

Właściwości środowiska sąsiedzkiego jako czynnik chroniący/ryzyka używania przez młodzież substancji psychoaktywnych. Przegląd badań

Neighbourhood characteristics as risk-protective factors related to substance use by youth. Research review

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Abstract – The article provides a review of research on the influence of neighbourhood characteristics on drug use by youth. The first section presents concepts of neighbourhood as a unit of analysis, the second one describes the theoretical framework adopted by the studies, the third section lists methods of neighbourhood measurement and the fourth section illustrates these general topics by specific studies and their results. Social disorganization theory and social capital theory were the frameworks most often used to explain the influence of neighbourhood on drug use among adolescents. Mechanisms of influence on children and youth such as: norm/collective efficacy mechanism, institutional resources mechanism, relationship mechanism, psychological sense of community and collective lifestyle framework were also discussed.

The most often used source of information on economic and demographic characteristics of neighbourhood was census data. Systematic observation, administrative data analysis, surveys and interviews with students and their parents were also used to obtain data related to neighbourhood characteristics. Research results showed associations between neighbourhood characteristics and alcohol consumption, smoking, as well as illegal drug use by adolescents. High availability of psychoactive substances in disadvantaged neighbourhoods was identified as a salient risk factor. Protective factors include safety, social control and institutional resources in the neighbourhood. Presented in the article theoretical models, which link neighbourhood features to youth behaviour, prove to be useful for the development of studies. Research results indicate that key elements of prevention strategies should include the development of individual resources protecting youth from negative neighbourhood influences, the improvement of access to local resources and the strengthening of the social capital of youths.

Key words: children and youths, psychoactive substances, neighbourhood

Streszczenie – Przedmiotem artykułu jest przegląd prac badawczych dotyczących związku między cechami środowiska sąsiedzkiego a używaniem przez młodzież substancji psychoaktywnych. W pierwszej części pracy opisano sposoby definiowania obszaru środowiska sąsiedzkiego, w drugiej scharakteryzowano podstawy teoretyczne badań, w trzeciej – metody pomiaru cech środowiska sąsiedzkiego, a w czwartej przedstawiono wynik badań. Najczęściej przywoływanymi w badaniach teoriami, wyjaśniającymi związek między środowiskiem sąsiedzkiem a zachowaniem młodzieży, były