ALCOHOL IS A PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCE THAT AFFECTS VARIOUS PARTS OF THE BRAIN. POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL INCLUDE AGGRESSIVE IMPULSES AND LOSS OF BEHAVIORAL CONTROL.

THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL DEPEND ON VARIOUS FACTORS, INCLUDING:

- The amount ingested;
- The cultural norms related to the use of violence, including gender norms;
- Aspects of the setting in which the alcohol is consumed, such as:
  - Strong cultural associations between drinking and violence,
  - Expectations that drinking will lead to violence,
  - Alcohol being consumed in contexts where violence is more likely to occur,
  - Greater tolerance of violence when people have been drinking.

AGGRESSION AND VIOLENCE

- There is an enormous and unequivocal body of research supporting the relationship between all forms of aggression and alcohol use. This link is most prominently demonstrated in males.
- In 2016, there were 65,880 deaths from self-harm and interpersonal violence attributable to alcohol in the Region of the Americas.
- Experimental studies have found a dose–response connection between blood alcohol concentration (BAC) and aggression, with the effects becoming significant with a BAC of 0.05 g/dL and rising with higher BAC levels.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- Strong links have been found between drinking at harmful and hazardous levels and the maltreatment of children.
- Harmful alcohol use by parents and caregivers can impair their sense of responsibility and reduce the amount of time and money available to spend on the child.

Sources:

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