



The Association Between Drinking to Intoxication and Gambling



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Introduction

- Understanding the relationship between sociodemographic individual factors and behaviors, helps portray mechanisms against heavy alcohol use, and thus reducing its severe impact on individuals and society as a whole (LaBrie et al., 2009)
- Alcohol use is a necessary underlying cause for more than 30 conditions and a contributing factor to many more. (Rehm, 2011).
- Some think there is only financial risk associated to gambling, however some other effects include but are not limited to problematic behavioral disorder associated with depression, substance abuse, domestic violence, and high suicide rates (Moreira et al, 2023)

Research Questions

- Do those who drink to intoxication more frequently have a higher likelihood of experiencing more than 5 gambling episodes in a single year?
- Does this relationship differ between those who are male and female?

Methods

Sample

- The sample included 43,093 adult participants aged 18 and older.
- The National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions (NESARC) sampled the civilian, non-institutionalized U.S. adult population, including those in households, off-base military personnel, and residents of group quarters such as shelters, college dorms, and worker housing.

Measures

- Drinking was measured with the question “How often drank enough to feel intoxicated in the last 12 months? Possible responses ranged from 1 to 11 and went from nearly every day to never in the last year.
- Pathological gambling was measured with the question “Ever Gambled 5+ times in one year”

- Gender is measured with the question SEX and males were given the Value 1 and Female with the Value 2

Results

Bivariate

- Chi-Square analysis showed that drinking frequency is significantly associated with gambling frequency ($p = .000$).
- Heavy and nondrinkers are more likely to gamble compared to others (Fig. 1).

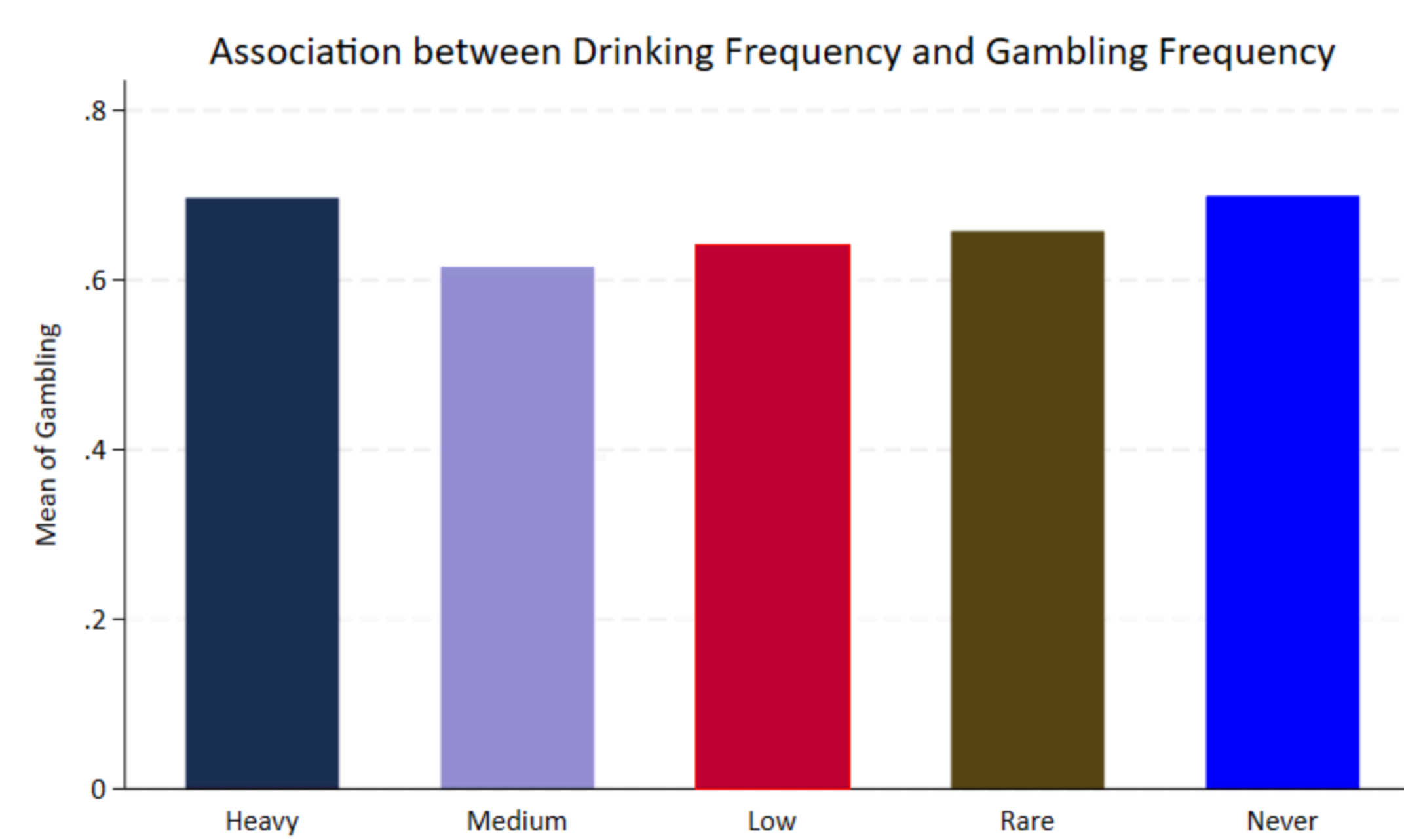


Figure 1: The Association between Drinking Frequency and Gambling Frequency

Multivariate

- Logistic regression analyses showed that drinking behavior is a significant predictor of gambling, with low drinkers are associated with reduced odds compared to heavy drinkers. (OR=1.964, $p=.000$)
- After controlling for gender it does not moderate or confound the bivariate relationship, as there is no statistically significant relationship between associated with gender.

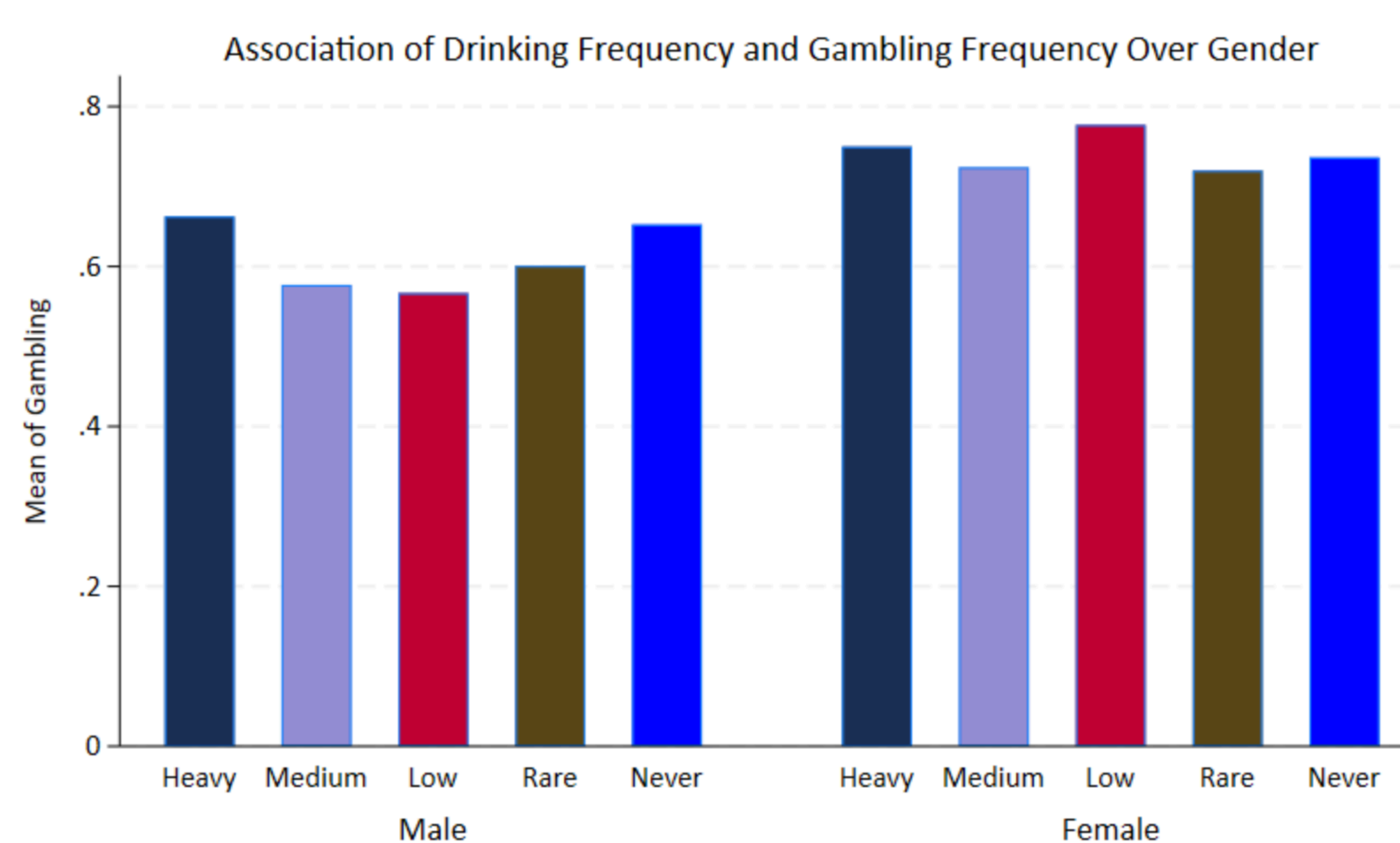


Figure 2: Association of Drinking Frequency and Gambling Frequency Over Gender

Discussion

- While drinking or not didn't provide a statistically significant relationship with gender, low consuming individuals are associated with less gambling than high alcohol consuming individuals
- These findings may contribute to behavioral research regarding risk taking and substance abuse
- Future research is needed to determine the role of other covariates (e.g. income and homestate), any nuances between drinking frequency and moderates, and other forms of risk taking not explored in this study.

References

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