

## **Substance Abuse among Senior High School Students in Ghana**

By

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### **Abstract**

*This study examined the abuse of substances among senior high school students in Cape Coast and Kumasi in Ghana. A sample of 244 students (40.5% males, 59.5% females; mean age =18.4 years) completed the Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Involvement Scale. A series of one-way analysis of variance tests (ANOVA) was used to determine the existence of any significant differences among variables. The results indicate that the mean AADIS scores ( $N=244$ ;  $M=13.86$ ;  $SD=16.436$ ) was low. There were significant differences in gender  $F(1, 240) = 68.105$ ,  $p < .001$ ; age  $F(1, 240) = 28.273$ ,  $p < .001$ ; boarding and day students  $F(1, 240) = 13.287$ ,  $p < .001$ ; relationships  $F(1, 240) = 14.647$ ,  $p < .001$ ; locations  $F(2, 239) = 9.024$ ,  $p < .001$ , and religion  $F(1, 240) = 9.371$ ,  $p = .002$ . The results of this study clearly indicate a lower prevalence of substance use among senior high school students than those reported in other African countries and western countries.*

**Keywords:** *Alcohol, Ghana, abuse, substance, students*