ABSTRACT

THESIS TITLE: Examination of the Relationship Between Routine Substance Use in High School Students and College Attendance

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The purpose of this study was to determine if there was a statistically significant relationship between routine substance use in high school, college attendance, and type of college attended. Archival data of 1,988 participants was used from the Partnerships in Prevention Science Institute at Iowa State University. A cross-tabulation with the Chi square and Cochran’s and Mantel-Haenszel statistics was the type of analysis utilized.

Results from this study found there are differences in college attendance by gender and geographic location. Students who did not use substances in high school attended college at a higher rate than their peers that routinely used substances. Students who did not use substances in high school attended a four-year college or university at a higher rate than students that routinely used substances. Students who routinely used substances attended a trade school or community college at a higher rate than students that did not use substances.