

THE SLICK TRACY HOME DETECTIVES PROGRAM OUTCOME EVALUATION – A FOUR-MONTH FOLLOW-UP

Krzysztof Bobrowski

Zakład Psychologii i Promocji Zdrowia Psychicznego,
Pracownia Profilaktyki Młodzieżowej „Pro-M”
Instytutu Psychiatrii i Neurologii w Warszawie

Abstract: The paper presents results of the first stage of a longitudinal outcome evaluation study aimed mostly at the assessment of preventive intervention effects stability over time. Results of a two-year program consisting of the „Slick Tracy Home Detectives” and its continuation – “Amazing Alternatives” are evaluated. In the study carried out in a quasi-experimental paradigm participants were about 800 students of eight primary schools in the residential district of Ursynów (the total of 34 grades). In 2003 the Home Detectives Program implementation quality as well as delayed effects of the program were assessed at four months since its completion. Qualitative assessment results indicate that the prevention program was implemented successfully and in accordance with standards in a majority of grades. However, in some grades there were some implementation shortcomings, as evidenced by the students’ low level of satisfaction with participation in the program, and by difficulties with its termination on time.

Beneficial delayed effects of the program have been identified for the whole group of variables under study (MANOVA, $F = 5.02$; $p < 0.001$). In particular, significant favorable changes consisted in weakening of the participants’ pro-alcohol attitudes and in their increased knowledge about consequences of alcohol drinking. On the other hand, no effects of the program were found at the follow up as regards the frequency of alcohol consumption by the students, except for a more favorable tendency in changes concerning the alcohol drinking frequency among fourth-graders as compared to fifth-graders (a trace interaction effect).

Key words: evaluation, alcohol, school-based prevention program.