

**BINGE DRINKING, CRIME AND VICTIMISATION DURING BASHES AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO**

By

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DISSERTATION

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DECLARATION

I declare that BINGE DRINKING, CRIME AND VICTIMISATION DURING BASHES AT UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO is my own work and that all the sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references and that this work has not been submitted before for any other degree at any other institution.

.....

Surname, Initials (title)

.....

Date

DEDICATION

This research is dedicated to my father Dithomo John Matlou, my mother Monwane Josephine Matlou, my sister Mmalekoba Lethabo Matlou, my two brothers Mareme Bapkie Matlou and Mahlopi Ronny Matlou.

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ABSTRACT

Binge drinking, crime and victimisation are increasingly being recognised as problems on university and college campuses. Binge drinking is a pattern of drinking that can lead to anti-social behaviour among students. This can lead to a number of negative individual and social effects such as crime and victimisation. The key concepts, binge drinking, crime and victimisation during bashes are defined in relation to the Lifestyle Exposure Theory and Routine Activities Theory. This is done within the concepts of the theories and in particular motivated offenders, suitable targets, in the absence of a capable guardian.

The aim of the study was to describe binge drinking and its resultant criminological outcomes during bashes at the University of Limpopo. A qualitative design was used in this study. The sampling method that was used to select the participants was non-probability sampling and specifically snowball sampling. Data was collected until the saturation point, where no new information occurred. To analyse the data, thematic content analysis was used.

KEY CONCEPTS

Binge drinking

Crime

Victimisation

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CHAPTER 1: GENERAL ORIENTATION OF THE STUDY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Binge drinking is a phenomenon often associated with young people and also prevalent in tertiary institutions (Henrietta & Harmon, 2012:55). It is the excessive, rapid consumption of five or more drinks in one setting for males and four or more drinks in one setting for females (Henrietta & Harmon, 2012:55).

The study presents information about (1) binge drinking, (2) crime, (3) victimisation and (4) safety during bashes at the University of Limpopo. The study is motivated by the observation of the researcher, having been a resident student on campus for almost six years, and having personally observed binge drinking during bashes. Furthermore, conditions for promoting binge drinking are created during bashes, for example, different brand sponsors are allowed to sell alcohol during bashes. Alcohol use amongst students worldwide is often regarded as a rite of passage, which means that drinking to intoxication is not only socially accepted but expected (Henrietta & Harmon, 2012:55). The availability of cheap alcoholic beverages, through advertising and sponsoring, during bashes, contribute to a culture of consuming large quantities of alcohol by students.

Ham and Hope (2003:119); Scott, Season and Pauline, (2010:1), reported that 75% of both male and female students in Israel admitted to consuming alcohol whilst in the United States of America (USA) 65% of students reported the same. Mogotsi (2011:14) found that the use of alcohol among students is increasing and reported that students are less able to tolerate alcohol physically; it stimulates anti-social behaviour as a result. Recent literature such as the research done by Graham, Parkes, McAuley and Doi (2012:1) and Boekeloo, Novik, Bush (2011:88) stipulate that excessive alcohol consumption and crime are closely linked.

Binge drinking amongst students does not only concern the selected university but it has become a major problem at university campuses across South Africa (Young & De Klerk, 2008:1; Pengpid, Peltzer, Van der Heever & Skaal, 2013). It is probably uncontroversial to mention that most university campuses struggle with containing and controlling alcohol consumption by their students, since the age at which students first enter the institution is the age of freedom and experimentation, where young students

have the opportunity to test the limits previously set by parents and schools (Young & De Klerk, 2008:1).

The study was conducted among students at the University of Limpopo, through a qualitative approach in order to establish the influences and the factors that contribute to crime and victimisation as a result of binge drinking.

1.2 RESEARCH MOTIVATION

The researcher's interest in the topic was motivated by the following factors: Firstly, is that crime may occur as a result of binge drinking; and secondly, communities and the institutions are affected, this includes university enrolment, dropout, failure, motor vehicle accidents, suicide attempts and other destructive behaviours involving campus safety, grounds maintenance and administration (Singleton & Wolfson, 2009:355; Committee on National Alcohol Policy and Action, 2014:1). There are gaps in the study of binge drinking, crime, victimisation and safety that need to be researched. The researcher realised during the literature review that most researchers such as the studies done by Lamis and Malone (2012:1); Hope, and Butler (2010:1) and Fatusi and Hindin (2010:499), were only focusing on binge drinking, crime and also physical damage, which left a gap especially on victimisation and safety during bashes. There are many unanswered questions which motivated the researcher to embark on the study. It is a concern to the researcher that most students binge drink during bashes and they are not aware that they binge drink and this affects them physically, psychologically and also socially. Caleman and Cater (2003:50); Scott, Season and Pauline, (2010:1), indicated that young people are drinking on a regular or weekly basis and they are consuming alcohol in great quantities, especially during a single session of binge drinking. The consequences of binge drinking among students may lead to alcohol dependency and further problems later in life.

1.3 RESEARCH PROBLEM

Bashes at the selected university are normally organised on Saturdays and are usually well attended with the main attractions being celebrities that perform at these events. It is at these bashes where excessive consumption of alcohol occurs and students can become both perpetrators and victims of crime. This is a serious problem that puts students at risk. However, it is not only students, but the institution and the community

at large that are affected (Kalideen, 2011:1). Binge drinking is particularly problematic because of both its prevalence and associated adverse consequences; this may include violence, sexual victimisation and assault (Lindsay & Debra, 2003:724; Novik, Melinda, Howard & Bradley, 2011:34). The researcher has observed that some students drink excessively during bashes and engage in anti-social behaviour, such as property damage, assault, drinking and driving and other related criminal offences. The research focused on uncovering the extent of drinking, crime and victimisation as a result of excessive alcohol intake. The obvious, but often neglected consequence is also the increased need for safety and security during bashes.

1.4 PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The overall purpose of the study focused on the following aim and research questions:

1.4.1 Aim

The aim of the study was to describe binge drinking within the context of the selected theories, and its resultant criminological outcomes during bashes organised for students at the University of Limpopo.

1.4.2 Research questions

Leedy and Ormrod (2010:54); O'Leary, (2014:31) contend that research questions provide guidance for the kinds of data the researcher should collect and suggest how the researcher should collect, analyse and interpret the data. The following research questions were formulated to help the researcher to focus correctly on the study:

- What are the factors that influence binge drinking?
- What are the kinds of crimes committed as a result of binge drinking?
- What are the victimological effects of crime committed during bashes as a result of binge drinking?
- What is the level of safety during bashes?

1.5 CONCEPTUAL DEFINITIONS

The researcher has adopted the following conceptual definitions for the purpose of the study: Binge, binge drinking, bash, crime and victimisation. Each of the concepts is defined below:

1.5.1 Binging

According to Engineer, Phillips, Thompson, and Nicholls (2003:1); Bela, Marcos, Gattu, Catalano and Szabo (2014:1) binging can be understood as a pattern of drinking that involves high consumption of alcohol over a short period of time. In this study the focus is on excessive use of alcohol over a short period of time in a single setting.

1.5.2 Binge drinking

There are significant differences in the definition of binge drinking. For instance, Farchi, Fidanza, Mariotti, and Menottin (1995:78) found that, consumption of eight drinks were considered as normal drinking. The United Kingdom considers eleven drinks as binge drinking (Farchi, et, al. 1995:78). In this study the definition of Henrietta and Harmon (2012:55) were used which is defined as the consumption of five or more drinks in one setting for males and four or more in one setting for females.

1.5.3 Bash

According to *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English* (2003:122), bashes are events or parties to celebrate something. In this study bashes refer to the music festivals, often organised by the Student Representative Council (SRC) and other organisations in the study area.

1.5.4 Crime

Crime is any action that is prohibited and punishable by law (Benzuidenhout, 2011:11). The study focused on all kinds of crimes committed during bashes by students who act unlawfully and such action carries a legal sanction.

1.5.5 Victimisation

Victimisation is an act that exploits or victimises someone (threatens them unfairly) (Davies, 2011:40). The focus in this study was on victimisation as a result of binge drinking during bashes.

1.5.6 Sexual assault

The term sexual assault includes sexual acts ranging from non-consensual touching and kissing to attempted and completed rape by any person, regardless of any relationship to the victim, in any setting (Norris, 2008:1).

1.6 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research methodology includes the research design, sampling method, data collection, data analysis and ethical consideration.

1.6.1 Research design

The research approach was qualitative in nature. Qualitative approaches are concerned with understanding human behaviour from the perspectives of the people involved, therefore they use language to record aspects of social reality (Welman, Kruger & Mitchell, 2012:1). Phenomenological and exploratory approach is appropriate for examining binge drinking, crime, victimisation and safety during bashes. The researcher selected a phenomenological approach to help get in-depth responses from the participants, namely, students who binge drink during bashes at the University of Limpopo.

1.6.2 Population and Sampling

1.6.2.1 Population

Bless and Higson (2000:85) and Singh, (2007:8) indicate that a population is a set of elements that the researcher focuses upon and to which they obtained results will be generalised. The population for this study are students who binge drink during bashes at the University of Limpopo. The number of students who binge drink during bashes is not known and the sample taken do not necessarily represent the total number of binge drinkers.

1.6.2.2 Sampling method

The researcher utilised non-probability snowball sampling technique to select students who participated in the study. Snowball sampling technique is a process of referral where the researcher was using a particular interviewee as a means of making contact with others.

The advantage of using non-probability sampling method is that it is a convenient way for the researcher to assemble a sample with little or no cost and for those researcher that do not require representativeness of the population (Babbie, 2014:195).

Snowball sampling is used in those rare cases when the population of interest are difficult to locate, the researcher collected data from a few members of the target population she could locate, then asked those individuals to provide information needed to locate other members of the population whom they happened to know (Babbie, 2014:196). After interviewing 24 participants, the researcher felt that saturation has been achieved.

1.6.3 Data collection

When collecting data, it is important to know how data will be collected to answer the research questions. Leedy and Ormrod (2010:206) maintain that qualitative researchers can use observation, interviews, documents and anything else that can answer their research questions. The researcher used face-to-face individual interviews in English, as it turned out; language was not a problem as can be expected in research among students who receive their education in English.

The researcher used semi-structured questions which enabled her to make follow-ups where necessary. This method of data collection allowed the researcher to probe deeper on issues. Greeff, (2011:1) argued that the semi-structured interview is perhaps the most wide spreading type used in qualitative research, and is used where the researcher pre-establishes a set of questions to collect data about a specific issues, and sometimes identify new issues, as the research progresses, that were not originally part of the interview. Interviews were recorded with permission from each participant and this enabled the researcher to replay recordings when needed.

1.6.4 Data analysis

Data analysis involves examining, sorting, categorising, evaluating, comparing, synthesising and contemplating the coded data as well as reviewing the raw and recorded data (Neuman, 2000:11). Thematic content analysis was used to analyse data. The process involved reading the interviews' transcripts and coding the descriptive concepts that emerged from the interviews that were conducted. The researcher organised individual ideas into categories that shared similar concepts. The themes and the sub-themes were created and checked if they are well understandable. The responses were categorised into a gender distribution within the three concepts of the theory (motivated offender represented by bashers who committed crime; suitable targets represented by bashers who became victims and absence of a capable guardian, represented by safety and security weaknesses). Finally, the researcher chose the themes that made meaningful contributions to the study and discarded peripheral ones.

1.7 TRUSTWORTHINESS

Trustworthiness in qualitative research means methodological soundness and adequacy. The aim of trustworthiness is to support the argument that the researcher's findings are worth paying attention to (Holloway & Wheeler 2002:1).

To ensure trustworthiness the researcher used Guba and Lincoln's (1981:1) three criteria, adopted by Klenke (2008:37), namely creditability, dependability and conformability. Creditability was achieved by ensuring that the results are believable from the stand point of the participants. Dependability was ensured through theoretical conceptualisations (from the selected theories) and cross referencing to the literature. Furthermore, trustworthiness has been enhanced by checking the recordings to verify that data have been accurately captured. Conformability was pursued by checking similar studies in the literature review to determine whether the results of the study conform or differ, where necessary explanations of non-conformity have been offered.

1.8 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Ethical issues are the concerns, dilemmas, and conflicts that arise over the proper way to conduct research and ethics defines what is not legitimate to do, or what moral research procedure involves (Neuman, 2003:1). The study have been conducted

adhering to the following ethical criteria; informed consent, confidentiality, anonymity, and discontinuance.

An informed consent form was provided to all the participants who volunteered to participate in the study. An Interview schedule was recorded as appendix A and the informed consent form was attached as appendix B for participants to sign before they engaged in the research. According to Creswell (2009:1) a consent form acknowledges that participants' rights will be protected during data collection.

The researcher ensured that the participants were free from unnecessary physical and psychological harm during the interviews by conducting the interviews in a private setting. The participation was voluntary and no participants were forced to participate. Confidentiality was mentioned to them and they were informed that if they do not feel comfortable with the questions during the interviews they can withdraw at any time.

1.9 DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY

When human behaviour is researched, it is impossible to study the whole population. The delimitations are those characteristics that limit the scope and define the boundaries of the study (Simon, 2011:2). The delimitation is in the control of the researcher, it determine spatial and population parameters.

1.9.1 Spatial

The study was delimited to University of Limpopo students. The researcher has chosen this location as it is convenient and cost-efficient as that researcher is a registered student and lived on campus for a number of years.

1.9.2 Population

The researcher delimited the study to focus only on students, especially those who binge drink during bashes. At the end of the study, 24 participants, twelve male and twelve female students were interviewed.

1.10 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Binge drinkers can easily get involved in deviant behaviour or become victims of crime. Students are expected to concentrate on their studies, and when they involve themselves in excessive drinking, thus deviating from their main objective, they may

find themselves committing criminal acts or becoming victims of crime. It is therefore crucial that a study such as this is conducted. The present study intends to discover how binge drinking affects the behaviour of binge drinkers. In doing so, solutions to students who binge drink may be found and ways to prevent or minimise deviant behaviour emanating from excessive drinking during bashes sought. The research may lead to recommendations that will be used in determining university policy to deal with this phenomenon.

1.11 SUMMARY OF THE CHAPTER 1

- The chapter highlighted the background and the research problem of the study;
- Purpose of the study, including the aim and the research questions are stated;
- The summary of methodology is briefly provided;
- The study is delimited to students who binge drink during bashes at the University of Limpopo; and
- Lastly the significance of the study is stated.

In conclusion chapter one gave a general overview of the study. Furthermore, it provides the motivation of the study, the research problem and the purpose of the study. Conceptual definitions have been stated and the researcher also stated the ethical consideration of the study and explained how the study was delimited.

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Literature review is essential to gain an understanding of the topic at hand and to determine gaps and or shortcomings in existing research. Mouton (2001:87) describes it as a reviewing of the range of research products that have been produced by other scholars. The literature enabled the researcher to avoid duplication and unnecessary repetition of information. In this study, the literature review focuses on binge drinking, factors influencing binge drinking, psychological impact and effects of the phenomenon.

Excessive alcohol consumption by students has not only become a major problem on university campuses, but is also an endemic culture in the broader community. According to one of the students who were interviewed by Kalideen (2011:2), “Binge drinking is a culture where people drink to get drunk in one sitting. Students are not social drinkers, they are binge drinkers and with young people alcohol is one of the rites of passage”. Binge drinking is one of the problems that put students at risk of becoming offenders or being victimised by those who observe their drinking habits during bashes (Kinard & Webster, 2010:24) and seizing the opportunity to exploit their state of intoxication.

According to Pengpid, Peltzer, Van Der Heever and Skaal (2013:1), the use of excessive alcohol in South Africa is among the highest in Africa. It is also becoming a problem at university campuses in the country. For example, Young and De Klerk (2008:1), referring to Rhodes University with a reputation of a campus where students drink a lot, stated that: “The level of drinking at Rhodes University is possibly no higher than that at any other university in South Africa, it does have a rather undesirable reputation as the drinking university, and the reason for this is twofold: first, the drinking behaviour is highly visible, because of the size of the town, and because of the location of many off-campus bars near to the university”.

Binge drinking also contributes to a wide range of health and social problems in the country (Morojele, 1997:1; Miller, Diment, Zinkiewicz, 2012:1). According to National Drug Research Institute (2009:1), the rate of hospitalisations from alcohol-caused injury and disease has rapidly increased. The leading cause of hospitalisations was

alcohol dependence while alcohol-caused death was primarily associated with alcoholic liver cirrhosis. This problem was also noted by Kalideen (2011:1) who indicated that alcohol use is rife at university campuses in South Africa. The students go to an extent of using bursary money to buy alcohol for entertainment (Kalideen, 2011:1).

2.2 BINGE DRINKING

Originally the term “binge” was used in its clinical sense to refer to a short time continual drinking, perhaps over a period of days, by someone who was alcohol dependent, and ending only when the drinker was unable to continue (Institute of Alcohol Studies, 2005:1). In recent years, the term has gained currency as referring to a higher intake of alcohol in a single drinking occasion (Institute of Alcohol Studies, 2013:9). According to this study, binge drinking is defined as the consumption of five or more drinks in one setting for males and four and more in one setting for females (Henrietta & Harmon, 2012:55).

Binge drinking is the most dangerous destructive form of drinking among students and this research attempts to determine what role it plays in campus crime and victimisation. It is the risky anti-social behaviour that is practised globally by students and not only students but youth in general (Henrietta & Harmon, 2012:55).

Binge drinking is a harmful form of drinking as it may lead to a number of negative social and health problems, including increased risk for injuries and chronic health problems. According to Wells, Horwood and Ferguson (2004:99), the misuse of alcohol by young people has been associated with increased risk of a number of adverse outcomes including fatal injuries resulting from violence, road accidents, victimisation and poor societal outcomes in general and particularly risky sexual and anti-social behaviour.

2.3 PATTERNS OF DRINKING

People drink differently, some drink to get drunk while others do not drink excessively. In fact, alcohol is part of a culinary culture and especially wine is associated with dining while beer is again associated with sport. This means that patterns of drinking differ from individual to individual. The discussion below focuses on binge drinking and

moderate drinking in order to firmly establish the difference between the two forms of drinking.

2.3.1 Binge drinkers

Binge drinking, or heavy episodic drinking, is included in the hazardous category of drinking, because it generally involves rapid and excessive drinking over a relatively short period of time, which intensifies the effects (Young & De Klerk, 2008:1; Fatusi & Hindin, 2010:499). Binge drinkers drink for the intention of getting drunk, they do not stop drinking until they are drunk or at least becomes uninhibited and such drinkers may become fully intoxicated with adverse social consequences. The tendency is for the drinkers (students) to drink large quantities in a short period of time during the weekends, and to drink in order to get drunk (Bartlett & Grist, 2011:3).

2.3.2 Moderate drinker

According to Rasmussen (2000:7), moderate drinking is defined by most addiction experts as no more than one drink a day for women and no more than two drinks per day for males. Moderate drinking denotes drinking that is fair in amount and over reasonable time and tends not to cause social problems. Most binge drinkers started to consume alcohol as moderate drinkers, meaning that a progression can result. However, not all moderate drinkers progress to becoming binge drinkers (Rasmussen, 2000:7).

2.4 FACTORS WHICH INFLUENCE BINGE DRINKING

A variety of factors have been identified at an individual, social and environmental level, which affect the magnitude and patterns of consumption and that can increase the risk of alcohol use and other related problems in drinkers and others (Babor, 2010:2). Although there are various influences for binge drinking for students the social, situational, and psychological factors are elucidated.

2.4.1 Social factors

Social factors can be categorised into peer pressure, institution and the community influences (Babor, 2010:2). Each category is discussed below:

2.4.1.1 The influence of peer pressure on binge drinking

Students are often exposed to group activities in their leisure time. Alcohol, almost ever present at such occasions, provides a justification for engaging in behaviour that is usually considered inappropriate (Kinard & Webster, 2010:24). Peer pressure is one of the factors which largely contribute to binge drinking. Peer group norms in some institutions' social environments promote drinking as a reason for engaging in behaviour they would otherwise consider as embarrassing. Peer norms for most bashes are to drink heavily and to act in an uninhibited manner. Peers act as an influential group which introduces, provides, or pressurises anti-social behaviour (Kinard & Webster, 2010:24).

Peer pressure includes peer attitudes and values towards pro-social activities and alcohol use, which interact with peer stressors such as peer conformity pressure. Peer affiliations play an important role in binge drinking and risky behaviours. It may influence individuals to engage in undesirable behaviours which they may regret later (Santor, Messervey & Kusumakar, 2000:163).

According to Kinard and Webster (2011:24), students view binge drinking as a positive and socially acceptable experience. However, they fail to take into consideration the negative consequences related to binge drinking, especially within a peer group setting. Peer pressure is presented in three dimensions by Crawford and Novak (2007:1); namely active offers of alcohol; modelling of other's drinking; and perceived drinking norm.

- *Active offers of alcohol*

Peers frequently put pressure on their friends by offering them alcohol to drink. These offers range from a simple gesture to highly coercive tactics to pressurise a peer to drink (Borsari & Carey, 2001:391). Some examples include being given a drink, being bought a drink, or having your drink refilled without asking (Wood, Read, Mitchell, & Brand, 2004:19). These offers are more prominent (and may become hard to resist) for those students who attend bashes and decide not to drink (Borsari & Carey, 2001:391). When alcoholic beverages are sponsored and cheap, it becomes even more tempting and easier to succumb to peer pressure, especially for students who normally cannot afford to buy such beverages due to a lack of finances.

- *Modelling*

Students will often imitate the level of drinking of the other peers within their immediate environment. Peer modelling of binge drinking, whether for recreational or coping purposes, is also a significant factor influencing the excessive use of alcohol and anti-social behaviour (Borsari & Carey, 2001:392). In fact, drinking within a group context is very tempting as one watches others, apparently enjoying themselves.

- *Perceived drinking*

Perceived drinking norms increase the student's level of drinking, this occurs through the observation and comparison of their peers' drinking levels (Borsari & Carey, 2001:392).

2.4.1.2 Institutional factors

Binge drinking is less likely if there are no alcohol outlets on campus and within easy reach from campus. However, the institutions obtain liquor sponsors for bashes which make it possible for the students to drink excessively on campus. The researcher is aware of the fact that the SRC on campus is actively engaged in obtaining sponsors as part of their popularity endeavours. Bashes are organised over the weekends and continues until late at night, which makes it easier for criminal victimisation to occur (National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, 2005:3).

- *Campus activities*

University campuses hold various recreational functions or activities each year; the activities include bashes, freshers' ball which is the welcoming of new students, music concert, political celebrations, sporting events and beauty pageants (Dastile, 2004:129). These activities are held at night and on weekends so as not to interfere with academic programmes.

Institutions such as universities also attract people from the surrounding community. It is thus difficult, especially if there is no proper access control in and out of campus, to keep track of who is on campus legitimately or perhaps for some ulterior motive or for criminal purposes. Furthermore, bars and *shebeens* near campus as well as activities such as parties and the fresher's ball where alcohol use is common, present the potential for victimisation (Dastile, 2004:129). These factors make the campus an

attractive target for motivated offenders. The fact that there is a concentration of young people and especially girls, make campuses a very desirable place to be.

- *Availability of alcohol on campus*

Binge drinking is associated with the degree of ease of access to alcohol on campus and the reduced prices at which it is available (Kinard & Webster, 2010:24). A number of binge drinkers are attracted by a greater availability of alcohol during bashes, as organisers bring large volumes of alcohol to such events.

2.4.1.3 Society

The attitudes and values of society may influence binge drinking crime and victimisation (Kinard & Webster, 2010:24).

- *Advertising and media influence*

In the culture of today, youth and young adults are bombarded with media and advertisements about drinking. Often, the media make drinking appear sexy and fun (Fogarty & Chapman, 2012:2). Advertising may include items with alcohol brand names, and alcohol companies may sponsor popular events such as bashes or give free alcoholic products to young people. Television programmes and movies all feature drinking as a socially acceptable practice (Fogarty & Chapman, 2012:2).

2.4.2 Situational factors

Binge drinking and anti-social behaviour during bashes are influenced by situational factors such as the time of the day, the day of the week and the setting in which alcohol is consumed. According to research conducted by Gottfredson (1984:9) as well as Hayt, Ryan and Cauce (1999:376); Swartout and White (2010:1), individuals who are more likely to be at risk of personal victimisation are those who frequent public places at night and on weekends. For example, females may be suitable targets for rape and males for assault and robbery. Females walking alone at night may be seen as desirable, accessible and easy targets for sexual victimisation (Swartout and White, 2010:1). Drinking environments that are crowded, have an unpleasant atmosphere such as being noisy and smoky, have competitive drinking games, and have a permissive attitude towards anti-social behaviour and drunkenness which have a higher risk of experiencing alcohol-related violence (Leonard, Quigley & Collen,

2003:16; Correia & Cameron, 2010:322). Under these circumstances, safety and security measures are of vital importance.

- Ventilation

Poor ventilation and inefficient air conditioning contribute to the amount of heat and smoke in a drinking location. Heat and smoke exacerbate physical discomfort, which heightens irritation and may lead to increased alcohol consumption in order to relax. The consequences are increased risk of intoxication, aggression, social disruption and violence (Doherty & Roche, 2003:28; Correia & Cameron, 2010:322).

2.4.3 Psychological factors

Students claim psychological benefits of drinking, such as relaxation and stress reduction that can result in part from alcohol's physiological effects on thought processes, social facilitation, and sexual enhancement, but many also use drinking as an excuse for unacceptable behaviour (Biden, 2000:12; Carlson, Johnson & Jacobs, 2010:242).

Young people are often on the lookout to have a good time and having a good time means that they consume alcohol to the point of being intoxicated. The other well-known reason for intoxication is that many students do not limit themselves to alcohol consumption that is moderate but engage in binge drinking during bashes (Carlson, et al. 2010:242).

Students binge drink also because they are influenced by their personality, expectancies, attitudes, beliefs, and motivations. Each of them are explained below:

2.4.3.1 Personality

Personality involves taking into account associated traits such as mental health, impulsivity, boredom or excitement seeking, and dispositional aggression (Demers, 2002:415; Novik, Melinda, Howard & Bradley, 2011:35).

2.4.3.2 Expectancies

Positive expectancy on the part of students was a strong predictor of rates of drinking than was negative expectancy. Students who binge drink for social reasons usually

have positive expectations (Demers, 2002:415; Novik, Melinda, Howard & Bradley, 2011:35).

2.4.3.3 Attitudes

Some students binge drink because they expect certain outcomes or attitudes after drinking. Some drink to increase power and aggression, increase social assertiveness, reduce tension and others drink for sexual purposes (Demers, 2002:415; Novik, Melinda, Howard & Bradley, 2011:34)

2.4.3.4 Beliefs

Students believe that when there is a bash they should drink excessively. They also believe that drinking to get drunk bring more entertainment during bashes. They consider that excessive drinking is acceptable, and increase fun during bashes (Demers, 2002:415: Novik, Melinda, Howard & Bradley, 2011:34).

2.4.3.5 Motivations

They are motivated by other peers to engage in anti-social behaviour. The social norm approach is based on the view that students think campus are much more permissive toward drinking, much more than they actually are (Demers, 2002:415: Novik, Melinda, Howard & Bradley, 2011:34).

2.5. THE EFFECTS OF BINGE DRINKING

Binge drinking can have adverse social effects on people and communities. The major negative social effects of binge drinking are crime, violence and road accidents. This has a bearing on society as a whole in terms of resources required for law enforcement, health care and rehabilitation, among others (Jacob, Steyn & Labarios, 2013:1). Rape is a crime very closely associated with excessive alcohol consumption. A study in six East Asian countries by Jewkes, Fulu, Roselli and Garcia-Moreno (2013:1) found that:

Alcohol misuse was associated with single and multiple non-partner rape perpetration in the region overall, and in models of four of the countries (Cambodia, China, Indonesia, and Papua New Guinea), and with intimate partner violence perpetration.

Below are the effects of binge drinking on the individuals, the community and the institution.

2.5.1. The individuals

Alcohol has both physical and learned effects. As a person becomes more intoxicated, alcohol's physiological effects result in a decreased ability to process information and make judgements, motor impairment control, slurred speech, deterioration of reaction time, and ultimately loss of consciousness (Hanson, Venturelli & Fleckenstein, 2002:4). Binge drinking affects the cognitive abilities such as decision making and perception. As individuals become more intoxicated, they become less able to process a large amount of information (Hanson, Venturelli & Fleckenstein, 2002:4).

Binge drinking can also lead to stress and anxiety. This could cause individuals to increase their dosage in order to cope with their problematic situations. It could be because of personal problems or failure to control their drinking. If not attended to an individual may end up in committing suicide (Bezuidenhout, 2004:127; Scott, Season & Pauline, (2010:1).

2.5.2. The effects of alcohol on the institution and the community

Binge drinking, crime and victimisation do not only affect individuals but the community and the institution is also negatively affected (Laslett, Room, Ferris, Wilkinson, Livingston & Mugavin, 2011:165). Alcohol harm is not only experienced by the drinker but those around them including friends, families, colleagues and strangers (Laslett, et, al. 2011;1605). This includes university enrolment, dropout, failure, motor vehicle crashes, suicide attempts and other destructive behaviours involving campus safety, grounds maintenance and administration (Singleton & Wolfson, 2009:355).

2.5.2.1 The effects of alcohol on the community

Binge drinking is related to violence and anti-social behaviour which increase fear of crime and disrupts local communities (Babor, 2010:2). It also plays a huge role on public services, contributing to health service waiting time and diverting police resources from other areas. According Morgan and McAtamney (2009:3), police in Australia devoted a significant amount of resources to responding to incidents

involving people who are intoxicated, the community will also become known as a high crime rate area which will affect the safety of community members.

Alcohol has a psychopharmacological effect of reducing inhibitions, clouding judgements and impairing the ability to interpret cues (Abbey, Zawacki, Buck, Clinton & McAuslan (2004:1). Alcohol does not only affect the judgment of perpetrators but also affects the judgement of victims and their ability to affectively resist sexual assault.

When a woman becomes severely debilitated from excessive drinking, she cannot effectively resist an assault. Some women have been raped when they are unconscious from alcohol consumption. Predatory men look for vulnerable women to rape, and drinking women are often viewed as sexually available (Norris, 2011:1).

2.6 CONSEQUENCES OF BINGE DRINKING

Some people portray bad attitudes and behaviour when they are drunk and some are more reckless and careless when they are intoxicated. They often engage in anti-social behaviour that seems dangerous, embarrassing or even shameful (Bartlett & Grist, 2011:3). Excessive alcohol consumption has been given much attention, especially its dangers for university students as they lose control during binge drinking and commit crime or become victims of crime (O'Grady, Arria, Fitzelle & Wish, 2008:445). The high prevalence of binge drinking is particularly disturbing, in light of the number of alcohol-related problems associated with this behaviour. It is not only associated with students, but also associated with negative consequences for other people, the university and the surrounding community (Mark, Gayle & Vivian, 2002:5; Kinard & Webster, 2010:26). The following consequences are highlighted:

2.6.1 Crime

Binge drinking is associated with offending behaviour (Flegel, 2011:411). Binge drinkers may get involved in behaviour that they may come to regret, such as getting involved in arguments that can result in swearing, defamation of character, assault and battery (Flegel, 2011:411). They may also engage in forcible non-consensual sexual activities that are unplanned as well as the use of drugs. A study by Krebs, Lindquist, Warner, Fisher and Martin (2009:1), found that 81% of men who had raped

had been drinking before the incident. A study by Flegel (2011:411), found that men believe that women who are drinking are open for sexual advances.

2.6.2 Victimization

Students who binge drink are not only at risk of engaging in anti-social behaviour, but they are also at risk of becoming victims of rape and cannot effectively resist an assault (Wechsler & Kuo, 2000:57; Boekeloo, Novik & Bush 2011:88). Female students are likely to become victims of rape when they are drunk; they are viewed as vulnerable targets for sexual victimisation by those who observe their intoxicated state. Furthermore, binge drinking increases the risk of unprotected sex, sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy and illegal abortion (Wechsler & Kuo, 2000:57; Boekeloo, et al. 2011:88).

Alcohol related harms are more common in events such as bashes because students shows different anti-social behaviours when they are drunk, and particular groups on campus are at higher risk of incurring such harm (Boekeloo et, al. 2011:88). These groups include young people, male and female students staying on campus and off campus with routine activities that include regular drinking and particularly, bingeing. The victimisation related consequences of binge drinking among students are discussed below:

- Binge drinking and Sexual assault

The term sexual assault is a more encompassing term and includes sexual acts ranging from non- consensual touching and kissing to attempted and completed rape by any person, regardless of any relationship to the victim, in any setting (Norris, 2008:1).

Combs-lane and Smith (2002:25) undertook a study and found that alcohol consumption played a role in both the occurrence of new victimisation and frequency of involvement in risky sexual activities. The study also found that females who were victimised reported three times the number of regular binge drinking days compared to those females who were not victimised (Combs-lane & Smith, 2002:25).

Alcohol consumption presents a greater risk for sexual assault than it does for physical attack; this indicates that drinking has an important role in increasing

vulnerability to sexual violence specifically (Felson & Burchfield, 2004:25). Binge drinking and sexual assault often happen together. It occurs because the perpetrator was under the influence of alcohol and because the victim was also intoxicated. Binge drinking makes it easy for the perpetrator to ignore sexual boundaries, while the victim's intoxication makes it more difficult for her to guard against an attack (Norris, 2008:1).

Once a woman recognises that a man has become sexually aggressive, alcohol may affect both the type and strength of resistance that she displays (Testa, VanZile-Tamsen, Livingston & Buddie, 2006:665). Binge drinking may result in the victim's inability to resist sexual arousal. Participating in foreplay may result in her ability to effectively disengage, which can result in coerced sex (Testa et. al. 2006:665). It may also decrease assertive resistance, such as yelling or hitting and kicking. As a woman becomes increasingly intoxicated, she may fail to respond more assertively as the man's aggression escalates whereas less intoxicated or sober women may increase their resistance concurrent with increased sexual aggression (Norris, George, Stoner, Masters, Zawacki & Davis, 2006:402).

Being sexually assaulted after drinking has also been associated with heightened self-blame (Macy, Nurius & Norris, 2006:478). Victims often feel that they should have known better than to drink so much, or they should have been able to stay in control no matter how much alcohol they consumed. They end up feeling that they deserved what they got (Macy, et al. 2006:478).

- Binge drinking and driving

Binge drinking lead to widespread impairments in cognitive abilities. It can affect decision making, impulse control, and impairments in psycho-motor skills, such as balance and hand-eye coordination which can lead to impairment in driving abilities. It can make it much harder to pay attention to the road, road signs and other road users (Harrison & Fillmore, 2005:882). Excessive drinking may not only affect the binge drinkers but it can be unsafe for both the people travelling with a binge drinker and other road users (Harrison & Fillmore, 2005:882).

According to Reddy, James, Sewpaul, Koopman and Funani (2010:1), there has been a significant increase in the reported prevalence of walking under the influence of

alcohol among youth from 10.6% in 2002 to 18.1% in 2008. This can cause risk of injuries and various other harms among road users. Intoxicated pedestrians (students) on and around a campus expose themselves to danger.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (USA) (2010:1), 5051 drivers aged 16-20 were involved in fatal motor vehicle crashes during 2009. Of those, 19% (951) had a blood alcohol concentration over the legal adult limit of 0.08. Of those killed in motor vehicle crashes that had been driving, 75% were not wearing seat belts. Young people are also more likely to board a vehicle driven by peer who have been drinking

- Binge drinking and other illegal drug use

Different illegal drugs react differently in an individual's body; some may feel aggressive while others feel relaxed. Students who frequently binge drink are more likely to smoke cigarettes and also use illegal drugs. Alcohol's effect of decreasing inhibitions may lead to the administration of illegal drug that in turn can lead to violence, sexual assault and rape not only that but, an individual can be victimised as a result of drug abuse (Hope & Butler, 2010:1).

- Binge drinking and underage drinking

The Liquor Act 59 of 2003, section 10(1) prohibits anyone from selling or supplying alcohol to a minor. South African's legal drinking age is 18 years but some teenagers start at a very young age. Smith (2010:4) stated that there are a growing proportion of children between 11-15 years old who drink alcohol. The number is increasing; they are no longer testing or experimenting but rather drinking with the intention of getting drunk. They are not even concerned about the risk of excessive alcohol consumption but increasingly believe that being intoxicated is acceptable. This means that should such young people end up on a campus they are already hardened drinkers, potentially, leading to, or binge drinkers.

The younger a person is when he or she begins using alcohol, the more likely he or she is to use other drugs (Hingson, Heeren & Edward, 2008:1). Although many factors

can affect whether youth progress to the use of other drugs and which one they choose to use, alcohol, is frequently followed by tobacco, then marijuana, and then other illicit hard drugs (Degenhardt, Chiu, Conway, Dierke, Glantz, Kalaydjian, Merikangas, Sampson, Swendsen & Kessler, 2009:157). The researcher became aware of students at first year level that are 17 years old and the risk is that they may be served alcohol during bashes because identification is not checked when alcohol is served. Due to the fact that ethical requirements excluded these students from the study, it is nonetheless a possibility that the Liquor Act may be violated. In a study by Lekgau and Roelofse (2015:1), about the violation of the Liquor Act, by taverns in Mankweng (area around the campus under study) that 50% of the respondents supply liquor to juveniles. Some of these may be students.

- Burglary during bashes

Burglary is defined as a criminal offence of breaking and entering a building illegally for the purpose of committing a crime (Maguire & Bennett, 1982:1; Chun & Lee, 2013:1; Makhada & Roelofse, 2013). Confrontation between the victim and the offender rarely occurs, and physical contact or violence takes place in only a tiny proportion of cases (DeMille, 2016:1). Vandalism occurs as a result and items are often scattered extensively over the floor as perpetrators are looking for cash and valuable electronic equipment, including laptops, expensive phones and others. The study found that burglaries sometimes occur during bashes when students left their rooms to go to the bash.

2.7 BINGE DRINKING AND SELF-HARM

2.7.1 Binge drinking and suicide

Binge drinking and suicide or attempted suicide is also strongly student related, especially among binge drinkers (Lamis & Malone, 2012:1). In England and Wales, it is estimated that alcohol is associated with 15-25% of all suicides and 65% of all suicide attempts (Appleby & Shaw, 2001:1). In Scotland, 5% of those committing suicide, who had contact with mental health service in the 12 months prior to death, had a history of alcohol misuse (Appleby & Shaw, 2001:1).

Alcohol can often be used as an effort to try and cope with depression and stress and yet in the long run tends to only make it worse. The diminishing of inhibition as well as increased impulsivity contribute to suicidal behaviour and ends up making it more likely for students to become successful in their attempts (Smith, 2010:4).

2.7.2 Alcoholism

Smith (2010:4) stated that individuals who drink before the age of 15 years, is four times more likely to develop alcoholism. This is perhaps logical that adults who are dependent on alcohol are likely to have drunk a lot as teenagers; however, one of the factors that contribute to this is that teens will use alcohol as a means to feel more confident and sociable.

The result of this is that if used frequently, alcohol has negative effects on their social and emotional development as they will not learn how to cope without it. Teenagers who drink a lot, therefore enter adulthood with this behaviour and become more addicted (Smith, 2010:4).

2.8 UNIVERSITY LIFESTYLE

The consumption of alcoholic beverages in South Africa has a long established history. During the pre-colonial times, alcohol consumption was mainly the preserve of elder and senior members of society including traditional leaders, but was uncommon among young people and women (Peltzer & Ramlagan, 2007:126). Youths thus associated alcohol use with adulthood.

Adolescence is a time of transition during which the body is undergoing many significant changes, including hormonal alterations and brain development (Peltzer & Ramlagan, 2007:126). Furthermore, it is a period when young people begin associating more intensively with friends and associates extending beyond the circle of their childhood contacts. Today's generation of young people, being the largest population group in the country, is approaching adulthood in a world vastly different from that encountered by previous generations (Peltzer & Ramlagan, 2007:126). Modern society seems to contribute towards different kinds of challenges of changes in life styles, including alcohol as a form of relaxation and entertainment. The following lifestyle factors, namely transition from high school to university, freedom from home and introduction to new circumstances, all have an impact on campus life.

2.8.1 Transition from high school to university

Fatusi and Hindin (2010:499) assert that transition from an adolescent to a productive and healthy adult is, *inter alia*, shaped by societal context, including gender and socialisation processes. In both developing and developed countries students claim that they have used alcohol when they first entered university, with over a third reporting hazardous use at least once (Fatusi & Hindin, 2010:499).

Although first year students may drink less regularly than returning students, they tend to engage in binge drinking during events such as fresher's ball since it is especially organised for them. Fatusi and Hindin (2010:499) also indicated that drinking to a point of intoxication is of concern because of the associations between alcohol consumption and road accidents, suicides, homicides and violence. The fact that students binge drink can be seen as alcohol containers like bottles and cans are strewn all over the campus during bashes and freshers' ball. In addition some students arrive at the university with drinking problems that have reached the level of addiction (Fatusi & Hindin 2010:499).

2.8.2 Freedom from home

Students have more freedom to binge drink when they are at the university because it is far away from home, where there is no supervision of parents or care givers. They engage with new peers that influence them to drink and engage in anti-social behaviour. Most of the students take drinking as a way of celebrating and having fun (Kinard & Webster, 2010:24).

2.8.3 Introduction to new circumstances

Although alcohol use begins sometimes before students arrive at college, pressure to binge drink may be increased when students enter institutions of higher learning and when interacting with new peers. First year students are exposed to a new norm of binge drinking by returning students (Kinard & Webster, 2010:24).

2.9 BINGE DRINKING AS A GLOBAL ISSUE

Heavy drinking among students is not a phenomenon unique to the selected university for this study only. Other countries and institutions report binge drinking as a problem. Kypri, Cronin and Wright (2005:1) stated that internationally, university students drink

more than their non-student peers. A high prevalence of hazardous drinking has also been reported among students (Kypri, et, at. 2005:1). Hazardous alcohol use has been defined as a repeated pattern of drinking that confer the risk of harmful consequences and is on a spectrum of alcohol consumption ranging from abstinence to dependence (O'Malley & Johnston, 2002:23). Below are the experiences in different countries:

2.9.1 Alcohol use by South African students

Seggie, (2012:1) states that South Africa is a hard drinking country. It is reckoned that young people consume in excess of 5 billion litres of alcohol annually; this figure is likely to be higher still if sorghum beer is included, and equates to 9 - 10 litres of pure alcohol per person. According to Seggie, (2012:1) this is the highest per capita consumption rate in the world, and it is continuing to rise. There is also a tendency to more harmful binge drinking. The reasons for excessive use of alcohol among South African youth, include peer pressure and a desire to fit in, poor home environments and boredom, ignorance of alcohol's harms, and the relative cheapness of alcohol products and their ease of access. In South Africa, alcohol is easily purchased from bottle stores, supermarkets, bars and *shebeens* and other unlicensed liquor outlets, which outnumber licensed ones, particularly in disadvantaged communities (Seggie, 2012:1; Lekgau & Roelofse, 2013).

Different universities encounter different challenges concerning binge drinking. According to a study performed at one of the universities in South Africa by Kalideen (2011:1) one of the students stated that:

“In the block of seniors that I’m staying at, we drink beers the whole week in residence,” Drinking at tertiary institutions has come into the spotlight in this study, as another respondents (a third year B.Com Accounting student), reported, “...drinking with his fellow students doesn’t begin on a weekend. It does not have a starting point because it does not really stop”.

The research by Kalideen (2011:1) also showed that although an element of wild behaviour by students was generally tolerated, this often served to conceal very serious problems involving alcohol use and violence on campuses and for another respondent, drinking was a big social aspect. “Once you start drinking you have many friends drinking with you,” the student explained that “I drink whiskey and I drink beer.

I drink heavily on weekends but during the week I have about three or four dumpies. I don't pass out. I just get drunk," he said.

Kalideen (2011:1), finally found that male students are more at risk of alcohol abuse than their female counterparts and that there was a lower pass rate among male students, meaning there was a possible connection between alcohol consumption and classroom performance. Despite his heavy drinking one student stated that drinking has not affected his studies (Kalideen, 2011:1).

2.9.2 Alcohol use by Australian students

There is a well-established drinking culture in Australia of 'drinking to get drunk', whereby the consumption of alcohol, frequently at excessive and harmful levels, is associated with many forms of entertainment and participation in social events (Morgan & McAtamney, 2009:1). Alcohol is the most widely used drug in Australia, consumed by approximately 12 million Australians aged 14 years and over (Morgan & McAtamney, 2009:1).

The harm associated with the consumption of alcohol, particularly among young people, is an area of growing concern within the Australian community and presents a major challenge to all levels of government (Morgan & McAtamney, 2009:1). Developing policies and initiatives that attempt to influence drinking behaviour is notoriously difficult, largely because the consumption of alcohol is both widely accepted as a significant part of Australian culture and at the same time responsible for a range of social and health-related problems (Morgan & McAtamney, 2009:1).

2.9.3 Drinking patterns of students in Britain

The worrying alcohol consumption patterns of young people in Britain confirm that, binge drinking is most likely to occur among young people under 25 years, and that this age group is generally increasing its alcohol consumption year on year, especially among females (Smith & Foxcroft, 2009:50). The United Kingdom government policy to increase the number of graduates has resulted in 50% of young people going to university and thus becoming exposed to this high alcohol consuming culture.

Although students have always been seen as a heavy drinking population, evidence in the past demonstrated that alcohol consumption decreased as students become

graduates and took on adult role and responsibilities (Smith, et al. 2009:50). However recent trends suggest that excessive drinking patterns that begin during student's years are now continuing throughout adulthood. Further evidence to this effect comes from medical experts reporting worrying changes in the age of onset of alcohol related liver disease (Smith, et al. 2009:50). It is evident that the drinking culture amongst young people is prevalent in other countries and not only amongst South African students.

2.10 Summary of the literature review

The observations made from the literature study can synoptically be summarised as follows:

- Binge drinking is being understood in different ways;
- Students drink during bashes to get drunk;
- Peer pressure plays a role in binge drinking;
- Binge drinking leads to different kinds of anti-social behaviour;
- Students can become victims or be involved in anti-social behaviour;
- Binge drinking can result in self-harm;
- Campus activities can lead to binge drinking and anti-social behaviour;
- Binge drinking is experienced on the campuses in various countries;
- Cheap or free liquor (sponsored by donors) exacerbate binge drinking;
- Alcohol often introduced students to other harder drugs.

In conclusion, it can be said that the phenomenon of binge drinking is entrenched in university cultures, at least by sections of the students. It is mainly due to drinking patterns that have been established prior to arrival on campus but also influenced by peer pressure and the availability of cheap alcoholic beverages. Binge drinking puts students at risk as perpetrators and victims of anti-social behaviour, including crime. This chapter summarised recent and older literature pertaining to the study topic. Chapter 3 will describe, in detail, the theory that best fits the present study.

CHAPTER 3: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The previous chapter dealt with the literature on binge drinking, crime and victimisation during bashes. Chapter three deals with the theoretical framework wherein a discussion on how the theory fits into the study will be provided. The study is supported by two theories which are the Routine Activity Theory by Cohen and Felson (1979:588) and the Life Style Exposure Theory by Hindelang, Gottfredson and Garofalo (1978:1). The Routine Activity Theory and Lifestyle Exposure Theory both assert that the daily activities that make up an individual's lifestyle influence the risk of victimisation. In this instance, the research also looks at students as offenders. A motivated offender may be a student who binge drink and get involved in a criminal act.

Each theory will be discussed in relation to binge drinking, crime and victimisation during bashes. The Lifestyle Exposure Theory is a theory of victimisation which acknowledges that people have different lifestyles and that some lifestyles expose people to more risk than others (Hindelang, et al. 1978:1). The following discussion clearly indicates that the two theories are complimentary as explanations of crime and victimisation. This necessitates that both these theories are discussed and integrated into the research study.

3.2 ROUTINE ACTIVITY THEORY

The Routine Activity Theory focuses on the individual characteristics of criminal offenders and it examines the environmental context in which crime occurs. It is a theory of milieu, where different social actors intersect in space and time (Cohen & Felson, 1979:588). The people we interact with, the places we go to and events we attend, and the activities we engage in, influence the likelihood and distribution of criminal behaviour.

Its central premise is the intersection at a specific place and time between motivated offenders and suitable targets in the absence of a capable guardian that creates opportunities for victimisation (Cohen & Felson, 1979:588). Osgood, Wilson, O'Malley, Bachman and Johnston (1996:635), state that participation in certain routine activities such as attending bashes are strongly associated with heavy alcohol consumption and other anti-social behaviours.

Figure 1 below by Cohen and Felson (1979:588) shows the convergence of a motivated offender and suitable targets in the absence of a capable guardian.



Figure 1: Routine Activity Theory

In order for a crime to occur, a motivated offender must identify and engage a suitable target. A suitable target can take a number of forms depending on the nature of the crime and the situational context, for example, the availability of opportunities in the absence of capable guardianship (Groff, 2008:95). Each of these elements is discussed below:

3.2.1. Motivated offender

Motivated offenders plan to commit crime intentionally for their own benefits. They usually study their victim's lifestyle and routine to establish an opportunity to successfully commit crime (Groff, 2008:95). For the purpose of this study, motivated offenders are students who attend bashes and binge drink with an intention to commit crime or whose mental faculties such as self-control and intentions are affected by alcohol to the extent that they lose control.

Cohen, Kluegel and Land (1981:33) posited that, those who are closer in distance to large populations of motivated offenders are likely to be victimised and also those who are in disorganised, high-crime areas are more likely to be targeted because they are near motivated offenders. Bashes may lead to a criminogenic environment in two ways;

Firstly, students that binge drink may lose control as indicated above and secondly bashes may draw motivated offenders from surrounding areas. Sexual predators may particularly be drawn to bashes due to the presence of female students on campuses.

3.2.2 Suitable targets

Motivated offenders seek specific targets to victimise. They usually plan victimisation rationally by discovering the movements of their victims in relation to their own (Yar, 2005:407). Some victims' suitability as targets are so vital to fulfil the offenders' aims, for example students who are drunk while in possession of expensive cell phones and money (Groff, 2007:75), increase their vulnerability due to the inability to effectively monitor their environment and intentions of potential offenders. Sex predators may also be on the lookout for female students who are drunk. Students that are drunk are more likely to become suitable targets. This is supported by Cohen and Cantor (1980:143), who mentioned four components contributing to the fact that a criminal regards a target as suitable, namely value, physical visibility, accessibility and effortlessness.

- Value

The financial and symbolic value of a target influences the desirability thereof, while visibility is related to perceived risk observed by potential criminals. The offender must either value the target for what they gain or value the effect they have on it (Felson & Cohen, 1980:393).

- Physical visibility

The way in which the target is visible can affect its suitability to criminal victimisation (Cohen & Cantor, 1980:143). For example, a drunken student who is counting money from a stacked purse when buying drinks can be regarded as a visible and potential target, due to the money.

- Accessibility

Accessibility implies the attainability and easiness with which the criminal can approach a target without attracting attention (Cohen & Cantor, 1980:143). For example, a drunken student who walks in dark places on her way to a residence or leaves her door open can make it easy for the perpetrator to commit crime, through ease of access to targets.

- Effortlessness

Effortlessness refers to the ease with which a target can be acquired. The more there is an effort for the criminal to commit crime, the lesser the opportunity to commit crime (Cohen & Cantor, 1980:143). The preparedness of the potential victim and the presence of a capable guardian increase the effort for a potential perpetrator that may lead to an abandonment of the planned crime or attempt.

3.2.3 Absence of a capable guardian

The Routine Activity Theory explains that a crime can only occur in the absence of a capable guardian, as it leaves a suitable target unprotected against a motivated offender when they come together in time and space (Cohen & Felson, 1979:588). In this way, guardians can be viewed as control agents within the Routine Activity Theory of crime (Felson, 2006:1).

Guardians try to protect targets from theft and damage and potential victims from attack and assault. The formal guardians include the police, security guards, and others whose job is to protect people and property against crime. Informal guardians include neighbours, friends and others who happen to be in the same place as the attractive target. Friends, class mates, peers and other people who are close to the potential victims are also potential guardians (Felson, 1994:1).

Stain, (2011:1), stated that for any crime to occur the circumstances must be that nobody or nothing should or must distract the motivated offender. Cohen and Felson (1979:560) referred to capable guardians as ordinary citizens going about their daily routine. On campuses, security guards are invariably deployed as part of the universities' campus protection plan.

3.2.4 An application of the Routine Activity Theory to binge drinking crime and victimisation

Bashes, bring students, large quantities of alcohol and shared space over long hours together. As alcohol consumption increases, some students get intoxicated, lowering inhibitions and they may develop criminogenic needs such as sexual gratification. Observing female students that are intoxicated may create the combination of motivated offenders and suitable targets. Victims tend to be more careless, reckless, impulsive, and aggressive, which collectively makes perpetration more likely to cause and get into trouble (Harford, Wescler, & Muthen 2003:704). As security cannot be omnipresent, opportunities for crime will develop.

Binge drinking makes students less effective observers or capable guardians (of fellow students) during and after crime, they have poor recall of important information about crime incidents afterward, reducing their potential to help the police and campus protection in identifying offenders and serve as potential witnesses (Abbey, 2002:125). In summary the Routine Activities Theory are an environmental, place-based explanation of crime, where the behaviour patterns and intersections of people in time and space influence when and where crimes occur. These constructs serve the purpose of the research by guiding the research questions and data collection instrument

3.3 LIFESTYLE EXPOSURE THEORY

The Lifestyle Exposure Theory is based on the notion that the likelihood of victimisation depends on the lifestyle of a person and that any change to the routine activity of an individual or group of individuals, whether it be of potential victims or of wrongdoers, is sufficient to pose risk and provide opportunities for victimisation (Hindelang, et, al. 1978:1). In general, lifestyle may be defined as “patterned ways in which individuals channel their time and energy by engaging in a number of activities” (Fattah, 1991:319). According to this theory, lifestyle and victimisation rates are closely related to an individual’s demographic characteristics such as gender, marital status and age.

Hindelang, et, al. (1978:32) stated that there are differences in victimisation rates across demographic groups because of the differences in lifestyles led by individuals

of different groups. The theory also stipulates that crime events are products of everyday activities that influence the extent to which an opportunity of crime occur. The term exposure by Cohen, Kluegel and Land (1981:505), portrays the meaning that individuals that are more visible or accessible to offenders are more likely to be victimised.

The Lifestyle Exposure Theory states that an individual's daily behaviours differentially affect the likelihood of a criminal offence to occur. This is supported by Miethe and Meier (1990:33) when indicating that the time spent engaging in leisure activities increase the risk of victimisation. According to Miethe and Meier (1990:33) people who spent more nights out are more likely to experience criminal victimisation. The association with delinquent peer groups are related to victimisation, as it also increases exposure to potential offenders. In accordance with the Lifestyle Exposure Theory, this suggests that those with similar lifestyles than potential offenders such as males and young people frequenting nightclubs, parties and bashes are likely to be at greater risk of victimisation due to exposure. The theory certainly applies to binge drinking as a lifestyle trait exacerbated by bashes where alcohol at cheap rates are in abundance. The confluence of lifestyle and RAT, brings together motivated offenders and suitable targets. A crucial factor remains, namely, capable guardianship.

The demographic characteristics will be explained below:

3.3.1 Demographic characteristics

Demographic characteristics such as age, sex, race, marital status, income, education and occupation are believed to affect lifestyles because they affect role expectations or behaviour that individuals are expected to engage in and structural constraints on individual's behaviour (Hindelang, et, al. 1978:32).

Johnston, O'malley, Bachman and Schulenberg (2012: 314), stated that people of all ages, races and gender participate in binge drinking. It is especially popular among university students. They participate in binge drinking at higher rates than their same-age peers who are not at university. The campus lifestyle may be especially conducive to binge drinking because of the lifestyle which involves the peers who motivates one another to binge drink, especially during bashes. For the purpose of this study, the

following democratic characteristics will be discussed, namely age, gender, marital status and level of study:

- *Age*

Young people are mostly at risk of being involved in to alcohol-related victimisation and criminal offences. Research done by Titus, Heinzelman and Boyle (2000:217), suggested that young people are more careless and they lack experience. Individuals aged between 18 to 24 years and more are likely to binge drink and engage in anti-social behaviour (Titus,et, al. 2000:217).

- *Gender*

In a study conducted by Smith and Foxcroft (2009:51), it was found that there is significant differentiation in the prevalence of offending between male and female students. Males generally are more likely to become involved in offensive behaviour than females. Males binge drinkers are significantly more likely to have been involved in offensive acts and risky behaviours during and after drinking alcohol than female drinkers. Smith and Foxcroft, (2009:51) also mentioned that men are more likely to create public consequences, such as damage to property.

- *Marital status*

Single individuals are more likely to be at a place of entertainment. These are people that usually engage in binge drinking. Married individuals on the other hand have a lot of responsibilities to deal with; they and are less likely to go to places of entertainment such as bashes (Siegel, 2012:92).

- *Level of study and student's perspective*

According to Borsari and Carey (2001:391), the likelihood of binge drinking steadily decreases as a student's grade level increases. This means that first year students are more likely to binge drink than at any other level at university. They are highly susceptible to modelling and are at the highest risk of the negative consequences of alcohol use. Students have a goal of attending most social events in campus such as bashes (as much as possible) in the hope of attaining an exciting social life, stories to tell, and lasting friendships, and many of these events focus around binge drinking.

Other students may try to build up a tolerance towards alcohol, which is believed to be a social asset that earns peer admiration. Students observing others binge drinking heavily, may feel that in order to be accepted by their peers, they must match what they perceive to be other's use of alcohol (Borsari & Carey, 2001:391).

The combination of the Lifestyle Exposure Theory and the Routine Activity Theory are both treated as one, because they both recognise the notion that victimisation is influenced by opportunities. In other words, the Lifestyle Exposure Theory and the Routine Activity Theory are both considered as opportunity theories. Crime is most likely to occur when there are opportunities for it to occur (Cohen & Felson 1979:589). Both theories fit in the study by asserting that individuals who engage in risk-taking behaviours such as binge drinking, drug use and staying out late at night are at an increased risk of victimisation. Their daily activities place them in situations in which criminal victimisation is high, they appear to be vulnerable targets, and they could be in the presence of students who binge drink who may also become perpetrators of crime.

3.3.2 Routine activities and binge drinking, crime and victimisation

Hindelang, et, al. (1978:1) ascribe the higher victimisation rate of young persons, males and unattached persons to more time spent away from home which exposes them to more opportunities of being victimised. For example, young single students are likely to frequent places of entertainment such as bashes which make them more vulnerable of criminal victimisation, especially when they are drunk.

The interrelation of the two theories in explaining crime and victimisation is clearly indicated by the fact that drunken students become suitable targets due to the motivated offenders attending bashes as well as the individual lifestyle of those attending bashes. Concurrently, due to lower inhibitions, some bashers may become motivated offenders. Bashes and binge drinking create the opportunity in time and space for young people with a lifestyle of consuming large quantities of alcohol to get into trouble.

3.4 SUMMARY OF THE THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

- The Life Style Exposure Theory and the Routine Activities theory both suit the topic because different lifestyles expose binge drinkers to situations of criminal victimisation, for instance, if a person goes to bed early that person is less at risk of criminal victimisation than someone who goes to a bash and engages in binge drinking.
- Students who spend more time at bashes, especially the whole night and with strangers, are more likely to become victims of crime (Norris, 2008).
- The level of research regarding students' binge drinking opportunities and lifestyles appear to be consistent with this theoretical framework (Kalideen, 2012).
- Crime is committed during bashes because, according to Cohen and Felson (1979:588), there is a motivated offender, a suitable target and the absence of a capable guardian.

In conclusion the researcher found that Routine Activities and Lifestyle Exposure to be relevant theories, addressing the possibility of victimisation, perpetrations and preventing crime as contemplated in this the study. The notions of risky lifestyles, the creation of suitable targets and motivated offenders that converge at bashes adequately explain opportunities for victimisation and perpetration. As security cannot be omnipresent, situations will arise where capable guardians are nor present. Both theories explain crime under these conditions.

CHAPTER 4: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the research design and methodology applied to explore (1) binge drinking, (2) crime, (3) victimisation and (4) safety during bashes among students at the University of Limpopo. The research method, data collection and data analysis are discussed in detail in this chapter.

4.2 RESEARCH DESIGN

The researcher used the phenomenological approach to explore binge drinking from the perspectives of the participants. A phenomenological approach and exploratory study were appropriate and useful for examining binge drinking, crime and victimisation during bashes at the University of Limpopo.

- *Phenomenological research approach*

According to Welman, Kruger and Mitchell (2012:1), phenomenological studies describe the meaning that experiences hold for each subject. It is a strategy in which the researcher identifies the essence of human experiences about a phenomenon as described by the participants and aims at gaining a deeper understanding of the nature or meaning of everyday experiences (Welman, Kruger & Mitchell, 2012:1). The study design is qualitative; this type of method permitted the researcher to access data about the lived experiences of students during and after bashes.

- Exploratory study

As the name suggests, exploratory studies seek to explore what is happening and to ask questions about it (Gray, 2014:36). They are particularly useful when not enough is known about a phenomenon, which in this study is binge drinking, crime and victimisation during bashes among students on the selected campus. The purpose of an exploratory research design is to explore a relatively unknown research area with the aim of gaining new insights into a situation, phenomenon, community or an individual (De Vos, Strydom, Fouché & Delport, 2011:95).

4.2.1 Population

The population include the entire set of individuals of interest to the research. The study focuses mainly on students who binge drink during bashes. The population is not an overt, measurable entity as binge drinkers are not actively identifiable.

4.2.2 Sampling method

The researcher used non-probability sampling because the targeted population were students who binge drink during bashes. The participants were selected through snowball sampling which is a non-probability sampling technique. Snowball sampling involves approaching few known individuals from the relevant population and those individuals would then act as informants and identify other members that would be relevant to the study (Handcock & Krista, 2011:39). A total number of 24 participants were interviewed, 12 male students and 12 female students as it was felt that saturation of data may be reached with such a number of participants.

4.3 DATA COLLECTION

Semi-structured interviews were used as a method of data collection. The researcher went to the first participant who was known to her, that participant referred the researcher to the next participant who binge drink during bashes. The process continued until the researcher could not find any new information after interviewing 24 participants, 12 male and 12 female students.

During the interviews participants were assured about the confidentiality of the information given in the letter of consent for them to participate freely and offered informed consent as attached in Appendix B. Data for the study was collected in English. It took, on average just under 45 minutes per interview.

4.4 DATA ANALYSIS

Data was analysed through thematic content analysis. The researcher used Braun and Clarke's (2006:77); Alhojailan (2012:39) steps to analyse data. These steps are as follows; familiarising with the data, generating and organising initial codes, reviewing themes, defining and naming themes and producing the report. Each of the steps will be discussed below:

- Become familiar with the data

At the initial stage the researcher read the data repeatedly in order to become familiar with the data. The focus was on the patterns that occur. These ideas were written down (Braun and Clarke's 2006:77; Alhojailan, 2012:39).

- Generating and organising initial codes

This entails the production of initial codes by identifying where and how patterns occur. This happens through data reduction where the researcher breaks down data into labels in order to create categories for more efficient analysis. Data compilation was also completed here. This involves the researcher making inferences about what the codes mean. These codes were then translated into themes that accurately portray the data (Clarke's 2006:77; Alhojailan, 2012:39).

- Reviewing themes

The researcher then checked if the themes were understandable. If the analysis seemed incomplete, the researcher revisited the data in order to find the missing information (Clarke's 2006:77; Alhojailan, 2012:39).

- Defining and naming themes

This means creating clear definitions and names for each theme, describing which aspects of data was being captured in each theme, and discovering what is interesting and relevant in terms of the research questions, about the themes (Clarke's 2006:77; Alhojailan, 2012:39).

- Producing the report

This involved deciding which themes made meaningful contributions to the study. The researcher conducted a review of the data to verify if the descriptions are an accurate representation of what transpired during the interviews. Male and female responses are presented separately. Crime and victimisation, in the context of the theories were also categorised into motivated offenders, suitable targets on a gender basis and finally capable guardians was also added. The last stage was to summarise the structured themes, together with references to literature that relates to each theme. The summary included the themes that capture aspects about the quality and meaning

of the participants' experiences of the phenomenon under investigation (Clarke's 2006:77; Alhojailan, 2012:39).

4.5 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

4.5.1 Informed consent

The respondents were informed about the research and about their rights. The purpose and the significance of the study were explained clearly to each participant. The consent forms were given to each participant to sign before they took part in the study.

4.5.2 Confidentiality

The confidentiality of the information provided was protected and data were not made available to anyone else. The privacy of the setting during the interviews was also ensured.

4.5.3 Anonymity

The researcher ensured that the participant's names and other unique identities were not attached to the data. Participant's rights and wishes to remain anonymous were respected.

4.5.4 Discontinuance

The participants were given the assurance that they are free to discontinue their participation at any time without being required to offer reasons for their decisions. No participant opted out of the interviews and no-one needed assistance once the interviews were completed as they did not experience discomfort or trauma.

4.6 PERMISSION TO CONDUCT THE STUDY

Before collecting data there were approvals that were supposed to be obtained by the researcher. First the researcher approached the Departmental of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Research and Ethics Committee for the first level of approval of the research proposal. Then the proposal was submitted to the SREC (School of Social Science Research and Ethics Committee) and forthwith to the Faculty of Humanities Research and Ethics Committee. Final approval to conduct the research came from

TREC (Turfloop Research and Ethics Committee). The researcher was then able to collect data from the participants.

4.7 TRUSTWORTHINESS

The trustworthiness of qualitative research generally is often questioned by positivists, perhaps because their ideas of validity and reliability cannot be addressed in the same way in qualitative studies (Shenton, 2004:63; Gunawan, 2015:1). To ensure trustworthiness of the study the researcher used three concepts adopted by Klenke, (2008:37; Gunawan, 2015:1) namely credibility, dependability and conformability.

- Credibility

The researcher ensured that the results were believable from the stand point of the participants. Having done the literature study and interviewing over twenty respondents gave the researcher a good idea of the sort of data that should come forth (Klenke, 2008:37; Gunawan, 2015:1).

- Dependability

Dependability was ensured through theoretical conceptualisations (from the selected theories, the Routine Activity Theory and the Lifestyle Exposure Theory) and cross referencing to the literature. Furthermore, trustworthiness has been enhanced verifying with the recordings to check that data was accurately captured (Klenke, 2008:37; Gunawan, 2015:1).

- Conformability

Conformability was pursued by checking similar studies in the literature review to determine whether the results of the study conform or differ, where necessary explanations of nonconformity have been offered (Klenke, 2008:37; Gunawan, 2015:1).

4.8 BIAS

The following procedure was followed to ensure the minimisation of bias:

- The researcher did not assist the participants in answering the questions;

- The researcher adhered to the ethical standards which is (1) informed consent (2) confidentiality (3) anonymity and (4) discontinuance during the interviews sessions and when analysing and interpreting data;
- The interviews sessions were done in different levels of the study among male and female students;
- The researcher also listened attentively to the participants and recorded (1st, 2nd years and so forth, including post-graduates) everything participants said and took field notes recording their non-verbal behaviour.

4.9 SUMMARY OF THE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- The study method was qualitative and the population included students who attend bashes at university of Limpopo.
- It was a phenomenological and exploratory study.
- The researcher used non-probability sampling, particularly the snowball method.
- Semi-structured interviews where used to collect data.
- Thematic content analysis was used to analyse data and all ethical issues as indicated above were followed when collecting data.
- The researcher ensured the trustworthiness of the study.

In conclusion, the researcher conducted the study through a qualitative method using semi-structured interview which was found to be the scientifically suitable method for this study. Data collected obtained were reached and information found enabled the researcher to reach the research's decisions. The next chapter deals with the presentations, analysis and interpretation of the findings.

CHAPTER 5: PRESENTATION OF DATA

5.1 INTRODUCTION

Chapter 5 of the research focuses on the presentation, analysis and interpretation of the data. Demographic information has been presented firstly in a tabular format. Themes and sub-themes have been developed, and related to the literature and theoretical framework. Emerging themes are briefly described in a form of tabular format and then systematically unpacked and presented.

The aim of this study was to explore binge drinking and its resultant criminological outcomes during bashes organised for students at the University of Limpopo. The researcher used a qualitative approach to collect data and semi-structured interviews were conducted until the saturation point of 24 participants. The sample consisted of 12 females and 12 males respondents.

5.2 DEMOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

The demographic information below provides the characteristics of the population which took part in the study. It includes gender, age, level of study and marital status.

Gender	Number	Age	Level of study	Marital status
Male	12	18(1) 20(2), 21(3), 22(1), 23(2), 24(2), 25(1)	1 st (2),2 nd (3), 3 rd (3), 4 th (3),Masters (1)	12 single
Female	12	18(1), 19(1), 20(1) 21(2) 22(2), 23(3) 24(1), 27(1)	1 st (3), 2 nd (3), 3 rd (3), 4 th (2) Masters (1)	Single(11) Married (1)

Table 1: Demographic details of the participants

The sample of the study consisted of 24 participants who binge drink during bashes. Participation from respondents at different levels of study, from first year through final year students, including post graduates was ensured. Twelve single males, eleven single females and one married female took part in the study. The participants were sorted in a way that, females are from number: 1 to 12 and males are from number: 13 to 24.

5.3 PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH DATA AND FINDINGS

In order to become familiar with the data received from the participants, the researcher read the data several times and then extracted themes and sub-themes. Briefly, four themes emerged after transcribing and coding the interviews and the researcher separated the data according to gender (male and female participants). Some themes emerged directly from the interview questions, while others emerged spontaneously as follow-up questions were asked. The following major themes occurred from the students who binge drink:

- Binge drinking as a phenomenon (personal perspectives)
- Victimization
- Crimes
- Safety

5.3.1 Theme 1: Binge drinking as a phenomenon (personal perspectives)

Binge drinking can be understood in different ways, for the purpose of this study the researcher adopted the definition by Henrietta and Harmon (2012:55) which is the excessive, rapid consumption of five or more drinks in one setting for males and four or more drinks in one setting for females. Students have different motives for drinking and others show anti-social behaviour after drinking. Some are influenced by their peers while others are influenced by the environment. The sub-themes below emanated from the theme binge drinking.

5.3.1.1 Sub-theme 1.1: Drinking patterns

Henrietta and Harmon (2012:55) mentioned that, drinking patterns are different for men and women because men associate drinking with masculinity so they do not have to control themselves as much as women regardless of whether their drinking causes problems such as violence. Data below present the patterns of drinking among male and female students.

Male participants

The data below reveals a male participant on drinking patterns.

“First of all I don’t see five drinks as binge drinking but either way I drink more than five. Five is like a starting point for me and I still feel sober after drinking five, is not that extreme” (Participant 20).

“...during bashes I don’t count my drinking I just drink” (Participant 23).

“I don’t usually count when drinking so I can say I just drink but one thing for sure I drink more than ten bottles of beer ” (Participant 24).

“We usually buy 48 cans of beer during bashes when I am with my five friends...” (Participant 14).

“Sometimes I buy my drinks when I go to bashes, I usually buy four bottle of cider for the whole night but I will end up drinking more than four because some friends will buy for me” (Participant 21).

Out of twelve male participants interviewed all indicated that they drink more than five drinks during bashes. Two male respondents also indicated that they do not count their drinking. Others are offered more drinks by friends or peers. This means that all the male participants consume liquor within the definition of bingeing: More than five drinks is one session (Henrietta and Harmon, 2012:55).

Female participants

The following extracts illustrate the female participants’ experiences on drinking patterns.

“Alcohol depend on the money, my drinking habit is that I do not have a drinking limit I drink until I get broke, or sometimes I stop drinking because I will be drunk then I will just sleep. I enjoy drinking around a group of people rather than alone” (Participant 1).

“I am a casual drinker, and when I get an opportunity like bashes I drink a lot because I don’t do it all the time, I can say maybe six or seven drinks depending on how much alcohol we bought, how many friends we are, and also the longer hours spent in bashes” (Participant 2).

“I drink on occasions when there is a bash or party, and I hardly buy for myself. I just go to bash empty handed but when I come back I will be drunk. My friends buy for me” (Participant 7).

Out of twelve female participants interviewed, ten stated that they drink more than four drinks during bashes, eight of them stated that they do not have limits, they stop when they are broke or drunk. Nine of the female participants are casual drinkers; they only drink during occasions such as during bashes.

Based on the above quotations, it appears that the participants both male and female drink excessively during bashes. They do not keep track of the number of drinks they consume during a bash, they just drink without limits.

5.3.1.2 Sub-theme 1.2: Motive for drinking

Students gave different reasons regarding their drinking motives. Binge drinking was associated with various personal and social advantages that reinforced respondents to drink. Below are the reasons that were indicated by students:

- **Drinking for fun**

During the interviews, all participants shared their experiences on how they have fun where there is excessive drinking. The following quotations illustrate four of the reasons given by the respondents:

Male participants

The data below reflects a male participant on the theme “motive” for drinking and sub-theme drinking for fun:

“We have fun with my friends, laugh and share some jokes and funny stories that happened to us during our drinking spree. We have a relaxing good time and forget about our academic work” (Participant 21).

“Drinking beers for fun and enjoying, drinking makes the event more enjoyable and it feels so good when you get tipsy” (Participant 22).

Ten of the male respondents stated that they drink to have fun, and having fun means they drink until they are drunk. They also indicated that binge drinking during bashes is the only opportunity to have extreme fun.

Female participants

The data below reflects female participants on the sub-theme “motive for drinking during bashes”.

“I drink a lot, to have fun and use the opportunity to enjoy, because it is the only time during bashes where we relax and have fun and again it is always fun when drinking are included in any events ” (Participant 1).

The same participant above also stated that: *“...we use to play different drinking games to increase fun with friends. Games such as the one who finish first will be rewarded with more beer, and we end up finishing more beer without noticing how many we consumed”.*

“Drinking just means having fun, a bash without alcohol will just be a boring event ever. During bashes I will say I had fun if I had a lot of alcohol” (Participant 11).

From the interviews, it was conveyed to the researcher that eight female participants are occasional drinkers, while two others only drink during the weekends and the other two are regular drinkers. All female participants stated that they drink four and more drinks in one setting and mainly to have fun.

- **Drinking to cope with stress**

Six male and three female respondents also indicated that they drink because they have a lot of issues that are stressing them. Drinking makes them to cope with the problems they have academically and also socially. The following responses elaborate on this sub-theme.

Male participants

The data below reveals male participants on drinking to cope with stress during bashes.

“When I have problems, such as the time I failed my module I can’t wait for bash to come so I can chill with my friends and start talking about our problems” (Participant 13).

“I release my stress by hangout in a group and drink a lot of beers, after that I will feel much better and my mind will be more refreshed” (Participant 15).

The above male respondents and the other four stated that they drinking assist them to cope with the problems they experience academically and to relax.

Female participants

The extract below reflects a female participant on the motives for drinking:

“Drinking eases my stress and makes me to forget about my background, my family problems and all the relationship problems. After fighting with my boyfriend I drink. It makes me to feel much better” (Participant 2).

“Stress and anger, so when I am drunk I can take my stress to someone, insult him or her with word, and tell him or her how I hate her. I usually insult my x-boyfriends and tell them how I hate them” (Participant 10).

“I drink to refresh my mind from academic stress, sometimes we encounter a lot of stress where we have a lot of tests to write and some assignments to submit so, is only during bashes when we relax and forget about academic stress” (Participant 11).

The above three female respondents clearly stated how they drink alcohol to ease their minds from different stress, such as family and relationship problems as indicated by participant 2 and academic stress as stated by participant 11.

Drinking to cope with stress is supported by Biden (2000:12); Carlson, Johnson & Jacobs (2010:242) who indicated that students drink to relief academic and social stress. It shows in the data above that students used alcohol as a coping mechanism to deal with their stressful situations.

- **Drinking to celebrate**

While some drink for fun and stress other participants consider drinking as a part of celebration something. The following quotations illustrate some of the reasons given by the respondents:

Male participants

The data below reveals male participants on the views on drinking to celebrate:

I drink to celebrate, for example there used to be bashes where the other political party has won or during fresher's ball where we welcome and enjoy with first entering students" (Participant 19).

"... I do it as a token of appreciation maybe I could have passed in my test or exam, then, I use the opportunity to reward myself" (Participant 23).

Usually we do it to celebrate the success, of somebody or something different. For example, we were drinking with my friends to celebrate Valentine's Day" (Participant 16).

A further three male respondents stated they also drink to celebrate. The above three participants also stated the celebrations for achievement and also some events such as Valentine's Day as mentioned by participant 16. This means that 50 % of male respondents drink to celebrate some event or cause.

Female participants

The extracts below reflect female participants' responses on the point of drinking to celebrate:

"Main point dominantly is to celebrate, every bash has its purpose, for example the most know exciting bash is fresher's ball which is a welcoming celebration bash for first entering students" (Participant 2).

"I attended bashes during Valentine's Day and also Pre-Valentine's day it was so exciting and everybody was wearing red and white" (Participant 6).

The above female participants also mentioned that they attend bashes in order to celebrate. Participant 2 said that the most favourable celebrated bash is known as “fresher’s ball”. This is a well-attended celebrated bash which is organised yearly on campus.

Drinking was considered an important part of socialising and featured strongly in the participants’ social experiences. Interviews with the male and female participants regarding the motive for drinking revealed the three reasons for drinking namely, drinking for fun, drinking to cope with stress and drinking to celebrate. Twenty-two out of twenty four students, all 12 male students and eight female student respondents however, articulated very well about the reasons for drinking. They claimed that their drinking is related to having fun, relieving stress and to celebration. The remaining two female students were those who were unsure about why they drink.

5.3.1.3 Sub-theme 1.3: Peer pressure

Both male and female participants mentioned that peer pressure is an influential factor to binge drinking. This is supported by Kinard and Webster (2010:24), who indicated that peer pressure contributes to binge drinking and anti-social behaviour. The following male and female student participants are quoted on how peer pressure influenced them below:

Male participants

The data below reflects male participants on how peer pressure influenced their drinking:

“Friends... (pause, reflecting), sometimes even if I tell myself that I will not take a lot of alcohol but just because my friends are drinking I will just drink” (Participant 14).

“I can say I am motivated by other friends... I can’t just isolate myself while my friends are drinking, and I can’t just stop drinking while there is still alcohol because I am afraid of getting drunk, but I just drink” (Participant 15).

Out of twelve male participants ten stated that their drinking behaviour is influenced by their peers. Public drunkenness that ensues is not considered by the binge drinkers as a problem.

Female participants

The following quotes show some of the female participant's views on how peer pressure influenced them to binge drinking:

"It is for me to fit in the groups of friends that I am with, sometimes if you isolate yourself they do not take you as part of them, so for me to fit in the peers I just drink a lot" (Participant 4).

"You will feel bored when your friends are drinking and you just isolate yourself, they will even call you by names if you act as a good girl, but if we are all in the same situation we get along and they will act like you are one of them" (Participant 10).

Eleven female participants also mentioned that they drink in order to be accommodated in their peer groups. Drinking makes them to have a sense of belonging.

From the above analysis, it is clear that twenty-one student respondents were involved in binge drinking because of peer pressure during bashes. Lack of proper guidance before bashes might be the cause of being influenced by the peers.

5.3.1.4 Sub- theme 4: Environment as an influential factor to binge drinking

The campus environment in which alcohol is sold such as during bashes encourages students to binge drink and this behaviour may attract criminal behaviour. The participants' responses below present how the environment influenced them to binge drink.

Male participants

The following extracts illustrate the ways in which the environment influenced the respondents to binge drink:

"The environment is just good for drinking, the music, alcohol, friend, celebrities and the vibe also, and also the situation is just good for us to drink" (Participant 17).

“I used to misbehave because of the environment during bashes” (Participant 19).

“The fact that others are bingeing, we just binge drink and the environment is too encouraging to drink because sometimes you may find that they are offering alcohol for free” (Participant 15).

The data above indicate that three male respondents were attracted by the campus environment to binge drink. In total eight out of twelve male respondents indicated that the campus environment is encouraging to binge drink especially because alcohol is sometimes offered for free during bashes.

Female participants

Female participants responded as follows on how the campus environment influenced them to binge drink:

“The environment is too influential; it is so tempting and encouraging. You can end up drinking even if you don’t drink in order to be accommodated to the group” (Participant 3).

“The situation, the environment the vibe is just allowing us to drink and drink until we are drunk” (Participant 12).

Female respondents also indicated that the campus environment is encouraging them to binge drink. Ten out of twelve respondents stated the same about the environment.

The data presented above show that students are attracted by the way in which bashes are structured such as the music, alcohol, celebrities, and also the vibe during bashes. They end up drinking because the campus environment influences them to drink. The sub-theme environment as an influential factor is supported by Leonard, Quigley and Collen (2003:16); Correia and Cameron, (2010:322), who stated that the activities and the vibe during bashes influence students to binge drink.

5.3.2 Theme 2: Victimisation

After drinking students show different behaviours and become suitable targets. This is stipulated by Cohen and Felson (1979:588) who stated that, the convergence of the suitable target, motivated offender and absence of capable guardian create an opportunity for criminal victimisation. The following sub-themes arose from the theme victimisation:

5.3.2.1 Sub-theme 2.1: Suitable targets

One of the components that were explained by Cohen and Cantor (1980:149) was effortlessness which can be explained as the ease with which a target can be acquired. Some students' behaviour can make them suitable targets and make it easy for criminals to victimise them. The data below arose from the sub-theme suitable targets.

Male participants

On the sub-theme suitable targets as a result of binge drinking male participants stated:

“Before drinking I am shy and after drinking I am no longer shy and I dance a lot. We walk around the bash and cause a dialogues and arguments about soccer teams with those who favour different soccer team from ours” (Participant 14).

Participant 14 also indicated that:

“Yes I was once a victim of crime, I was moving around after drinking so I saw this other guys selling some drugs to some girls that I know, so I approached them and told them not to sell those drugs, so they took a bottle and mugged me in my head as you can see the scar on my head” (Participant 14).

“After drinking, when I am drunk I just want to go to my room, no matter what time I just want to leave because I don't feel the vibe anymore, I just want to see myself in my room, and I am staying off camp. I was once physically assaulted after this other night while I was on my way to my room, they took all my phones and the last money I had in my pocket” (Participant 13).

Out of twelve male participants eight stated that some behaviour, such as picking arguments and being confrontational can make them to become suitable targets.

Participant 14 was stabbed by an assailant, using a broken bottle. The fact that participant 13 left during the night of the bash, made him a suitable target. These two participants, especially the one staying off campus and had to walk in the dark made him vulnerable. These students are also often targets for robbers. Participant 14 was mugged during a bash. Although it is an isolated case, drugs are also sold on campus (at least during bashes).

Female participants

The following quotes illustrate some of the reasons given by the female respondents on the sub-theme suitable targets:

“I become more talkative, make jokes and become easy to get along with different people. I brag about my success academically socially and economically, one day one of the student swear at me, she even told me that I should stop talking because I have nothing” (Participant 3).

“After drinking I feel sleepy, I just want to go sleep when I am drunk, and when I am with my friends and do not want to accompany me to my room I just sleep where I am, my phone was stolen the time I was asleep during a bash” (Participant 4).

“I feel so tired, but that does not stop me drinking. I keep on dancing even when I feel tired. Sometimes when I dance with a boy that I have crash with I feel so sexually aroused, it feels so good. This other boy once forced me to sleep with him after I seduced him” (Participant 9).

The above data indicate clearly that some female respondents (four) revealed their emotions which made them suitable targets. Sexual exploitation is easier when a female is under the influence of alcohol.

According to the data presented above, participants show the behaviours that made them suitable targets for criminal victimisation. This is supported by Cohen and Cantor (1980:143), who stated that crime occur because there is physical visibility, accessibility and effortlessness to commit crime. They can end up being the victims of assault, rape and theft because they are easily accessible and physically visible. The offender can also commit crime without much effort because of their vulnerability.

Bartlett and Grist (2011:3), also supported the sub-theme, by saying students become careless when they are drunk, and they are less able to defend themselves.

5.3.3 Theme 3: Crime

Excessive use of alcohol has a risk of criminal offending. There were some incidences which led some of the students to become victims of crimes. Below are the kinds of victimisation that were experienced by the respondents. This theme emerged from responses such as the following:

- **Physical Assault**

According to Felson, Teasdale, and Burchfield (2008:119) individuals are more likely to be involved in to violent offending behaviours, particularly fights, especially when they drink excessively.

Male participants

The data below reflects male participants' responses on the category "physical assault":

"I was hit by a bottle after this other guy throws it, and it hit me in my head and I was bleeding..." (Participant 23).

"Yes I was once a victim of crime, I was moving around after drinking so I saw this other guys selling some drugs to some girls that I know, so I approached them and told them not to sell those drugs, so they took a bottle and mugged me in my head as you can see the scar in my head" (Participant 14).

The data above represent two male participants that were physical assaulted by other students during bashes.

Female participants

The data below reflects female participant's responses on the category of assault:

"My friend started some arguments with this other boy so, they end up fighting so badly throwing bottle and unfortunately the bottle hit me while I was trying to separate

them. And I don't stop but did the same to that girl until the security came to separate us" (Participant 1).

The above participant indicated that she was attempting to help a friend when a bottle was hurled at someone but actually struck her. The data above shows that some students become violent after drinking, they cause fights and get involved in to anti-social behaviour.

- **Sexual assault**

Sexual assault can be experienced in different ways, below are the responses of students who experienced sexual assault during bashes.

Male participants

The following responses were given by the participants on sexual assault:

"I was never a victim of crime but I saw the situation where there were three guys who were raping this other lady who was wearing a very short skirt during bashes. The lady was so drunk and when the police came the boys claimed that the lady was provoking them" (Participant 16).

"I was drunk when the lady who was having a crush on me was busy touching me in the arousal parts, she was seducing me and also forcing me to accompany her to her room, when I deny my friends were laughing so badly at me" (Participant 14).

The above data shows that two male participants were either observing as a witness or experienced sexual assault which includes rape and touching of genitals.

Female participants

Some female participants who experienced sexual assault during bashes are quoted below:

"... the boy wanted to talk to me so I denied, so he started pushing me then I fell down and just because I was drunk I could not be able to defend myself he kept on saying "I want to talk to you" coming too close to me, talking and touching me at the same time" (Participant 1).

“I was drunk and I don’t want to have sex with my boyfriend for that week because he made me angry the week before, he forced me to have sex with him and I could not defend myself because he was not drunk and I was drunk. I could not report him because he is my boyfriend and I love him and he is the father of my first son” (Participant 12).

“I nearly became a victim because, during a bash, one day there was this other boyfriend of mine who was buying me alcohol so he accompanied me to my room. When we arrive he did not want to leave he took off his clothes and start holding me forcefully kissing me I screamed and he felt somehow and leave my room” (Participant 8).

The above data revealed that three female students were affected by alcohol induced sexual approaches and assault. Heavy alcohol use, coupled with inexperience with drinking, may place young females at serious risk of sexual assault.

- **Theft**

People who are careless in handling their properties will be more attractive to thieves than those who are very observant. This supports research by Bartlett and Grist, 2011:3) who mentioned that intoxication makes people more careless. Harrison, and Gfroerer (1992:422) indicated that stealing to get money to buy drugs is common among drug users. This sub-theme emerged from responses such as the following:

Male participants

The data below reflects male participants on theft:

“I lost my key during bashes and I had no choice but to break my door, I searched everywhere that I was but I could not find it and I thought that I lost it the time I was dancing or maybe somebody stole it I don’t remember anything” (Participant 17).

The above participant explained how he became victim of crime as a result of binge drinking. While the above participant lost his property there are those who steal to satisfy a craving for drugs. Participant 21 mentioned that:

“There was this other day that I was unable to afford drugs, I stole money from my roommate because it is difficult when you want it and cannot find it immediately especially during bashes”.

This is the second reference to drugs by respondents indicating that there are drug abuse amongst students.

Female participants

The following comments were given by female respondents on the experiences of theft:

“...My phone was stolen during a bash, I even wrote notices around the day after a bash, requesting for it if anyone saw it but nobody showed” (Participant 4).

“...firstly I lost my spectacles during bashes and I think they stole them the time I was dancing” (Participant 9).

According to the two male and two female participants' it students become careless when they are drunk. All of the above participants indicated that they lost their belongings during bashes and never saw them again. The above statement is supported by Bartlett and Grist (2011:3), and also by Harford, Wescler and Muthen (2003:704).

- **Burglary**

Burglary was a concern to some of the students who are staying off-campus, the respondents reported that they experienced burglary because they were drunk and one participant mentioned that some students were away from their rooms during bashes, making them easy targets. The above sub-theme emerged from the responses such the following:

Male participants

The following quotes reflect male participants' responses on burglary:

“I slept in my friend's place because I could not go to my room as I was drunk, in the morning when I arrived in my room I found the window opened and they took my laptop

that was just next to the window, the modem, USB and laptop charger” (Participant 15).

“I forgot to lock my door on my way to bash, they easily entered my room and broke my money box, I used to put my coins always after shopping so I don’t know how much was it, I suspect somebody who knows me because not all students know that I have a money box” (Participant 18).

The above two responses show that the participants were careless, firstly by leaving the important property next to the window, and secondly by not locking the door, and this indicates that the environment was attractive for the offender to victimise the respondents. When a bash is in full swing, criminals know that occupants will stay out late, giving them ample time to enter rooms.

Female participants

The following quotes illustrate some of the explanation given by the female respondents on burglary:

“They cut the burglar door and the wooden door was not locked. When I woke up, they switched off the light. They took my computer and the speakers, I was unable to defend myself because I was drunk and so scared, I was bitten a lot” (Participant 6).

“It was during bashes I don’t hear anything during that night when I came back from campus, but what I remember is that my door was locked. When I woke up in the morning, they break in and took my laptop, my phone and my money in the pocket of the trouser I was wearing” (Participant 11).

The three participants show that the criminals entered their rooms illegally and took some of their belongings. All respondents above stated that the incidents happened during different bashes. Further, it shows in the data that all the above respondents were drunk. According to the Routine Activity theory, the participants were acting as suitable targets and provoked the offender by not locking their doors during the night. Moreover, female students are the ones most likely to experience victimisation during bashes and male students are often the ones victimising them (Cohen & Felson, 1979:588).

Crimes emerge because there is accessibility and it is effortless to commit crime. The drunken victims are easy targets as they are either passed out or cannot resist the criminals. This is supported by Cohen and Cantor (1980:143) who mentioned that crime occur because there is physical visibility, accessibility and effortless to commit crime. The sub-themes below emerged from the theme crime.

5.3.3.1 Sub- theme 1: Motivated offenders

Motivated offenders attend bashes for intentions; some become motivated during bashes because opportunity occurred. The following behaviour indicated that some students became perpetrators due to binge drinking.

Male participants

Male participants' views on the sub-theme motivated offender:

"...We walk around the bash and cause a dialogues and arguments about soccer teams with those who favour different soccer team from ours, hence I ended up beating my opponent" (Participant 14).

"... I punch this other boy who owed me, he did not want to pay me and I wanted to buy more beers" (Participant 18).

The above data show that two respondents were provoked to engage in aggressive behaviour.

Female participants

The following comments were given by the female respondents' sub-theme motivated offender:

"... once I am drunk I am the one pushing to be in front of a cue, not shy at all " (Participant 1).

".... after drinking I insult anyone who hates me, make jokes about them and walk around searching for them" (Participant 10).

From the above two female respondents, it is clear that when some students are drunk they cause a risky and provocative behaviour such as pushing others and also insulting them. This may provoke arguments and even violence.

5.3.3.2 Sub-theme 2: Crimes committed

Alcohol consumption is related to criminal offending (Babor, 2010:2). Crime is more likely to occur under the influence of alcohol and heavy drinkers are at greater risk for offending.

- **Drinking and driving**

Binge drinking impairs driving performance. O'Brien, McCopy and Champion (2006:629), mentioned that binge drinking lead to impairments in motor skills, this includes balance and hand eye coordination, and it may increase the risk of injuries and other various badly physical damage. From the data collected only the following two participants experienced drinking and driving problems.

Male participants

The data below reflects male participants on drinking and driving during bashes:

"...it was a mistake I don't do it intentionally. I scratched this other car on my way out to my room with my car but it was not bad, it was just a small scratch. I was so drunk and unable to control the car" (Participant 19).

"I was involved in a car accident with my friend, the car lost direction and hit the pole of the road sign when we were in a way to town from bash, I could not see anything but my friend said he saw a cow so he was trying to drive by the side of the cow. Unfortunately, he turns too much and hit the road sign. Fortunate enough we were not injured so badly".

"He lose control the time he was turning because he was drunk, he could not see properly, yes the cow was on the road so just because he was driving fast and drunk he was unable to control the car" (Participant 22).

The data above shows that two male participants, irrespective of the legal prohibition, drove their vehicles while they were under the influence of alcohol. This is supported by O'Brien, et al. (2006:629) who found that binge drinking lead to impairments in neuro-motor skills that impair driving. From the data collected none of the female students indicated about drinking and driving during bashes.

- **Physical assault**

Binge drinking can engage students in a situation of violent offending behaviour, this include fights. This is also supported by Felson, Teasdale and Burchfield (2008:119) who stated that students engage in physical assault after they binge drank.

Male participants

The data below reflects the male respondents under the point of physical assault:

“Like I said if someone press wrong button, he or she will get hurt, I punch this other boy who was busy drinking my beer without my consent” (Participant 20).

“Yes I hit this other boy who owed me, he did not want to pay me and I wanted to buy more beer” (Participant 18).

Based on the two extracts above it shows that students' behaviour can be provoked to behave in an aggressive manner.

Female participants

I left bash around 11 o'clock because I felt that I was drunk, then when I arrived in my room I slept immediately, around 3 o'clock my roommate came with her friends that are staying off campus, Yhooo they woke me up while they were still in the corridor, the time they arrived in the room I was already awoken by their noise, then I get up from the bed the tell them to take their voice down, they did not even listen to me they were just laughing at me, then I slept thinking that they will take the voice down, now they played music and they were shouting loud and dancing, then I woke up again and hit my roommate I pulled her hair and punch her face, she was drunk and unable to defend herself and I was a bid sober, then her friends hold me and apologised” (Participant 2).

“I Insult when people who come and bother me. I insult and push to have fight; I once fight with my boyfriend during bashes, so we were pushing each other insulting with vulgar words” (Participant 7).

Based on the two extracts it shows that when some female students (two) became so drunk that they can become aggressive when provoked.

- **Binge drinking and illegal drugs**

According to Presley, Meilma and Cashin (1996:1) the combination of alcohol and other illegal drugs may result in aggressive behaviour and more crimes among students. Further, illegal drug distribution usually occurs in an overcrowding disorganised place where it is difficult to be observed. The following are the male and female respondents on the use of illegal drug use and binge drinking during bashes:

Male participants

The data below reflects a male participant who binge drink and use other illegal drugs during bashes:

Participant 21 mentioned that he is smoking a certain drug but did not disclose which kind of illegal drug he is using. He mentioned that:

“I smoke a specific drug that I cannot mention, Smoking makes me feel more relaxed, stress free and it makes me to forget about all my problems. After drinking and smoking I forget all my problems it feels so good” (Participant 21). He also earlier stated that, *“There was this other day that I was unable to afford drugs, I stole money from my roommate because it is difficult when you want it and cannot find it immediately especially during bashes”.*

Others students engage in business of selling illegal drugs, this is supported by participant 14 who mentioned that:

“... I was moving around after drinking so I saw this other student selling some drugs to some classmates that I know...”

From the above data it shows that two male students who drank alcohol also used other drugs, and it becomes an opportunity for those who are selling drugs to do their business during bashes. The female students did not mention anything about other illegal drug use. This shows that male students are the more likely to engage in illegal drug use.

- **Binge drinking and property damage**

The following respondents reported that they damaged properties because they were unable to see properly as they were drunk. Some crimes involve two or more illegal activities such as the drunken driving example (supra).

Male participants

The data below reflects male participants on binge drinking and property damage during bashes:

“I was involved in a car accident with my friend, the car lose direction and hit the pole of the road sign when we were in a way to town from bash, I could not see anything but my friend said he saw a cow so he was trying to drive by the side of the cow. Unfortunately he turns too much and hit the road sign. Fortunate enough we were not injured so badly” (Participant 22).

“I lost my key during bashes and I had no choice but to break my door, I searched everywhere that I was but I could not find it and I thought that I lost it the time I was dancing or maybe somebody stole it I don’t remember anything” (Participant 17).

Female participants

“Usually when there is a political bash, it is where there will be a lot of property damage, we were dancing on the tables during this other bash because our political party won the votes, it was fun” (Participant 7).

“I could not see properly so I took a chair and stand on top of it because I am short and I could not see on the stage when the celebrity were performing, unfortunately the chair get broken because I was also dancing on top of it” (Participant 12).

The above extract indicates that students become exuberant and even reckless by damaging an institution's property during bashes. A total of four respondents admitting that they got involved in activities that constitutes damage to property.

5.3.4 Theme 4: Safety

Crime does not happen just because victims and offenders happen to share similar spatial awareness and converge at a certain place and time. An understanding of the necessary conditions for crime begins by considering each individual's perception of their safety and how it affects their movement patterns (Lowe, Marsden, Murdoch & Ward, 2012).

Male participant

The following quotes illustrate some of the explanation given by the respondents on how they view the level of safety during bashes.

“Our safety comes first and during bashes we become drunk and need capable guardians, not only just security but in a form of materials like street lights on the road to our rooms, because sometimes crime does not occur during bashes but around the closest residence. I was mugged in a resident around bash that is why I feel that we need more safety during bashes, some police should always be there to patrol around our residences because this does not affect those who attend bashes only but also those who are in their respective rooms” (Participant 14).

“We love attending bashes but honestly speaking it is so risky, every after bash there are always incidents that happens, so I used to ask myself where were the security by then, when people fight to an extent of taking one another to the hospital. We are still lacking capable guardians during bashes” (Participant 22).

All twelve male participants interviewed confirmed that there is inadequate safety during bashes. Students also stated that during every bash there are always incidents that are occurred. They consider the environment totally not safe.

Female participants

The data below reflects female participants on how they view the level of safety during bashes, the following participants indicated:

“It is totally not safe during bashes because there are so many incidences that occur and they affect us sometimes for us girls they take advantage, they buy us beers and after they steal our belongings, there are security members around but I still feel that it is not enough there should be more of the security for our safety” (Participant 4).

“The safety is totally not good because sometimes you might find that there are people that are not students who are also attending bashes, some of them commit crime and run away, others hide from their friend’s rooms. It is very rare for a bash to occur without a bad story the following day” (Participant 7).

Ten out of twelve female students interviewed also mentioned that there is security but, the safety is still not adequate during bashes.

According to twenty-two, twelve male and ten female respondents interviewed, the level of safety at campus is very inadequate during bashes. The same students also mentioned that, there is still a need for more capable security including the equipment such as street lights. There is a convergence of the suitable target and motivated offender at bashes so, as stated by Cohen and Felson (1979:560), there should be capable guardians.

5.4 Summary of themes and sub-themes

The themes and sub-themes have been summarised in the table below:

Theme	Sub-themes	Brief description
1.Binge drinking		The theme binge drinking emanated after the participants’ responses on what is binge drinking.
	Drinking patterns	The theme drinking pattern came from the students’ responses on how they are drinking.

	Motives for drinking	The theme motives for drinking arose from the participants' reasons for drinking.
	Peer pressure	Peer pressure arose from the participants' responses in how they are motivated by friends to drink.
	Environment as an influential factor	Environment as a theme arose from the majority of participants' who indicated how the environment is conducive to binge drinking.
2. Victimization		After drinking participant's shows different behaviours which lead to some of students becoming the victims and criminals.
	Suitable target	The sub-theme suitable target arose from the some of the participants' responses after drinking; this is also supported by the Routine Activity Theory.
	Experiences by Victims	Some students were experiencing criminal victimisation during bashes after binge drinking.
3. Crime		The theme crime arose from the participants' behaviour after binge drinking.
	Motivated offender	The sub-theme motivated offender arose from some of the students' experiences during bashes, this is supported by the Routine Activity Theory
	Crimes committed	The theme crimes arose from the following research question, "which crimes are committed during bashes". Different kinds of crimes have been experienced by the respondents.
4. Safety		The theme safety emanated research question, what is the level of safety during

		bashes? Twenty two participants above indicated their views on how they do not feel safe during bashes.
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Table 2: Tabular summary of themes and sub-themes

5.5 Summary of the findings from the presentation, analysis and interpretation of the findings

- Some participants' behaviour changed as a result of binge drinking; some students' behaviour made them to be vulnerable to crime while others became perpetrators.
- Students are influenced by peer pressure, campus environment, to drink excessively during bashes.
- They mentioned that they drink to have fun, cope with the stress and to celebrate.
- Different kinds of crimes and victimisation occurred during bashes this includes drinking and driving, physical assault, illegal drug use, property damage, sexual assault, theft and burglary.

In conclusions chapter five included the presentation, analysis and interpretation of the findings. The researcher realised that in deed some students become the perpetrator and others the victims of crime during bashes. Peer pressure and the environment influenced some students to binge drink during bashes. Students also concluded that the level of safety in campus is very inadequate during bashes.

CHAPTER 6: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS

6.1 INTRODUCTION

The current study used a phenomenological approach to explore the lived experiences of binge drinkers during bashes. Chapter six presents the analysis and interpretation of the findings of the study in relation to the literature review and the selected theories. It also reviews the contribution of the aim of this study and research questions set out in chapter one. The findings will be discussed according to the emerging themes identified in chapter four.

6.2 DRINKING PATTERNS

The data collected shows that the selected sampling technique namely: non-probability sampling particularly snowball sampling, gave access to the respondents the researcher was looking for. All participants were binge drinkers. This is in relation to the definition of binge drinking adopted by the researcher which Henrietta and Harmon (2012:55) referred to as rapid consumption of five or more drinks in one setting for males and four or more drinks in one setting for females. All male participants drank more than five and more drinks and all female participants drank four and more drinks during bashes. Some respondents reported drinking a lot more than the adopted definition of binge drinking. One female respondent sums up the findings that they drink to get drunk:

“I left bash around 11 o’clock because I felt that I was drunk” (Participant 2).

Risky sexual behaviour may also result as one female respondent stated:

I dance with a boy that I have crash with I feel so sexually aroused, it feels so good” (Participant 9).

6.3 BINGE DRINKING BEHAVIOUR

Respondents’ behaviour was included in the study because binge drinking is related to other aspects of people’s drinking related behaviour. Eight respondents reported that their behaviour change after binge drinking, two females and four males became aggressive and two female and two male respondents make jokes about other students. Such behaviour can provoke others to retaliate and can lead to both

victimisation and perpetration. This is in support of the Lifestyle Exposure Theory, based on the notion that the likelihood of victimisation depends on the lifestyle of a person and that any change to the routine activity of an individual or group of individuals, whether it be of potential victims or of wrongdoers, is sufficient to pose a risk and to provide opportunities for victimisation (Hindelang, et, at. 1978:1). Furthermore, the Routine Activity Theory is an environmental, place-based explanation of crime, where the behaviour patterns and intersections of people in time and space influence when and where crimes occur. In summary, the theory suggests that when a motivated offender and suitable targets meet in the absence of a suitable guardian, crime might take place (Cohen & Felson, 1979:589. Particularly, males when intoxicated as a result of binge drinking, can act erratically and engage in aggressive behaviour such as assault.

The data presented, indicated two males respondents' and two female respondents showed behaviour which is aggressive, violent and reckless, this is also supported by Bartlett and Grist (2011:3). One of the male respondents:

I punch this other boy who owed me, he did not want to pay me and I wanted to buy more beers” (Participant 18).

As far as females are concerned, the aggression is more verbally expressed, “after drinking I insult anyone who hates me, make jokes about them and walk around searching for them” (Participant 10).

“I insult when people who come and bother me. I insult and push to have fight; I once fight with my boyfriend during bashes, so we were pushing each other insulting with vulgar words” (Participant 7).

Some respondents' behaviour contributes to their own victimisation because they can be observed by others students around them and others become offensive because the opportunity prevailed. This is in response to the researcher's following question, to what extent are perpetrators and victims' behaviour affected by binge drinking?

The study thus confirms the applicability of the selected theories (Routine Activity and Lifestyle Exposure Theory).

6.4 MOTIVE FOR DRINKING

In response to the question asked about the reason why they are drinking, respondents indicated that they (ten males and eight females) binge drink for fun, to cope with academic stress (six males and three females) and to celebrate (three males and ten females). The majority of eighteen respondents indicated that they drink to have fun; participant 1 also indicated that they even engage in different games which increase their consumption of alcohol and level of intoxication. The finding of the study on motives for binge drinking is supported by Biden (2000:12) as well as Carlson, et al. (2010:242) who stated that, students drink to have fun. This means they drink until they are drunk and also engage in different drinking games which increase their state of being drunk.

Six males and three female participants stated that they drink to cope with stress; the stress that most students experience was due to academic stress, family stress and relationship stress. As one male participant aptly expressed this point:

“I release my stress by hangout in a group and drink a lot of beers, after that I will feel much better and my mind will be more refreshed” (Participant 15).

A female participant remarked:

“Drinking eases my stress and makes me to forget about my background, my family problems and all the relationship problems. After fighting with my boyfriend I drink. It makes me to feel much better” (Participant 2).

Clearly, six male and three female students, according to the participants, drink to relief stress. However, some other reasons have also been mentioned. Other participants specified that they drink to celebrate their (one male) academic, (2 males) political and (one female) personal achievements. The responses below clearly enunciate this point:

“I drink to celebrate, for example there used to be bashes where the other political party has won or during fresher’s ball where we welcome and enjoy with first entering students” (Participant 19).

“... I do it as a token of appreciation maybe I could have passed in my test or exam, then, I use the opportunity to reward myself” (Participant 23).

Celebration as a reason to binge drink as determined by the study, why participants binge drink is also supported by research conducted by Kalideen (2011:2); Biden, (2000:12) and Carlson, et, al. (2010:242).

6.5 PEER PRESSURE

From the data collected it shows that majority (ten male, and eleven female respondents) participants are influenced by their peers to drink. Peer pressure as an encouragement from one's own group seemed to motivate participants to engage in binge drinking and anti-social behaviour. It also influenced students to engage in risk taking behaviour.

As one male participant stated:

"I can say I am motivated by other friends..." (Participant 15), while a female expressed it as follows, *"It is for me to fit in the groups of friends that I am with, sometimes if you isolate yourself they do not take you as part of them, so for me to fit in the peers I just drink a lot"* (Participant 4).

Kinard and Webster (2010:24) stated that peers act as an influential model by introducing, providing, and pressuring risky activities (such binge drinking) to other peers. Peer pressure as an influential factor to binge drink and engage in anti-social behaviour is also supported by Santor, Messervey and Kusumakar (2000:163); Novak (2007:1); Borsari and Carey (2001:391) and Wood, Read, Mitchell and Brand (2004:19). Research on the social dynamics of alcohol consumption suggests that connections between violence, drinking and drunkenness are socially learned rather than universal (Muchoki & Wandibba, 2009). Roelofse (2007:103) on the other hand argues that, "The family is supposed to teach social roles, moral standards and society's laws and to discipline children who fail to comply with those norms and values. The strength of the bonds between parents and significant others (Gottfredson & Hirschi, 1990) will greatly affect the pliability of young people to peer influence.

6.6 ENVIRONMENT AS AN INFLUENTIAL FACTOR TO BINGE DRINKING AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The fact that alcohol is sold during bashes and also the vibe (excitement of music and dancing) might influence most students to binge drink and engage in deviant behaviours, even those that have never drunk before. As one male participant stated:

“The environment is just good for drinking, the music, alcohol, friends, celebrities and the vibe also, and also the situation is just good for us to drink” (Participant 17).

A female participant has been recorded as saying:

“The environment is too influential; it is so tempting and encouraging. You can end up drinking even if you don’t drink in order to be accommodated to the group” (Participant 3).

The findings provide support to the view of Kinard and Webster (2010:24) and Dastile (2004:129), who mentioned that the accessibility and availability of alcohol encourage students to binge drink.

This is also supported in the theory Cohen and Felson, (1979:588) who indicated that the places we go to the people we interact with and the events we attend influence the likelihood of criminal behaviour.

6.7 CRIME

In responses to the question asked by the researcher about crimes committed as a result of binge drinking during bashes, the following crimes were mentioned: (two males and no females) drinking and driving; (six males and four females) physical assault; (two males and zero female) illegal drugs; and (two males and two females) property damage. Participants indicated that they committed crime during bashes. One male participant stated that:

“Like I said if someone press wrong button, he or she will get hurt, I punch this other boy who was busy drinking my beer without my consent” (Participant 20).

It shows in the data collected that the most recurring crime is physical assault. Even female participants were also involved in this physical assault as participant 7 stated her actions after drinking:

“I Insult when people who come and bother me. I insult and push to have fight; I once fight with my boyfriend during bashes, so we were pushing each other insulting with vulgar words” (Participant 7).

The participants’ responses about crimes committed during bashes can also be explained in terms of the studies conducted by Novik, Melinda, Howard and Bradley (2011:34); Flegel (2011:411), and Norris (2008:1). These researchers indicated that binge drinking results in anti-social behaviour and some people drink for the intention of committing a crime. According to a study conducted by Santor, Messervey and Kusumakar (2000:163), students’ behaviour change as a result of binge drinking, they explained that students can engage in behaviour that they will regret when they are sober.

According to the Routine Activity Theory, crimes occur because there is a motivated offender, a suitable target and a capable guardian. Crimes were committed during bashes because the environment was too attractive and motivating. This is also supported by Osgood, et al. (1996:635), who explained that certain routine activities such as attending bashes are strongly associated with heavy alcohol consumption and other anti-social behaviours.

6.8 VICTIMISATION

According to the findings, eight female students suffered criminal victimisations which included one physical assault, three sexual assault, two theft, and two burglary. It shows in the data that ten students suffered physical assault during bashes. This can also be explained in terms of the findings of the studies conducted by Norris, et al. (2006:402). Most students lose their properties, due to the fact that they were drunk and others took it as an opportunity to steal their property. One of the male participants mentioned that:

“I lost my key during bashes and I had no choice but to break my door, I searched everywhere that I was but I could not find it and I thought that I lost it the time I was dancing or maybe somebody stole it I don’t remember anything” (Participant 17).

A female participant also experienced sexual victimisation and indicated that:

“I was drunk and I don’t want to have sex with my boyfriend for that week because he made me angry the week before, he forced me to have sex with him”... (Participant 12).

It shows from the data collected that when students are drunk they become vulnerable targets to criminal activities, this is also stipulated in the Routine Activities Theory by Cohen and Felson (1979:589) who explained that some students’ behaviour made them to be vulnerable to criminal activities. Furthermore, there are differences in male and female anti-social behaviour as expressed in the data above. This is also supported by the study conducted by Smith and Foxcroft (2009:51) who stated the differences in offending between male and female, and indicated that males are more likely to be involved in offending behaviour while females are likely to become the victims.

6.9 THE LEVEL OF SAFETY DURING BASHES

The findings based on the data collected show that most students do not feel safe during bashes. Despite the presence of security guards (guardians) during bashes some respondents still feel that there should be more police patrols around residences since some of the criminal offences occur after bashes near the residences. Participant four mentioned that:

“It is totally not safe during bashes because there are so many incidences that occur...” (Participant 4), the other male participant also stated that:

“We love attending bashes but honestly speaking it is so risky, every after bash there are always incidents that happens...” (Participant 22).

From the data collected all respondents were concerned about the level of safety during bashes, they indicated that the level of safety is inadequate. This is supported by Cohen and Felson (1979:589) in the Routine Activity Theory who explained that

there should be capable guardianship for criminal victimisation not to occur. The criminal activities are still occurring even if the guardians are present. This means that there is a need for improved security (capable guardianship) for the criminal activities not to occur.

6.10 SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

- Twelve male and 12 female respondents binge drink during bashes;
- All male and female participants indicated that their behaviour change as a result of binge drinking and they engage in to anti-social behaviour;
- Different types of crimes are committed during bashes because criminality may ensue purposely or be induced by loss of control due to over-indulgence;
- Victimisation occurs during bashes because of different behaviours that are portrayed by some students;
- Respondents explained that there are security guards during bashes but that they are not capable guardians since criminal activities are still occurring;
- The majority of female respondents became vulnerable targets to criminal victimisation.

In conclusion the overall participants included twenty-four participants, twelve male and twelve female. Students stated that they binge drink during bashed. They were motivated by their peers and the environment to binge drink. Students experienced different victimisation and criminal activities during bashes. They stated that the safety during bashes is inadequate.

CHAPTER 7: GENERAL SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS, STUDY STRENGTHS, LIMITATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 INTRODUCTION

Chapter 7 gives a brief discussion of the study strengths, limitations, recommendations and conclusion for binge drinking, crime, victimisation and safety during bashes at University of Limpopo. The summary of the study will also be highlighted.

The study sought to understand binge drinking, crime, victimisation and safety during bashes at University of Limpopo. Below, a synoptic interpretation of the research and to what extent the study realised each.

7.2 ASSESSMENT OF RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Each research question has been assessed to indicate to what extent each one has been achieved

7.2.1 To identify the factors that influence binge drinking

The findings of the study indicated that students are influenced to binge drink during bashes. Data collected showed that they are influenced by their peers, environment, to celebrate and also to cope with stress. The above objective has been achieved and was also supported by the Lifestyle Exposure Theory of Hindelang, Gottfredson and Garofalo, (1978:1) which confirms that individuals are influenced by their peers and the environment to binge drink.

7.2.2 Identify kinds of crimes committed as a result of binge drinking

The study revealed the kinds of crimes that were committed during bashes, this include, drinking and driving, physical assault, illegal drugs and property damage and sexual victimisation. Students indicated that crime occurred because they were drunk. For example, the data in chapter six showed that some participants, irrespective of the legal prohibition, drove their vehicles while they were under the influence of alcohol. Male students showed more aggression than females yet it was not an exclusive male response to excessive consumption of alcohol. The above objective has also been achieved since the kinds of crimes have been identified.

7.2.3 Describe the victimological effects of crime committed during bashes as a result of binge drinking

The study also revealed the victimological effects of crimes committed during bashes. Some students suffered physical assault, sexual assault, theft, and burglary. Students stated that they were drunk when they suffered that victimisation and hence the above objective was also attained.

7.2.4 Assess the level of safety during bashes.

All students participated also contributed on the objective about the level of safety during bashes. Respondents particularly felt that security around residences should be improved as crimes such as burglary and theft are particularly committed there. The objective was achieved and is also supported in the theory done by (Cohen & Felson, 1979:588).

The findings of the present study indicate that students binge drink during bashes. They also become involved in to anti-social behaviour and others suffered victimisation. The researcher in this study concludes by asserting that all the objectives of the study have been met and also that the findings of the study are supported by literature and research theoretical perspectives.

7.3 STUDY STRENGTHS

The major strengths of the study are as follows:

- The study used semi-structured face-to-face interviews to obtain rich data;
- Both male and female respondents were used and thus as far as participants, are concerned, comparisons could be made on a gender as a variable;
- Participants were asked directly about binge drinking crime and victimisation and thus got trustworthy information, verified by supportive literature and a good theoretical foundation;
- The study used an appropriate mode of analysis namely Thematic Content Analysis (TCA) as well as appropriate theoretical framework which is the Routine Activity Theory and Life style Exposure Theory.

7.4 STUDY LIMITATIONS

The major limitations of the study are as follows:

- As with any study, there are limitations that must be noted. Firstly, the results are only reflective of binge drinkers at University of Limpopo;
- The generalisation of the study could not be done because the study was qualitative and limited;
- Qualitative research method directed the researcher to use a small size of participants because there was no point in continuing to collect data while no new information emerged from the participants.

7.5 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are put forward:

7.5.1 Recommendations to the University

The university as the responsible authority should use peer educators and councillors to promote responsible drinking and behaviour during bashes. Students should know their limits and made aware of how alcohol will affect them as individuals by peer educators and councillors. The issue of the risk of underage drinking is a serious matter and the University should develop a policy and procedures to deal with this.

7.5.2 Recommendations to be considered by Student Representative Council (SRC) during bashes

Student Representative Council should ensure that programmes such as drink wise, should be formed for those who are already binge drinkers. The SRC should take up its leadership role in this regard and also deploy its members at bashes to observe problem behaviour. The study, encountered respondents that were only 17 years old, and although for ethical reasons they were then excluded from the study, the possibility exists that they are being served liquor but it is obvious that they may be served liquor during bashes as identification is not required for being served. This may have serious implications for the university as it runs the risk of violating the Liquor Act 59 of 2003 section 10(1) as it prohibits anyone from selling or supplying alcohol to a minor. The SRC should play the role of guardian in this instance. They should also join

hands with the Turfloop Criminological Society, SAPS and Campus Protection to launch anti-crime campaigns for all students during bashes.

7.5.3 Recommendations to be considered by Campus protection during bashes

In order to prevent binge drinking, crime and victimisation during bashes, there should be effective engagement by the security personnel. They should examine campus policies, which include the control of the availability of alcohol during bashes. They should form a close relationship with the nearest bars and taverns to control student binge drinking during bashes. Campus protection members should also ensure that people who are not students should not be allowed on campus during bashes. This should be done by ensuring that every individual who enter the gate has a student card.

With respect to the minors, mentioned above, Student cards with a different colour code should be issued to such students and all students should be required to produce their student cards prior to be served. Cards should be worn in a visible manner and all security staff and SRC members should observe drinkers to ensure that other students do not get liquor for the minors. Suppliers and bar tenders should be informed, not to serve liquor to such card holders.

7.5.4 Recommendations to Police

The police should work together with the campus protection and Student Representative Council (SRC) during bashes; they should ensure that they patrol in campus and off campus during bashes. The visibility of the police officers around the community and institution will reduce the crimes to occur during bashes.

7.6 SUMMARY OF THE MAIN FINDINGS

Respondents indicated that bashes have a "vibe". As one participant stated, "the environment is just good for drinking, the music, alcohol, friends, celebrities and the vibe also, and also the situation is just good for us to drink" (Participant 17). This "vibe" in conjunction with peer pressure leads to consumption of alcohol in quantities that falls within the definition of binge drinking as defined in the research. A respondent put

it this way, “Drinking just means having fun, a bash without alcohol will just be a boring event ever. During bashes I will say I had fun if I had a lot of alcohol” (Participant 11). This intake of alcohol is also due to peer pressure, “I can say I am motivated by other friends...” (Participant 15).

Once under the influence of liquor, binge drinkers can become both victims of crime or perpetrator, the study found. Victimization involve physical assault, sexual assault, theft, burglary, drinking and driving that were committed crime during bashes. One male participant stated that, “Like I said if someone press wrong button, he or she will get hurt, I punch this other boy who was busy drinking my beer without my consent” (Participant 20). This is a good example where a binge drinker committed a crime against a student to attend a bash.

The following main findings emerged from the study:

- Respondents binge drink during bashes;
- The lifestyle and routine of respondents influence them to binge drink and engage in anti-social behaviour;
- Peer pressure is the most lifestyle influential factor to binge drink among students;
- Respondents expect positive outcomes from drinking, most of the students expect to have fun;
- Respondents drink to cope with their academic stress; and to cope with stress in general
- Physical assault is a criminal offence that occur mostly during bashes;
- Respondents stated that they do not feel safe during bashes;
- Male respondents are the ones mostly involved in criminal offences and
- Females are more likely to be victimised.

7.7 CONCLUSIONS

Bashes are mostly organised for first entering students or for special occasions such as the inauguration of a new SRC. Normally liquor companies provide alcoholic drinks as a marketing, mostly at sponsored prices. Cheaper liquor provides opportunities to

consume larger than normal quantities of alcohol. Once under the influence of liquor, binge drinkers can become both victims of crime or perpetrator, the study found.

Illegal drug use and property damage also occur. Students drink excessively during bashes, they do not limit their drinking. The study found male students are the ones mostly involved in criminal behaviour while female students, though not exclusively, are the victims. Students suffer the consequences of binge drinking and its effects. The study shows that student's state of intoxication affects their attitudes, behaviour and reflexes. They often behave in a way, when they are drunk, that they would never dream of doing when they are sober. Crimes such as assault, sexual assault, drug abuse and even drunken driving have been cited by respondents as crimes that were perpetrated during bashes. It can be concluded that binge drinking stimulates criminal behaviour and also present drinkers as possible targets of motivated offenders.

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APPENDIX A: QUESTIONS

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Demographical information

1. Age
2. Gender
3. Marital status
4. Level of study

Individual's drinking habits

5. Please explain your normal drinking habits.
6. If there are differences between your normal drinking habits and what happens during bashes, could you explain these differences and why they differ?
7. Describe changes in your behaviour as a result of binge drinking.

Factors leading to bingeing

8. What are your reasons for binge drinking during bashes?
9. What could be the influential factors that lead to binge drink?

Crimes committed as a result of binge drinking during bashes

10. Have you ever committed a crime during bashes? If yes, please explain the event(s) and which crime(s) you committed.
11. What do you think was/were the reason(s) which led you to commit crime?

Victimisation as a result of binge drinking

12. Have you ever been a victim of crime during bashes? If yes, please explain the event(s) and the type of crime(s) you have been a victim of.

13. What do you think was/were the reason(s) for your becoming a victim?

14. Explain your views on the safety and risks during bashes?

APPENDIX B

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

PROJECT TITLE: Binge drinking crime and victimisation during bashes at University of Limpopo

PROJECT LEADER: M.L MATLOU

1. You are invited to participate in the following research project: **Binge drinking crime and victimisation during bashes at University of Limpopo**
2. Participation in the project is completely voluntary and you are free to withdraw from the project (without providing any reasons) at any time.
3. It is possible that you might not personally experience any advantages during the project, although the knowledge that may be accumulated through the project might prove advantageous to others.
4. You are encouraged to ask any questions that you might have in connection with this project at any stage. The project leader and her/his staff will gladly answer your question. They will also discuss the project in detail with you.
5. You may feel upset, anxious or stressed during the interview designed to help explore your experiences of being gay or lesbian on UL (Turfloop Campus). If you do, please inform me immediately or as soon as you feel able. You will be referred for counselling to appropriate professionals on campus to help you resolve these feelings.
6. Should you at any stage feel unhappy, uncomfortable or is concerned about the research, please contact **Ms Noko Shai-Ragoboya at the University of Limpopo, Private Bag X1106, Sovenga, 0727, tel: 015 268 2401.**

APPENDIX C: ETHICS FORMS

CONSENT FORM

PROJECT TITLE

Binge drinking, crime and victimisation during bashes at the University of Limpopo

(It is compulsory for the researcher to complete this field before submission to the Ethics Committee)

PROJECT LEADER: Malekgale Lebogang Matlou

(It is compulsory for the researcher to complete this field before submission to the Ethics Committee)

I, hereby voluntarily consent to participate in the following project:

Binge Drinking, Crime and Victimisation during Bashes at the University of Limpopo

(It is compulsory for the researcher to complete this field before submission to the Ethics Committee)

I realise that:

1. The study deals with binge drinking crime and victimisation during bashes at University of Limpopo

(E.g. effect of certain medication on the human body) *(It is compulsory for the researcher to complete this field before submission to the Ethics Committee)*

2. The procedure or treatment envisaged may hold some risk for me that cannot be foreseen at this stage.
3. The Ethics Committee has approved that individuals may be approached to participate in the study.

4. The research project, i.e. the extent, aims and methods of the research, has been explained to me.
5. The project sets out the risks that can be reasonably expected as well as possible discomfort for persons participating in the research, an explanation of the anticipated advantages for myself or others that are reasonably expected from the research and alternative procedures that may be to my advantage.
6. I will be informed of any new information that may become available during the research that may influence my willingness to continue my participation.
7. Access to the records that pertain to my participation in the study will be restricted to persons directly involved in the research.
8. Any questions that I may have regarding the research, or related matters, will be answered by the researcher/s.
9. If I have any questions about, or problems regarding the study, or experience any undesirable effects, I may contact a member of the research team or Ms Noko Shai-Ragoboya.
10. Participation in this research is voluntary and I can withdraw my participation at any stage.
11. If any medical problem is identified at any stage during the research, or when I am vetted for participation, such condition will be discussed with me in confidence by a qualified person and or I will be referred to my doctor.
12. I indemnify the University of Limpopo and all persons involved with the above project from any liability that may arise from my participation in the above project or that may be related to it, for whatever reasons, including negligence on the part of the mentioned persons.

SIGNATURE OF RESEARCHED PERSON SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

SIGNATURE OF PERSON THAT INFORMED SIGNATURE OF
PARENT/GUARDIAN
THE RESEARCHED PERSON

Signed at _____ this ____ day of _____
20__