AFRICAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, THE FIVE FACTOR MODEL, AND PARENTAL BONDING: PREDICTION OF ALCOHOL USE

DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

BY

MPUMELELO MARCEL MHLONGO

SUPERVISOR
S. MASHEGOANE

CO-SUPERVISOR
DR. S. MORIPE

DISCIPLINE OF PSYCHOLOGY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO (TURFLOOP CAMPUS)

DECLARATION

I declare that this dissertation hereby submitted to the University of Limpopo for the degree of Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology, has not been previously submitted by me for a degree at this or any other university, that it is my own work in design and in execution, and that all material contained herein has been duly acknowledged.

Signed at the _____On the _____

_____
M.M Mhlongo

DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to my late father, Joseph Mhlongo. I wish you were here to witness how your son is prospering. ***Rest in peace Njomane!***

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Abstract

There is a considerable literature linking aspects of personality, parenting, and risk behaviors such as alcohol abuse. Three hundred African university students participated in a study of the relationship between personality, assessed with the NEO PI-R (Costa & McCrae, 1992), and alcohol use. Personality traits did not predict alcohol use among the students. It was also predicted that the Parental Bonding Instrument (PBI; Parker, Tupling, & Brown, 1979) would mediate the relationship between personality and alcohol use. Results of the current study revealed no significant relationship between parenting and alcohol use. The results are discussed with regards the use of the NEO PI-R's validity in the population used.

Keyword: Five Factor Model; Parental bonding; Abstainers; Moderate drinkers; Heavy drinkers.