of criminal special law(Kim, Min & Kim, 1996).

To put it in the concrete, the property crimes included deception, petty stealing, theft at day time, theft at night time, set fire, destruction of other's good etc.

The aggressive crimes included attempted rape, robbery, robbery with murder, murder, attempted murder, assault and leading to the death etc.

The assault crimes included injury, act of violence, intimidation, violence toward ascendant.

Finally, the violation of criminal special law include use of illicit drug and substance, gang fight, minor's plunder and enticement, violation of social welfare law, violation of the National Security Law, violation of lawyer's law, violation of the Road Traffic Law, violation of the Firearms, Swords and Explosive Control Law, an act in violation of one's duty and embezzlement etc.

In addition, the following information were studied: time, weekday, weather, place, and tools of crimes, accompanying person and

behavior after committing crime. Also this study investigated the characteristics of victims, the percept of right-wrong to commit crime, the judgement on crimes by the offenders and the motivation of the criminal acts in relation to the alcohol use of the offenders.

#### IV. RESULTS

The analysis involved ① investigating characteristics and the related factors of criminal acts associated with alcohol use, and ② assessing the effects of alcohol use on the characteristics of criminal acts.

At first, the type of alcohol beverage associated with the crimes were Soju(56.7%), beer(23.4%) whisky(16.4%), Makkori(2.5%) and Dongdongju(1.0%) in these orders.

Among these 5 types of alcohol beverage, Soju was the most frequently drinking alcohol associated with criminal behaviors among incarcerated delinquent adolescents.

Table 1, 2, 3 and 4 showed the difference between criminal behaviors under the drunken state and under the non-drunken state by Chi-square.

In the table 1, adolescent under intoxication showed a higher rate of aggressive crimes and assault crimes, whereas adolescents under the non-influence of liquor tended to commit property crimes and violations of criminal special law( $X^2 = 73.68$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $p = .001$ ).

Drunken state adolescents during committing criminal behaviors used knives, stones or fist-kicking as criminal tools, whereas drugs use or without weapons in non-drunken state, with the most crimes without any tools in both group( $X^2 = 17.76$   $df = 4$ ,  $p = .001$ ). Also juvenile delinquents while intoxicated tended to participate in criminal activities with their peer groups, whereas non-alcohol related crimes were committed alone( $X^2 = 17.91$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $p = .001$ ).

Behaviors after criminal acts revealed no significant difference between alcohol related

crimes and non-alcohol related crimes.

As seen in table 2, the juvenile offences occurred nearly at mid-night to AM 4:00 during tuesday to friday in the fine day. In comparison of the alcohol user and the non-user, most alcohol-related crimes among adolescents were committed at AM 0:00 to AM 4:00 during the weekend in the dark, cloudy, and stormy-rainy day, while non-alcohol related crimes at afternoon of weekday in the clear day(criminal time :  $x^2=52.02$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $p=.001$ ; weekday :  $x^2 = 23.95$ ,  $df = 5$ ,  $p=.001$ ; climate :  $x^2 = 18.09$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $p=.001$ ). The places where the criminal activities occurred were streets, amusement places such as discotheque, fields and their own house among alcohol users, whereas victim's house, another person's house and restaurant among non-alcohol users( $X^2 = 18.83$ ,  $df = 8$ ,  $p = .016$ ). About the half of criminal acts(48.7%) occurred near the offender's house among alcohol users, whereas the 44.2% of crimes occurred in the place far from offender's house among non-users( $X^2 = 12.90$ ,  $df = 2$ ,  $p = .002$ ).

As shown in table 3, the victims assaulted by juvenile offenders in both drunken and non-drunken state were mostly passer-by(65.4%), followed by their friends(25.1%). There was no statistically significant difference in the relation of victims to the offenders in the drunken state and the non-drunken state( $X^2 = 1.24$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $p = .743$ ). At the same time, the sex of victims was not associated with the existence of alcohol use by juvenile offenders( $X^2 = .00$ ,  $df = 1$ ,  $p = .991$ ). However, the conditions of victims showed a significant difference between the drunken adolescents and the non-drunken adolescents, that is, victim's conditions assaulted by intoxicated delinquent adolescents were in quarreling or drunken state, whereas non-alcohol related crimes were directed against victims in a sleeping or irresistible state( $X^2 = 33.16$ ,  $df = 6$ ,  $p=.016$ ). There was no significant difference in the type of the injuries in victims between

&lt;Table 1&gt; Characteristics of juvenile criminal activity with alcohol use(%)

Variable	Drinking	Non-drinking	Total	df	$\chi^2$	p
Criminal types						
Property crimes	39(17.6)	243(38.9)	282(33.3)			
Aggress crimes	89(40.1)	156(25.0)	245(28.9)	3	73.68	.001***
Assault crimes	72(32.4)	92(14.7)	164(19.4)			
Violation of criminal special law	22( 9.9)	134(21.4)	156(18.4)			
Tools of criminals						
Knives	44(20.5)	87(15.6)	131(16.9)			
Stones	42(19.5)	95(17.0)	137(17.7)			
Fist-kicking	30(14.0)	44( 7.9)	74( 9.6)	4	17.76	.001***
Drugs	11( 5.1)	68(12.1)	79(10.2)			
without weapons	88(40.9)	265(47.4)	353(45.6)			
Accompanying person						
Solitary	45(20.1)	157(24.9)	202(23.6)			
Family-member	10( 4.5)	7( 1.1)	17( 2.0)			
Friend	140(62.5)	422(66.9)	562(65.7)	3	17.91	.001***
Peer group	29(13.0)	45( 7.1)	74( 8.7)			
Behavior after criminals						
Go to sleep	20( 9.4)	49( 8.5)	69( 8.8)			
Stay that place	38(17.9)	74(12.9)	112(14.2)			
Some working	15( 7.1)	56( 9.7)	71( 9.0)			
Escape	72(34.0)	217(37.7)	289(36.7)	6	7.64	.266
Irritability	11( 5.2)	16( 2.8)	27( 3.4)			
Self-surrender	10( 4.7)	31( 5.4)	41( 5.2)			
Arrest	46(21.7)	133(23.1)	179(22.7)			

\*\*\*:  $p < .001$ 

drinking and non-drinking adolescents( $X^2 = 2.75$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $p = .600$ ).

The remembrance, the perception, the ability of judgement, and the motivation of the criminal acts were shown in table 4. While most adolescents remembered their delinquent behaviors committed regardless of the alcohol drinking or not, there was no significant difference between both two groups( $X^2 = 2.63$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $p = .452$ ). Almost over the half of delinquent adolescents perceived their delinquency as wrong behaviors, and alcohol non-user tended to more significantly perceive their criminal acts as wrong conducts( $X^2 = 15.21$ ,

$df = 4$ ,  $p = .004$ ). About the half of respondents answered that they committed their criminal acts in spite of having a very good judgement while doing crimes, the author did not found a significant difference between both two groups( $X^2 = 6.12$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $p = .190$ ). The reasons given for crimes were manifested as follows: it can be seen that 'to get money for amusements' (30.4% of all motives) were most common, followed by 'to commit accidentally the offences' (23.8%), 'curiosity or heroism' (18.9%). In comparison of the two groups, alcohol related crimes tended to be accidental and impulsively without any clear planning,

<Table 2> The related factors of criminal activity with alcohol use(%)

Variable	Drinking	Non-drinking	Total	df	$\chi^2$	p
<b>Criminal time</b>						
AM 0-4	151(66.8)	264(41.4)	415(48.0)			
AM 4-8	12( 5.3)	42( 6.6)	54( 6.3)			
AM 8-12	13( 5.8)	73(11.4)	86(10.0)	4	52.02	.001***
Noon-PM 6	23(10.2)	182(28.5)	205(23.7)			
PM 6-12	27(11.9)	77(12.1)	104(12.0)			
<b>Criminal weekday</b>						
Sunday	41(19.2)	52( 8.7)	93(11.4)			
Monday	21( 9.8)	72(12.0)	93(11.4)			
Tue - Wed	45(21.0)	187(31.2)	232(28.6)	5	23.95	.001***
Thur - Fri	54(25.2)	155(25.9)	209(25.7)			
Saturday	36(16.8)	76(12.7)	112(13.8)			
Holiday	17( 8.0)	57( 9.5)	74( 9.1)			
<b>Climate during criminals</b>						
Fine	125(55.1)	441(69.6)	566(65.7)			
Cloudy	23(10.1)	51( 8.0)	74( 8.6)			
Stormy-rainy	33(14.5)	61( 9.6)	94(10.9)	4	18.09	.001***
Dark	38(16.8)	59( 9.3)	97(11.3)			
Full-moon	8( 3.5)	22( 3.5)	30( 3.5)			
<b>Crime place</b>						
Own house	19( 8.4)	47( 5.5)	66( 7.8)			
Victim's house	30(13.3)	103(16.5)	133(15.7)			
Others's house	21( 9.3)	76(12.2)	97(11.4)			
Company building	15( 6.7)	31( 5.0)	46( 5.4)			
Restaurant	8( 3.6)	65(10.4)	73( 8.6)	8	18.83	.016*
Amusement place	42(18.7)	92(14.7)	134(15.8)			
Fields	20( 8.9)	31( 5.0)	51( 6.0)			
Streets	56(24.9)	138(22.1)	194(22.8)			
Public place	14( 6.2)	42( 6.7)	56( 6.6)			
<b>Distance from own house to criminal place</b>						
Near own house	110(48.7)	248(39.4)	358(41.9)			
Neighboring place	47(20.8)	103(16.4)	150(17.5)	2	12.90	.002**
Far from house	69(30.5)	272(44.2)	347(40.6)			

\*: p < .05 \*\*: p < .01 \*\*\*: p < .001

&lt;Table 3&gt; Characteristics of Victims(%)

Variable	Drinking	Non-drinking	Total	df	$\chi^2$	p
Relation with victim						
Relatives	14( 7.1)	27( 5.2)	41( 5.6)			
Friend	47(23.7)	136(25.6)	183(25.1)			
Eminent person	8( 4.0)	20( 3.8)	28( 3.9)	3	1.24	.743
Passer-by	129(65.2)	347(65.5)	476(65.4)			
Victim's sex						
Male	143(67.1)	365(67.1)	508(67.1)	1	0.00	.991
Female	70(32.9)	179(32.9)	249(32.9)			
Victim's condition						
Irresistible	29(14.9)	85(18.7)	114(17.5)			
Drunken	50(25.6)	65(14.3)	115(17.7)			
Quarreling	49(25.1)	86(18.9)	135(20.8)			
Flighting	15( 7.7)	18(14.0)	33( 5.1)	6	33.16	.016*
Sleeping	7( 3.6)	51(11.2)	58( 8.9)			
Working	19( 9.7)	85(18.7)	104(16.0)			
Crowds	26(13.3)	65(14.3)	91(14.0)			
Type of injuries in victim						
Hemorrhage	16(10.6)	40(16.0)	56(14.0)			
Facial injury	90(59.6)	143(57.2)	233(58.1)			
Fracture	24(15.9)	32(12.8)	56(14.0)	4	2.75	.600
Loss of vision	9( 6.0)	14( 5.6)	23( 5.8)			
Death	12( 7.9)	21( 8.4)	33( 8.2)			

\*: p &lt; .05

while non-alcohol related crimes tended to be purposeful, directed to get money, motivated by curiosity or a desire to live heroically ( $X^2=46.97$ ,  $df = 9$ ,  $p=.001$ ).

## V. DISCUSSION

A number of studies investigated the relationship between the use of alcohol and their delinquent and criminal behavior among adolescents. The deleterious effects of alcohol and the other drugs on the academic and social well-being of adolescents commonly have been well addressed(Kim, Yoo, Na, Lee & Min, 1988).

Recently, the parental influence becomes less

effective in controlling the delinquent behaviors such as the alcohol and drug use in Korea(Min, Choi, & Lee, 1978). Moreover, the social norms on the alcohol use as an well accepted-entertainment in adult may trigger the adolescent the alcohol use, when they take adults as their model(Lee, Lee & Min, 1987).

Kim et al(1988) reported the factors related to the alcohol use in Korean adolescents (from middle school to high school). Approximately 57.3% of the students were the alcohol user in Korea(Kim et al, 1988), whereas 92% of males and 73% of females in 18 year of age reported using alcohol, and 4% reported using alcohol daily in U.S.A (Kaplan & Sadock, 1998).

Noticeably, the introduction of a refreshing

<Table 4> Wrong-right, judgement & motivation of juvenile criminal behavior (%)

Variable	Drinking	Non-drinking	Total	df	$\chi^2$	p
Remembrance of criminality						
All events	4(44.5)	27(54.0)	31(52.5)			
Almost events	2(22.2)	12(24.0)	14(23.7)			
Partial events	1(11.1)	8(16.0)	9(15.3)	3	2.63	.452
Never	2(22.2)	3( 6.0)	5( 8.5)			
Perception of wrong-right						
All wrong	104(46.4)	367(58.6)	471(55.5)			
Almost wrong	39(17.5)	102(16.3)	141(16.6)			
Some wrong	36(16.1)	85(13.6)	121(14.3)	4	15.21	.004**
Almost not	31(13.9)	58( 9.3)	89(10.5)			
Never	13( 5.8)	14( 2.2)	27( 3.2)			
Ability of judgement						
Very good	87(39.9)	288(47.5)	375(45.5)			
Fairly good	80(36.7)	217(35.8)	217(36.0)			
So-so	15( 6.9)	28( 4.6)	43( 5.2)	4	6.12	.190
Bad	21( 9.6)	41( 6.8)	62( 7.5)			
Very bad	15( 6.9)	32( 5.3)	47( 5.7)			
Motives						
Cost of living	18( 8.3)	51( 8.2)	69( 8.3)			
Cost of amuse	42(19.4)	212(34.2)	254(30.4)			
Malice-rage	11( 5.1)	19( 3.1)	30( 3.6)			
Accidentally	75(34.7)	124(20.0)	199(23.8)			
Sexual conflict	16( 7.4)	20( 3.2)	36( 4.3)			
Domestic trouble	8( 3.7)	30( 4.8)	38( 4.6)	9	46.97	.001***
Broken home	4( 1.9)	9( 1.5)	13( 1.6)			
Curiosity or heroism	26(12.0)	132(21.3)	158(18.9)			
Persecutory idea	7( 3.2)	10( 1.6)	17( 2.0)			
Impulsivity	9( 4.2)	13( 2.1)	22( 2.6)			

\*\* : p < .01 \*\*\* : p < .001

sport drink in 1990s tended to decrease the prevalence of alcohol and drug use in U.S.A., however Korean adolescents still continued to use alcohol and illicit drugs such as bond, butane gas and they experienced serious sequela(Kim et al, 1988).

Although males continued to 'outdrink' females, the gap between the percentage of male and female drinkers has been recently

narrowing (Engs & Hanson, 1990; Johnston, O'Malley & Bachman, 1996; Kaplan & Sadock, 1998). Increases in the percentage of women who drink, and the quantity and frequency with which they drink, might be attributable to relatively recent societal movement on gender equity(Harrington, Brigham & Clayton, 1997).

In this study, the correlation between the alcohol use and the patterns and the

characteristics of juvenile delinquent criminal acts were investigated in Korean adolescents.

The results showed that delinquent adolescents under intoxication show the higher frequency of committing assault and aggressive crimes than no using alcohol delinquent adolescents.

A study on incarcerated offender supports our finding in that the offender under drunken state committed the higher occurrence of serious criminality such as set fire, highway robbery than under no drunken state(Lightfoot & Hodgins, 1988). Moreover, there are many evidences that adolescents using alcohol may be connected with predispositional attribute that increases the probability of aggressive behavior(Rachal, Williams, Brehm, Cavanaugh, Moore & Eckerman, 1975; Öjesjö 1983; Park, Lee & Min, 1984; Fergusson, Linskey & Horwood, 1996; Low, Zulkifli, Yusof, Batumalail & Aye, 1996; Miller, 1997;) and also alcohol use is more strongly and consistently associated with the violent offense, compared with other drugs (Simonds & Kashani, 1979; Min, 1980; Kim, Lee & Min, 1983; Dawkins, 1997). West and Farrington(1977) reported that the loss of control, lowered inhibition under drunken state among adolescents may lead to the more fatal criminal acts. Windle and Windle(1996) also found that higher level of alcohol use were associated with more frequent involvement in risky activities.

Kolb(1974) reported the correlation between alcohol and drug use and delinquent behavior, which indicates that the defect in one's superego under alcohol and drug intoxication may lead to violent and fatal crimes such as homicide, assaults etc.

Interestingly, the most commonly used type of alcohol beverage among Korean adolescents in this study is Soju, Korean traditional liquor, whereas beer, more mild alcohol beverage than Soju, in United Kingdom(West & Farrington, 1977). This finding maybe reveals the

difference of cultural and economic background on drinking pattern between Korea and United Kingdom.

The four most common causes of death in people between the ages of 10 and 24 years are motor vehicle accidents(37%), homicide(14%), suicide(12%), and other injuries or accidents(12%) (Kaplan & Sadock, 1998). We should notice that a considerable amount of these accident and trauma may be related to their using alcohol and other drug.

Alcohol drinking among adolescents may be related to a variety of delinquent behaviors or antisocial activities(Barns, 1984). School surveys have shown that the adolescent drinker are more likely to exhibit acceptance of and participation in deviant behavior than the nondrinker(Rachal, Williams, Brehm, Cavanaugh, Moore & Eckerman, 1975; Kim, Min & Lee, 1988). Kim, Lee and Min(1983) reported that 62.3% of delinquent adolescents were the habitual drinker, 24.2% of them have the experience of committing criminal acts under the drunken state, and 37.9% of aggressive criminals and 37.0% of assault criminals were under the drunken state in Korea.

As mentioned above, we noticed that using alcohol play a leading role as a catalyst in committing a delinquent and criminal behavior among Korean adolescents(Park, Lee & Min, 1984; Ministry of Culture & Sport, 1996 a). However, whether antisocial behaviors among adolescents proceed or follow problem drinking is not known.

In this study, delinquent adolescents who committed criminal behaviors in intoxicated state didn't recognize injustice in their crimes. This finding was supported by research findings by Lee et al(1987). In delinquent's attitude analysis toward their accident under drunken state, Lee et al(1987) found that a considerable proportion of habitual drinkers among them have thought toward their accident as a natural

and reasonable results.

The author suggests that alcohol related crimes tended to be accidental and impulsively without any clear motivation, while non-alcohol crimes tended to be purposeful, directed to make money, motivated by curiosity and a desire to live heroically. This finding also was supported by Kim, Min & Kim (1996) in that alcohol and drug user among delinquent adolescents have committed delinquent and criminal behavior impulsively and unintentional, whereas non-drug users have committed object-oriented crime, that is, crimes against property for making money and goods. And, drunken state adolescents during committing criminal behaviors used knives, stones or fist-kicking as criminal tools, whereas drugs use or without weapons in non-drunken state in this study. It suggests that there is a thread of connection between use of weapon and relatively higher level of aggressiveness and impulsivity when committing criminal acts under drunken state.

Above all, we must always keep in mind that problem drinking and problem behavior among adolescents results from the same origin. And alcohol and drug use and crime may have a common background in the subculture of violence.

Perhaps, the most important conclusion we can draw from this study is that there is correlation between alcohol use among adolescents and their delinquent and criminal behavior and delinquent behavior under intoxication state was more aggressive and violent than under non-intoxication state in Korea.

## VI. Limitations and Suggestions

1. The author recognizes the limitations inherent in assessing alcohol use solely on the basis of the self-report of "use or don't use alcohol" without information on the amount consumed when committing criminal acts.

2. The various variables that lead to criminal behavior among adolescents such as family dynamic environment, parenting, peer relationship were not included in this study. The author suggests that these variables should be included in a future study for understand relations among variables.

3. For the effective correction and treatment for the offenders under drunken state, much more research attention needs to be directed to the establishment of remedial programs based on these findings.

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