

# The influence of groups and alcohol on risky behaviour



ALCOHOL RESEARCH UK

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## **1. Introduction**

Experimentally, the influence of alcohol on risktaking has largely been examined in isolated contexts, disregarding social factors generally coinciding with alcohol use in the real world. Examination of alcohol and risk-taking in social contexts may offer useful considerations for future alcohol safeguarding practices.

## **3. Results**

Mixed ANOVA was performed to examine the effect of beverage and context on risk-taking behaviour

• Context

Participants who were tested within groups were more risk-taking on both the SLT (*p* < .01) and the BART (*p* = .05)

• Aims

Examine the independent and combined influence of group contexts and alcohol consumption on individual risk-taking behaviour



#### • Design

Mixed design (between: beverage and context, within: risk tasking pre & post beverage)

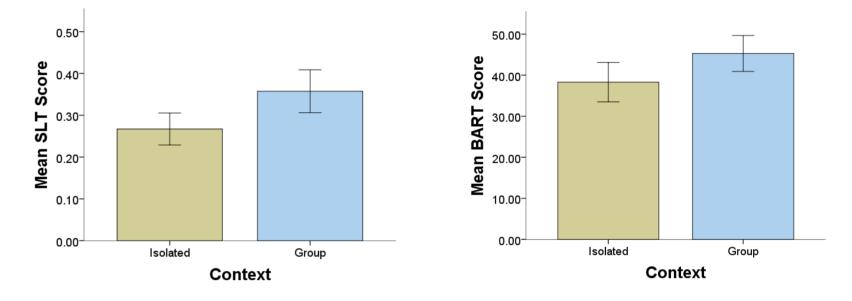
## • Participants

99 social drinkers (62 female) tested in isolation or groups of 3.

### Conditions

(1) Isolation Alcohol (2) Isolation Placebo (3) Group Alcohol (4) Group Placebo

• Self Reports



#### Beverage

Alcohol did not influence risk-taking behaviour. However, those who consumed placebo were significantly less risky on the SLT (p = .03)

Interaction

No interactions were found between context and beverage on risk-taking.

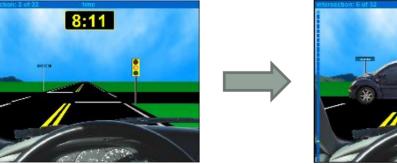
## 4. Conclusion

The results suggest that an individual's risk taking behaviour is influenced by group contexts to a greater extent than alcohol consumption. By targeting the influence of group contexts in combination with drinking

#### AUDIT and RT-18 (trait risk-taking)

• Risk-Taking Tasks

## Stoplight Task (SLT)





#### Balloon Analogue Risk Task (BART)



## practices, it is possible that more successful interventions will emerge.

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