

Experiences of Sexist Discrimination as a Potential Explanatory Factor for Alcohol and Drug Misuse among Latina Young Adult Women

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INTRODUCTION

1. Theory of gender and power (Wingood & DiClemente, 2000): sexism is a social force that produces gender inequities
2. Sexism may link marianismo and substance misuse, as gender-based beliefs may be reinforced through sexist experiences that impact substance misuse and overall health

METHODS

- Collected self-report questionnaire from an online cross-sectional survey with $N = 602$ Latina college student women ages 18-26 ($M_{age} = 20.85$; $SD = 1.89$)
- Measures assessed via online survey:
 - Marianismo Beliefs (Castillo et al., 2010)
 - Sexism (Klonoff & Landrine, 1995)
 - Alcohol Misuse (Saunders et al., 1993)
 - Drug Misuse (Skinner, 1982)
 - Demographics: age, college year, country of birth, ability status, generation, SES, sexual orientation
- Tested mediation model using path analysis with 1,000 bootstrap samples

CONCLUSION

Certain marianismo beliefs were potential **protective** factors against substance misuse.

Latina women who endorse relatively more Virtuous and Chaste beliefs may be protected from alcohol and drug misuse because they tend to report experiencing less sexism than their peers.



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RESULTS

- **Family Pillar belief:**
 - Negatively associated with alcohol misuse
- **Virtuous and Chaste belief:**
 - Negatively associated with sexism
 - Negatively associated with alcohol and drug misuse
- **Spiritual Pillar belief:**
 - Positively associated with alcohol misuse
- **Mediation**
 - Associations between the Virtuous and Chaste belief and both alcohol misuse ($b = -.05$, $p = .003$) and drug misuse ($-.03$, $p = .006$) were mediated by sexism

