Chapter 9 Community-University Collaboration to Examine and Disseminate Local Research on Underage Drinking

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Abstract The purpose of this chapter is to discuss the university and community collaboration efforts to collect new data on community alcohol norms. This chapter describes the challenges that exist for university collaborations in low income and ethnic minority communities. This chapter describes the use of participatory dialogue to build relationships and trust between university researchers and community members. The critical discussion about the flaws of regional, state and national data was an important process that raised awareness of community members about the need for local data collection. This process led to the community-led and community-created surveys. Participatory dialogue was utilized again to collaboratively analyze and interpret local survey findings for community alcohol norms and perception of alcohol accessibility for adolescents.

Keywords Community-led research • Participatory dialogue • Community-led surveys • Reflection • Data interpretation • Research dissemination

All Participatory Action Research (PAR) emphasizes a collaborative approach to research that builds on community strengths through equal participation in all research components (Minkler & Wallerstein, 2008). However, the ideal of equal participation is often difficult to achieve. Finding the balance between community goals and research rigor is challenging; thus, scholars describe multiple levels of community involvement with PAR (O'Fallon & Dearry, 2002; Turnbull, Friesen, & Ramirez, 1998). Effective collaboration can be challenging because community members and researchers often have different, or even conflicting, agendas (Israel et al., 2005). Even when research projects are completed, there are challenges to shared interpretation of findings and dissemination of findings that effectively reach community audiences as well as research audiences (Plested, Edwards, & Jumper-Thurman, 2006). Moreover, linking research findings to community action in meaningful and

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understandable ways is often elusive. In the current chapter, we discuss how changes in community readiness led to South Tucson Prevention Coalition's (STPC) community and university collaboration to produce research findings that were actionable.

A multiyear perspective demonstrates the iterative spiral of activities that lead to community-led research and dissemination of findings that helped to not only raise community awareness on adolescent alcohol use but also led to community action to prevent liquor licenses (Cousins & Earl, 1992; McIntyre, 2008). The goal of the STPC community-led research was not so much to evaluate the STPC activities, but rather to use it as a means of collective reflection on the group's progress. The dialogue for reflection on survey results led to a united front about how to prevent adolescent alcohol use in the local community. The coalition members were more willing to accept research findings when it was their own data, as compared to data that was collected by state or national entities. As such, this process further contributed to a unifying vision for action among community agencies, community members, and university researchers. Community-led research contributed to STPC's successful joint decision-making about next steps for community prevention strategies. In this chapter, we discuss the process of research integration and the unique and collaborative roles of community members and university researchers.

In fact, community readiness was key because over time community awareness increased about the issues of underage drinking. Additionally, as the community came together around the issue of adolescent alcohol use, community awareness also contributed to their capacity and willingness to use research to advance their prevention efforts. In part, we describe how changes in community readiness lead to an openness to discuss existing data and to begin to open the door to integrating research into existing activities. Additionally, the community-readiness perspective of taking small incremental steps towards change was instrumental in moving towards community-led research. In this chapter, we describe how research resistance changed to acceptance within the coalition and evolved to community-university collaborations. Some of the lessons learned include (1) mutual benefits for community members and researchers, (2) mutual use of data for community agendas and comparison to national data, (3) equal participatory dialogue to identify research questions and for interpretation of data, and (4) trust between community members and university researchers.

9.1 Participatory Action Research Process

PAR principles provided a structured process that was amenable to the community. In fact, it was through the use of PAR principles that community members began to embrace equality and trusting relationships with university researchers. We describe how the iterative spiral of PAR activities contributed to this process of community-led research, which included dialogue, implementation, reflection, and refining of data collection procedures (McIntyre, 2008). The PAR process was critical to the deepening of respect for research and the integration of research findings into group discussion and group decision-making. PAR can increase ecological validity of the study with

practical outcomes while retaining conceptual and theoretical integrity because of the balance between technical rigor and community-driven issue identification. By ensuring methodological appropriateness that promotes recruitment and retention, researchers can be assured that internal and external validity will both be strengthened.

In fact, tracking coalitions over time and evaluating their effectiveness is difficult because they often take on a life of their own with ebbs and flow in growth, action, and success or failure. Most evaluations of coalitions are post hoc and rely primarily on qualitative data based on interviews, documentation, and meeting minutes (Grekul, 2011). However, a benefit of using PAR is that there is often a focus on process and identification of factors that contribute to success. This process is based on open dialogue and reflection after joint activities are completed (Freire, 1968; Godfrey & Grayman, 2014). The focus of reflection is on identifying lessons learned that help build a strong foundation for the development of the next activities. This type of process further nurtures relationship building and trust among members.

9.1.1 Challenges to Equal Participation of Community and Researchers

The development of the PAR process and equal participation takes time, particularly among low-income communities and ethnic minority communities with a history of being taken advantage of by researchers (McIntyre, 2008; Minkler & Wallerstein, 2008). Before Dr. Romero began to collaborate with community members, they had legitimate concerns about research because of previous negative experiences that portrayed their community in a one-dimensional stereotypical manner by researchers. The community had rarely been included in the development or interpretation of research. Often low income and ethnic minority communities are resistant to working with outsiders, especially university researchers (Harper & Salina, 2000; McIntyre, 2008). Too often researchers conduct what is termed "helicopter research," where community members are not included in the aforesaid dialogue (Ferreria & Gendron, 2011). In these cases, research is not conceived as giving back to the community. Moreover, in some unfortunate cases, researchers promise some kind of output to the community, but do not provide the outcome promised. It is these types of clashes or unfulfilled promises that can lead to community distrust of researchers (Harper & Salina, 2000). Thus, it is not surprising that community-based projects are often not inclusive of researchers as equal participants in the process and may in fact be resistant to research and university researchers. Yet, there is great potential in university and community partnerships that can lead to gains for both groups (Harper & Salina, 2000).

However, PAR is one way to achieve a research method that may be more ethical, valid, and reliable with underrepresented populations, as compared to traditional research methodologies (McIntyre, 2008; Minkler & Wallerstein, 2008). In some PAR projects, it is the community that is in the driver seat, such that they

decide who is researched, what is researched, where it is researched, when it is researched, why it is researched, how it is researched, and what ultimately happens once the research is complete. This approach only leaves university researchers with limited outside consultant roles (Plested et al., 2006) in which it is assumed that there is no overlap in agendas. It also assumes that there is no potential for mutual benefit of community and researchers. Conceiving of a university researcher's role as external to PAR leaves little room for the equal voice of researchers in the discussion of topics or data procedures; additionally, it leaves little incentive for researchers to be involved in participatory research models.

However, we will argue that the equal participation of researchers should be considered because they have the potential to play a critical role in the development and utilization of research. Researchers can bring unique skills and resources to contribute to community-based research projects that can help the success of PAR. In particular, their expertise in data collection and the organization and interpretation of results can help community utilization of research. There are many reasons why community members may not be able to complete research projects or that their projects may not lead to action-oriented results. One of the reasons is that community members may not be able to remain continuously involved in projects over the extended time that may be required to complete research and/or disseminate findings that leads to action (Harper & Salina, 2000). In fact, the turnover of community participants is one reason why continued commitment to projects may be limited. Another aspect of the critical role of university researchers is that they may be able to see certain strengths and weaknesses from a third-person lens that may be difficult for community members to consciously identify. These are some of the reasons as to why both the community and the university researcher elements should be considered in PAR projects.

9.2 STPC Readiness and Research

Often the first step in community readiness is to obtain community feedback about adolescent alcohol use in the community and their interpretation of national data (Plested, Jumper Thurman, Edwards, & Oetting, 1998). A participatory dialogue method, based on problem-posing, was used by STPC to review existing research, including national, state, and regional data (see Chap. 3 for more details). This was an effective technique for community members to engage in critical thinking about the existing data. In the open climate, they could express whether they felt that the existing data was representative of what they witnessed in their own community. Moreover, this process further emphasized the need for local data collection in order to really understand what was happening in their community. This approach helped community members and researchers to come to critical consciousness about how they wanted to phrase their own questions to understand the unique setting of their own community.

9.2.1 Participatory Dialogue

Identifying local issues to work with is an important process. Individuals within a community may feel that there are other "better" issues to work with, and this is where it becomes important to prioritize the community's needs. Often researchers may have already identified what they perceive to be the most critical health issue afflicting a community; yet, the community may perceive a different health issue as more important. Participatory dialogue can be a useful tool to employ to discuss through problem-posing combined with reflection and action-oriented outcomes to achieve consensus for the coalition goals. Essential to effective PAR methods is engaged dialogue around problem posing, in a manner such that all members are equal participants and co-learners, including researchers and community members (Freire, 1968). This can be a challenging process to leave all ages, socioeconomic status, egos, and titles at the door and to welcome and facilitate comments from ALL participants in an equal manner, and equally to listen in a respectful manner to all comments. It is likely that community members and researchers at first will not always agree on how to define the topic. However, as a result of dialogue and consensus, the result is significantly more likely to be conducted within a real problem context, with more immediate solutions for action.

A problem-posing strategy for discussion is likely to limit didactic presentations of statistics by focusing the discussion through posing questions to participants so that they can work together to uncover the root causes of the issue within their own community. Central to effective problem-posing dialogue is asking participants to consider socioeconomic, political, cultural, and historical aspects of the problem during their discussion, which is more likely to lead to understanding the problem within a larger context. This is also a way in which to develop group critical thinking processes to work through identification of the common issues and to create strategies for community level change.

9.2.2 Critique of Existing Regional Data

Phase 1 of STPC provided rigorous and nationally situated longitudinal survey data collection with youth through the Omeyocan YES project (see Chap. 4). These Phase 1 results from the STPC baseline data were used to help guide discussions during the first year of STPC coalition meeting discussions about the mission. The baseline data from STPC indicated that 72 % of the youth had used alcohol in their lifetime, 45 % of the youth had used alcohol in the past 30 days, and 26 % were drunk in the past 30 days (see Table 9.1). Compared to national and state level data at that time, it appears that the local survey is representative (30 day use: 52 % Arizona 2003, 47 % Arizona 2005; 45 % U.S. 2003, 43 % U.S. 2005; drunk in past 30 days: 35 % Arizona 2003, 31 % Arizona 2005, 28 % U.S. 2003, 26 % U.S. 2005), if not slightly lower than

	2003–2005 STPC: Phase 1 N=125	Arizona Youth Survey Tucson High School (10th Grade)
Lifetime alcohol use	72 %	80 %
Past 30 days alcohol use	45 %	42 %
30 days drunk	26 %	n/a
Age of first alcohol use	13.4 years	13.2 years
Friends think it is wrong or very wrong to use alcohol	37 %	60 %
Parents think it is wrong or very wrong to use alcohol	n/a	85 %

Table 9.1 Regional data on alcohol norms

state averages (Johnston et al., 2014). Thus, it was clear that alcohol was the most often used substance, and this was one factor that helped focus the coalition's decision to focus on underage drinking rather than substances in general.

However, in the first few years of STPC Phase 2, Drug-Free Community, there were too many barriers to collect new survey data. There was a perception that community members were asked to do too many surveys. Additionally, there was not sufficient funding from the Drug-Free Community mechanism to fund a large-scale longitudinal data collection; thus, data collection was not feasible for university researchers. Thus, it was agreed to utilize the preexisting Arizona Youth Survey data that could be parsed out by specific local areas. This survey already collected data on youth alcohol use, other substance, alcohol norms of parents, alcohol norms of peers, and perception of riskiness. These were the key factors identified in the STPC theory of change and the focus of the logic model (see Chap. 2).

The Arizona Youth Survey, a state-wide survey conducted at specific high schools, was collected every other year. So the first year of relevant data for STPC was the 2006 survey, and the closest high school that completed the survey was Tucson High School. However, the City of South Tucson was zoned for youth to attend two different high schools, and Tucson High School was only one of those schools. Additionally, Tucson High School represented youth from several other surrounding neighborhoods and even from across the city given the open-enrollment policies. In general, demographics for the Tucson High School were much more diverse than the City of South Tucson for race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. Thus, the STPC community felt that the data was only marginally relevant. However, data from the 2006 survey were utilized for STPC coalition discussion (see Table 9.1). The results suggested slightly higher rates of lifetime alcohol use compared to the STPC Phase 1 data, but lower rates of alcohol use in the past 30 days. The Arizona Youth Survey also suggested much higher rates of friend disapproval of alcohol use compared to the STPC Phase 1 data (see Table 9.1). It is important to note that 85 % of the parents felt that alcohol use was wrong or very wrong, which once again points out the critical role that parents and family members can play when considering adolescent alcohol use.

In the first year (2006), Dr. Romero and the STPC project coordinator developed a coalition member survey that was several pages. However, they found that coalition members were not motivated to complete and return the survey. In 2007, the coalition received formal training about the use of the community readiness interview. After this, a small subset of coalition members agreed to collect interview data and to analyze results to determine community readiness levels (see Chap. 2 for details). There were a handful of interviews that were conducted guided by the community readiness dimensions; however, it was challenging to obtain surveys from all members (Plested et al., 2006). Moreover, the compiling of the results and analysis of findings provided to be challenging. The activity was useful as a means of reflection, and anecdotes were shared and contributed to the participatory dialogue. These were some of the steps that led to different approaches of the role of community and researchers in developing research strategies where each played a significant role that catered to their own expertise.

9.2.3 Incremental Steps Toward Data Integration

Collecting data specifically on norms can be useful to understand how the community feels about how wrong it might be for adolescents to use alcohol. In the beginning, there was a level of concern about the collection of data at the community-wide events. In fact, at the initial community STPC events (e.g., Halloween Festival, Block Party, see descriptions in Chap. 8), the data collection was limited to counting of the number of participants. At another early event, there was a sign-in desk, where participants could answer a couple questions on a small slip of paper (see Fig. 9.1). Even though the community was coming together around a common issue and working effectively to offer community-level events to raise awareness, there was still not an embracing of the utility of data collection or its purpose.

Do you live in the City of South Tucson?		
Yes		
No (Do you spend a lot of time in the City of South Tucson?	Yes	No
How many people came with you today? How many of them are between 9-18 years old? How many are under 9 years old?		
How did you hear about our event?		

Fig. 9.1 Original Block Party Survey

9.3 Community Developed Surveys

Once the community had reached a higher level of readiness, one of implementation, they were more open and prepared to consider evaluation strategies (Oetting, Jumper-Thurman, Plested, & Edwards, 2001). When STPC first began community events in 2005–2006, they were developed from preexisting events (see Chap. 8). There was resistance to add surveys or data collection to existing events. Truly, at this time the focus was on building collaboration between agencies not on data collection readiness. However, at the first STPC-hosted Block Party (see Chap. 8), the coalition agreed for Dr. Romero to collect demographic information. The coalition reviewed the survey (see Fig. 9.1). The data from this survey was included in reports to the coalition and to the City Council as a means to demonstrate the attendance. It also helped to demonstrate to the City Council that the majority of attendees were from the City of South Tucson.

However, there was significant progress in the coalition functioning and level of readiness by 2009; STPC was at a stage of community readiness where they were beginning to focus on confirmation and expansion of prevention activities (see Chap. 2). At this point, the coalition members were all highly aware of adolescent alcohol use as an issue of concern, and they had moved through preplanning activities and effectively initiated new joint prevention projects with success. In order to better assess the local community needs, STPC took the lead in organizing community surveys (paper-pencil) for youth and adults to be collected at the National Night Out event (see Fig. 9.2). The starting point for this survey was based on the alcohol norm questions that were utilized in the national/regional surveys that STPC has already reviewed. Survey questions were selected by input from community members and recommendations from Dr. Romero during regular STPC meetings. The coalition reviewed not only the wording of the question but also the wording of the responses. The survey was created in both English and Spanish (translations were conducted by STPC members), and both versions were reviewed and edited by coalition members.

Coalition members added new survey questions, such as questions specifically about perceptions of community norms, as opposed to peer norms. However, they agreed that the emphasis should be on "getting drunk" similar to binge drinking (4 or 5 drinks), rather than any drinking at all. Again, at this stage even the coalition did not want to include experimental drinking, rather they focused on binge drinking. They added their own re-worded version of disapproval with responses that included "That it is ok," "That it is NOT ok," and "I don't know." This change was made in order to make it easier for the community to understand and respond to the question. However, it was also agreed to keep a second question with the standard national wording, in order to compare to national data at Dr. Romero's recommendation. In addition, the coalition and the community repeatedly discussed the importance of parents and family when considering prevention of adolescent alcohol use. For this reason, the coalition also chose to create an adult survey (see Fig. 9.2), with questions specifically worded for adults about the same alcohol norms that were asked of the youth. In the previous

review of national and regional data, there is only access to youth survey results, and there are no national or regional surveys of adult or parent populations.

The first survey met with such success (see discussion of findings below) that the following year the coalition expanded and revised the survey for another data collection point during the National Night Out Event in August 2010 (see Fig. 9.3). Once again a similar process of dialogue contributed to the development of both

o South Tucson Prevention Coa of South Tucson? B. No	lition learn more about how to hel
f South Tucson?	and the about now to find
_ B. No	
rt this year in school?	
☐ B. Girl	
nity think about teens br)?	being drunk from alcohol
•	☐ C. I don't know
. •	would be for you to drink hiskey, or gin) regularly?
C. A little bi	it wrong
☐ D. Not at al	I wrong
or you to get alcohol in	the City of South Tucson?
☐ B. Easy	C. Not Easy
B. Easy	□ C. Not Easy
	ts/guardians think if yord liquor)? B. That it is NOT o.k. nity think about teens bry? B. That it is NOT o.k. rents/guardians feel it words and the control of the cont

Fig. 9.2 2009 National Night Out Community developed surveys for youth and adults

STPC National Night Out						
1. Adult Survey: National Night Out, August 4th, 2009						
Please answer these questions to	Please answer these questions to help South Tucson Prevention Coalition learn more about how to help the community.					
1. Do you live in the (1. Do you live in the City of South Tucson?					
☐ A. Yes	_ A. Yes _ B. No					
2. Are you the parent years old?	2. Are you the parent or guardian of a teenager between the ages of 13-18 years old?					
☐ A. Yes	□ В. №					
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	3. What would you think if your teenager was drunk from alcohol (beer, wine, or hard liquor)?					
☐ A. That it is o.k.	☐ B. That it is NOT o.k.	☐ C. I don't know				
4. What does your co (beer, wine, or hard	mmunity think about teens liquor)?	being drunk from alcohol				
☐ A. That it is o.k.	B. That it is NOT o.k.	☐ C. I don't know				
_	it be for your teen to drink whiskey, or gin) regularly	· · · · ·				
A. Very wrong	□ A. Very wrong □ C. A little bit wrong					
□ B. Wrong	B. Wrong D. Not at all wrong					
6. How easy would it be for someone under 21 years old to get alcohol in South Tucson?						
☐ A. Very easy	B. Easy	☐ C. Not easy				
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP! HAV	E A GREAT TIME AT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT	"!				
2. Ecuesta de Adulto	s					
Spanish version adult survey						
	Por favor responda las siguientes preguntas y asi podría asistir a South Tucson Prevention Coalition aprender mas sobre como ayudar a los jóvenes de la comunidad.					
1. Vive usted en la ci	udad de Sur Tucson?					
☐ Si	П					

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Fig. 9.2 (continued)

youth and adult versions of the community survey, and all were administered in English and Spanish. However, this time the coalition was significantly more comfortable with this process, and the questions went beyond the basic alcohol norm questions of the last survey. This time the coalition added questions about education, perception of improving the community, and cultural events.

Additionally, during that year Arizona had approved a new bill, SB1070, that would increase police enforcement of undocumented immigration, otherwise known as the "show me your papers" bill. There was significant concern in the local community about the impact of this bill on youth and families, given that 30 % of the community was foreign born. However, the South Tucson Police had been a strong coalition member since the beginning of the Drug Free

	,		
A. Live in South Tucson		B. Do not live in South T	ucson
2. How old are you?	?		
3. What school do y	ou go to? (please indica	ite if you will not go t	o school this fall)
4. How important ar	e art and cultural events	in your community?	•
A. Very important	B. Somewhat important	C. A little important	D. Not at all important
•	d your parents feel it is f niskey, or gin) regularly?	•	wine, or hard liquor (fo
C A. Very wrong	C B. Wrong	C. A little bit wrong	O. Not at all wrong
6. How important is	it that you graduate from	n the university?	
A. Very important	B. Important	C. A little important	D. Not at all important
7. How likely is it the	at other kids from your r	neighborhood will gra	aduate from high
A. Very likely	B. Somewhat likely	C. A little bit likely	D. Not at all likely
8. How easy would	it be for you to get alcol	nol in South Tucson?	•
A. Very easy	C B. Easy	C. Not easy	C D. I do not know
	nged the way that you a g to school, not going to or local agencies)		, , , ,
A. A lot	B. A little bit	C. Not much	D. Not at all
10. Would you like t	o know more informatio	n about SB 1070 and	l your rights?
A. Yes		☐ B. No	
11. How confident a	re you that City of Sout	h Tucson Police will	enforce SB 1070 fairly?
 very confident 	 somewhat confident 	not very confident	not at all confident
Very confident			

Fig. 9.3 2010 National Night Out Community developed surveys for youth and adults

Sī	PC National Nigh	t Out Adult Survey	2010		
	Please answer these questions to help South Tucson Prevention Coalition learn more about how to help the community.				
	1. Do you live in the City of South Tucson? (boundaries are: West:10th Ave; North: 26th 1/2 Ave, South: 44th St., East: 2nd Ave)				
	C A. Live in South Tucson		C B. Do not live in South Tud	eson	
	2. How important are	art and cultural events	in your community?		
	A. Very important	B. Somewhat important	C. A little important	D. Not at all important	
	3. Are you the parent	or guardian of a teena	ger between the ages	of 13-18 years old?	
	C A. Yes		C B. No		
	4. How wrong would it be for your teen to drink beer, wine, or hard liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey, or gin) regularly?				
	C A. Very wrong	C B. Wrong	C. A little bit wrong	C D. Not at all wrong	
	5. How important is it	that your child gradua	te from the university	?	
	A. Very important	B. Important	C. A little important	D. Not at all important	
	6. How likely is it that	children from your ne	ighborhood will gradu	ate from high school?	
	A. Very likely	B. Somewhat likely	C. A little bit likely	D. Not at all likely	
	7. How easy would it Tucson?	be for someone under	21 years old to get ald	cohol in South	
	C A. Very easy	C B. Easy	C. Not easy	C D. I do not know	
	8. Has SB 1070 changed the way that you and your family live your daily life? (such as not going to church, not going to school, not going to doctor/hospital, or not using resources from federal, state or local agencies)				
	A. A lot	B. A little bit	C. Not much	D. Not at all	
	9. Would you like to k	now more information	about SB 1070 and ye	our rights?	
	A. Yes		B. No		
	10. How confident are	e you that City of South	n Tucson Police will e	nforce SB 1070 fairly?	
	A. Very confident	B. Somewhat confident	C. Not very confident	O. Not at all confident	

Fig. 9.3 (continued)

Community grant. In fact, many of the STPC activities in the past years, particularly with the National Night Out event, had worked to improve relations between police and local community. Thus, the coalition felt strongly that questions about the perception of SB1070 and the local enforcement of this policy by police needed to be included in the survey. During discussions, Dr. Romero expressed hesitancy about including these questions and concern that commu-

nity members may not want to complete the survey because the questions might be seen as too invasive. However, the coalition discussed these concerns and agreed that the questions, as they are phrased, needed to be included because of the importance of the topic. The changing and heated political environment at the time may have not only potentially impacted adolescent alcohol use, but importantly it may have impacted STPC's ability to outreach into the community. It may have also impacted community member's ability or willingness to attend large community events. It was for these primary reasons that the coalition chose to include the questions. These questions mirrored the changes and expansion of the coalition to consider the relation between adolescent alcohol use and the broad context of unique community factors, both positive and negative.

9.4 Analysis and Interpretation of Data with Community

Data was collected during the National Night Out events in August where approximately 500 people attended each event. Approximately, 20 % of the attendees completed the surveys. Participants completed surveys voluntarily and anonymously. There were no incentives to complete the surveys. Dr. Romero, coalition members, and youth volunteers worked together to collect surveys from attendees. Dr. Romero and a research assistant entered the data into an on-line survey database and then prepared charts for the questions to share with the coalition at the next meeting. An aspect of the mutual benefit of this process for Dr. Romero and the research assistants was that it was utilized for students to complete criteria for undergraduate honor's thesis projects or independent study projects.

The results are compiled in Table 9.2 for comparison to national datasets on alcohol norms. Here we provide a brief summary of the results from both surveys. The data between 2009 and 2010 cannot be directly compared because the questions were asked differently, and the samples are not confirmed to be the

Table 9.2 Community-Led National Night Out alcohol norms

	2009		2010	
	Youth	Adults	Youth	Adults
Parental disapproval				
Very wrong or wrong	96 %	97 %	92 %	100 %
A little bit wrong	4 %	1.3 %	6 %	0 %
Not at all wrong	0 %	1.3 %	2 %	0 %
Alcohol availability				
Very easy or easy	42 %	79 %	56 %	75 %
Not easy	58 %	16 %	17 %	9 %
I don't know	0 %	5 %	27 %	16 %

same because the surveys were anonymous, so they could not be matched between years. In 2009, 101 surveys were collected [76 adults and 25 youth (average age 13.6 years)] at the annual STPC sponsored event to gather data on the accessibility of alcohol. The majority of participants reported living in the City of South Tucson (54 % adults; 84 % youth). In 2010, data was collected with 143 individuals [91 adults and 52 youth (Youth average age 15.15 years of age)], where the majority of participants reported residing in the City of South Tucson (46.7 % adults; 53.8 % youth). In 2010, slightly more than double the amount of youth in 2009 completed the survey, while this may suggest more acceptance of the survey, and also more effective data collection efforts, it does make it difficult to compare between 2009 and 2010. However, a similar number of adult surveys were collected both years.

In both years, the vast majority of youth and adults felt that it was "very wrong" or "wrong" for adolescents to get drunk (2009: 96 %, 97 %; 2010: 92 %, 100 %). The slight changes among youth may be attributed to the difference in sample size. It was encouraging to see that adults moved from 97 % to 100 % across these years. The disapproval rates from local data obtained from the Arizona Youth survey at a local high school in 2006 were also lower at a rate of 85 % of youth who felt that parents would feel it was wrong or very wrong to use alcohol. The disapproval rates in 2009 and 2010 are significantly higher compared to regional findings for Pima County where 85 % of youth in 2008 and 85 % in 2010 reported that parents felt adolescent alcohol use was very wrong or wrong (Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, 2015). These rates are also significantly higher than national rates between 2006 and 2010, where they hover between 70 and 80 % for 10th graders (Johnston et al., 2014). Overall, the coalition felt that they had been successful in raising awareness about alcohol disapproval norms in their community.

The rates for alcohol availability were not consistent between adults and youth, which may explain the difference in perspectives between youth and adults about alcohol availability in the local community. However, more adults felt it was "very easy" or "easy for youth to obtain alcohol (79 % in 2009 and 75 % in 2010). Whereas, 42 % (2009) and 56 % (2010) of youth felt it was "very easy" or "easy" to obtain alcohol in South Tucson. The change over time that is demonstrated here is that there is a decrease in the number of youth and adults who feel it is "not easy" to obtain alcohol in South Tucson from 2009 to 2010, and many more indicate that they "don't know." It is difficult to interpret these results, but it may suggest that STPC was raising some awareness about adolescent access to alcohol, because whereas in 2009 many more youth and adults felt sure that it was not easy to get access to alcohol, these numbers decreased quite a bit in 2010. Interestingly, Pima County findings from 2008, 2010, 2012, and 2014 report that the most popular source of obtaining alcohol reported by youth is by someone under 21 years of age, someone else who bought it, and someone not family over 21 (Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, 2015). However, these rates are higher compared to national data that suggests that 10th graders

who feel that alcohol accessibility is "fairly easy" or "very easy" is between 80 and 90 % during the years 2006–2010 (Johnston et al., 2014). The findings on alcohol availability clearly pointed the coalition to prioritize on their next prevention strategy to limit liquor licenses in the community as a means to limit alcohol availability.

9.5 Dissemination of Results

9.5.1 How Results Were Prepared

Dissemination of results was very important to community-led research (see Appendices 1 and 2). The whole point of collecting local data was to share it with the local community as a means to raise awareness about alcohol norms. It was important that the results were understandable and available to the largest segments of the population possible. The coalition members discussed the results of the survey; they asked in-depth questions that guided Dr. Romero and her assistant to prepare the community report. Coalition members were interested in questions related to gender, age, and comparisons to national data. Dr. Romero and an undergraduate honor's student compiled the data into a community report that was shared with key stakeholders who provided feedback and edits. Dr. Romero worked closely with undergraduate or graduate research assistants to prepare community reports that had a mixture of graphs and written explanations to share the most critical findings to the largest audience. The reports were disseminated in hard copy at coalition meetings and at City Council meetings. There were also disseminated on-line to coalition members. Dr. Romero presented them to the coalition members during a regularly scheduled coalition meeting.

9.5.2 Content of Reports and the Importance of Context

The community reports are comprised of the following elements: (1) STPC mission, (2) background of who prepared the reports, (3) when/where the report was presented, (4) demographics of the survey, including how many lived in the City of South Tucson, (5) results of alcohol norm questions, including comparison to national data, (6) opportunity for discussion or suggestions about how to get involved, and (7) Thank you and acknowledgement of STPC and City Council Members (see Appendices 1 and 2). These reports were compiled by Dr. Romero with the help of a research assistant in order to input the data and to produce graphs using a user-friendly on-line survey tool. However, the content of the reports and the style of presentation were very much determined by the

community coalition members. These reports are presented in full in Appendices 1 and 2 not only to provide templates for other communities but also to represent in full the extent of community-led data collection and manipulation of the data. It was very important to coalition members that the results were reported within a context of national data. It was also critically important to include the names of all coalition participants and to thank all key stakeholders in their community audience.

9.5.3 Interface with Local Government

There were regular presentations to the City Council that slowly integrated more data over time. First, the Youth-to-Youth (Y2Y) group began to take the lead in preparing these presentations with use of pictures and anecdotal descriptions of the impact of alcohol on their community. This was an effective way to increase awareness about adolescent alcohol use among the city council members, who were much more open listening directly to adolescents who lived in South Tucson. Regular reports were distributed to the city council by the STPC project coordinator; these reports included a description of the events and a summary of any data collected. Often these were one page memos provided prior to the council meeting or very brief 1 paragraph descriptions or summaries of the events that had occurred (see Chap. 8 for more information). This proactive approach to informing and involving local government members was an effective strategy to raise awareness of factors that contributed to adolescent alcohol use in the local community.

9.5.4 Action-Oriented Goals

The primary findings of the community-led research over this time period was that (1) both youth and adults perceived that adolescent alcohol use was wrong and (2) alcohol was perceived to be more available to adolescents in the City of South Tucson compared to state and national data. Thus, these findings combined with the alcohol saturation findings from the youth-led alcohol mapping project clearly led STPC to focus on alcohol availability as a point of action. The results provide insight to help unite community members to act to prevent adolescent alcohol use. Through using action research in STPC, we were able to generate practical knowledge within a real societal context that helped to unify the coalition and focus their mission (Bryndon-Miller, Greenwood, & Maguire, 2003). Moreover, the data

helped STPC members clearly decide the next action steps for their coalition to prevent adolescent alcohol use.

9.6 Conclusion

This chapter demonstrates how one community utilized community readiness approaches of incremental change to raise awareness of adolescent alcohol use and PAR techniques to develop their interest and acceptance of incorporating data collection. It was not until the level of community readiness had advanced among coalition members that they were aware of adolescent alcohol issues in their community, and they were working together as a functioning collaborative when they were ready to take on their own community-led research. At the beginning of the project, the community members were still silo-ed in their own agencies and their own age groups. They had high distrust of outsiders, especially university researchers. Moreover, the community was not united and working together for adolescent alcohol use. Community readiness strategies suggest that sharing of national and regional data can be used at early phases to increase awareness. This was done with coalition members, who were already identified key stakeholders for adolescent alcohol prevention. However, it was the process of using PAR that helped the coalition deconstruct and critique the national and regional data. This process was motivating to develop trust with university researchers and also to motivate community members to take on their own data collection procedures.

The first year of community-led research was so successful that the coalition further embraced this strategy in the final year of their work, to further expand the survey questions and to utilize the research findings to motivate their actions to limit alcohol licenses in their own community. The increased awareness of the local context of underage drinking helped this community to pinpoint their local action strategies for prevention. In this chapter, we provide a multiyear perspective that considers how multiple studies piece together as part of a larger puzzle that is influenced by community influence during and between projects. This can only be done over time through developing equitable and trusting relationships. However, high quality research is also more likely to lead to action-oriented solutions that can be leveraged in order to share in public spaces, such as with local government. There are many research strengths to utilizing PAR; for example, it can increase ecological validity of the study with practical outcomes while retaining conceptual and theoretical integrity (Minkler & Wallerstein, 2008). By ensuring methodological appropriateness that promotes recruitment and retention, the researchers can be assured that internal and external validity will both be strengthened. Moreover, the achievements of successful collaboration, breaking down silos, and developing community-led research led to the next steps of youth-led research that focused more specifically on alcohol sales within the City of South Tucson.

9.7 Appendix 1: South Tucson Prevention Coalition Community Report 2009

9.7.1 South Tucson Prevention Coalition Community Report Fall 2009

9.7.1.1 Report of Youth and Parent Surveys Collected at National Night Out 2009

Andrea Romero, and Jessica Blaire University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA

STPC DFC Mission

STPC members focus our efforts on underage drinking.

National Night Out is a crime prevention activity and is held annually in the first week of August. It is a good opportunity for youth to engage in positive fun activities and also to stand up to crime in their neighborhoods. 10 groups participate in the National Night Out, including: John Valenzuela Youth Center, Safos Dance Theater, Dancing in the Streets, Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Gospel Rescue Mission, Youth Explorers Post Y2Y, South Tucson Police, South Tucson Fire Department, and the City of South Tucson.

The following is a report prepared by Jessica Blaire, University of Arizona, Honors Student, for completion of her honors track in Mexican American Studies course 280: Chicano/a Psychology under the supervision of Dr. Andrea Romero. She entered the data, analyzed the findings, and prepared the following report.

This report was presented to key coalition members on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at the John Valenzuela Youth Center.

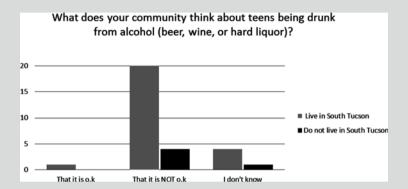
Who Completed the Survey?

25 youth and 76 adults completed this survey at the STPC National Night Out (NNO). Approximately, one-half of the NNO attendees completed the survey.

- What age were the youth who participated? How many boys and girls participated?
 - All youth were between the ages of 11 and 18 years old.
- How many boys and girls participated?
 - The survey was completed by 10 boys and 15 girls.
- Where do they live?
 - 84 % of the youth said that they live in the city of South Tucson.
 - 64.5 % of the adults said that they live in the city of South Tucson.
- Who were the adults?
 - 50.7 % of the adults said that they were the parent or guardian of a teenager between the ages of 13 and 18 years old.

Teen Perspective on Teen Alcohol Usage

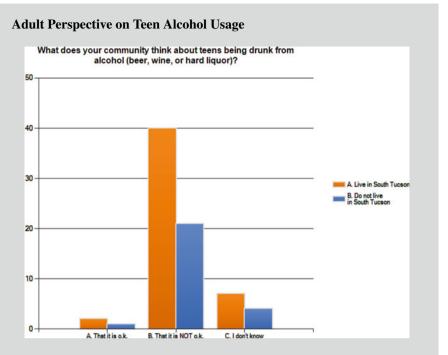
The youth that participated in the STPC survey were overall very aware of their community's views on underage alcohol usage. The majority of teens did not think that their parents would approve of any type of alcohol usage.



- When asked what their parents or guardians think about alcohol...
 - 80 % of teens said that their parents would <u>not</u> think it was o.k. if they were very drunk from alcohol.
 - 88 % of teens said that their parents would feel it is very wrong for their teens to drink alcohol regularly.
- 79.2 % of teens said that their community would think it was very wrong for them to be drunk from alcohol.

The majority of youth feel that their parents and their community would not be ok with them using alcohol.

- National Reports indicate that most (89.7 %) adolescents reported that their parents would strongly disapprove of their having one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day, which was similar to the rates in 2007 (89.6 %) and 2002 (89.0 %).
- Youths aged 12–17 who believed their parents would strongly disapprove
 of their using substances were less likely to use that substance than were
 youths who believed their parents would somewhat disapprove or neither
 approve nor disapprove. (http://oas.samhsa.gov/NSDUH/2k8NSDUH/
 2k8results.cfm#Ch6)

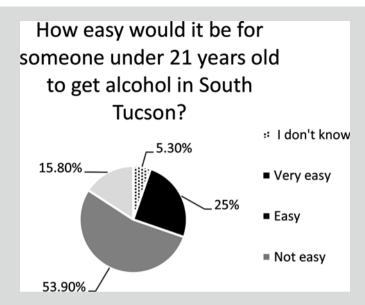


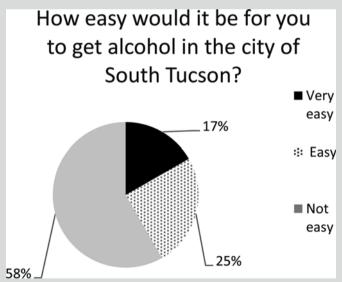
- When asked what they thought about their teenagers using alcohol...
 - 87.8 % of adults said that they would not think it was o.k. for their teenager to be drunk from alcohol.
 - 88.2 % of adults said that it would be very wrong for their teenage to drink alcohol regularly.
- 81.3 % of adults said that their community would <u>not</u> think it is o.k. for teens to be drunk from alcohol.

The majority of adults said that they would not be ok with their kids using alcohol and that their community would not be ok with kids using alcohol.

Accessibility of Alcohol in the Community

- 41.7 % of teens feel that it is <u>very easy</u>—easy to get alcohol in the city of South Tucson
- 78.9 % of adults feel that it is <u>very easy</u>—easy for someone under the age of 21 to get alcohol in the city of South Tucson





The majority of adults feel that it is easy for youth under the age of 21 to get alcohol in their city. Almost half of the youth feel that it is easy for them to get alcohol in the city of South Tucson.

How Can Parents and the Community Get Involve?

- Talk to your teens
 - Parents can talk to their teens about what they know about drugs and alcohol and what they have learned about their effects.
- Encourage teens to participate in 4 Elements: Hip Hop Prevention Program
 - 4 Elements has a summer retreat program for teens that helps them develop in positive ways to prevent teen risky behaviors.
- Submit Youth Nominees for the Shining Stars Awards
- Parents and teens participate in or attend National Night Out
- Learn more about the Social Host Ordinance and let your Council members know that you support it.
- Join South Tucson Prevention Coalition to help prevent teen alcohol and drug use in South Tucson.
- Form Community Watch Groups
- Send youth to John Valenzuela Youth Center activities, House of Neighborly Service, Aztlan Boxing, etc.

THANK YOU
SOUTH TUCSON CITY COUNCIL
AND
SOUTH TUCSON PREVENTION COALITION MEMBERS

9.8 Appendix 2: South Tucson Prevention Coalition Community Report 2010



9.8.1 South Tucson Prevention Coalition Drug Free Community Fall 2010 Report

9.8.1.1 Report of Youth and Parent Surveys Collected at The City of South Tucson's National Night out 2010

Andrea Romero and Henry Gonzalez University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA

South Tucson Prevention Coalition (STPC) Drug Free Community (DFC) Mission

STPC members focus our efforts on underage drinking.

National Night Out is a community activity that works to support families and the community to prevent teen risky behaviors, such as underage drinking, drug use, crime, and school dropout. The event is held annually the first week of August. It is a good opportunity for youth to engage in fun and positive activities, as well as to stand up to issues in their neighborhoods. **21** groups participated in the 2010 National Night Out, including:

Bike Ambassador Program, Organizing for America, Border Action Network, Brown Berets, Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisor Comm., Ochoa Elementary School, Our Family Services, Su Voz Vale, Luz Southside Coalition, We Reject Racism, First Things First, Community Prevention Coalition (CPC), Aztlan Youth Program, Gospel Rescue Mission, Primavera, Kool Smiles Dental, Retirement Plan Advisors, C.A.S.T (Clean and Sober Theater), Sin Puertas PPP, EL Paso SW Greenway Bike Path, Kingian Non-Violence.

English and Spanish one page surveys for teens and a separate survey for adults were administered to National Night Out attendees on August 3, 2010 during the evening between 5 and 8 p.m. Dr. Romero, Veronica Moreno, and Denise Valencia asked adults and teens to complete a survey so that they may obtain a form that would enter them in a raffle to win one of many prizes (mostly family board games). Most individuals came to the front check-in table to complete the survey; however, survey administrators also walked around the event and asked individuals to complete the survey. All completed surveys were placed into a labeled box on the front check-in table. Individuals only completed one survey.

The following is a report prepared by Henry Gonzalez under the supervision of Dr. Andrea Romero. He entered the data, analyzed the findings, and prepared the following report.

Who Completed the Survey?

52 youth and 91 adults completed surveys at the 2010 STPC National Night Out (NNO). Approximately, one-half of the NNO attendees completed the survey.

52 Youth (Total): 29 South Tucson Residents and 23 non-South Tucson Residents the following descriptions are only for the 29 South Tucson residents:

- What age were the youth who participated?
 - All youth were between the ages of 8 and 19 years old.
- What school do they go to?
 - 18.5 % Tucson High School
 - 29.6 % Safford Middle School
 - 3.7 % Pueblo High School
 - 48.1 % Other (Omos, Roskruge, Pima Community College, Arizona Virtual Academy, DACR Academy, PASS Alternative, Ombudsman, Tortolita, Rincon, Catalina, Ochoa, PPEP Tec H.S., Utterback)
- What language did they complete the survey in?
 - 3 youth completed the survey in Spanish
 - 25 youth completed the survey in English

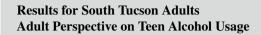
91 Adults (Total): 43 south Tucson Residents and 48 Non-South Tucson Residents the following descriptions are only for the 43 South Tucson residents:

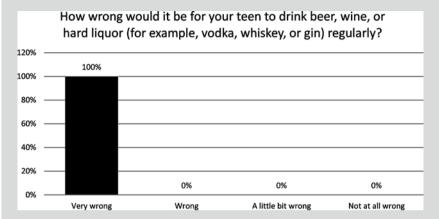
- Who were the adults?
 - 66.7 % of the adults said that they were the parent or guardian of a teenager between the ages of 13 and 18 years old.
 - 13 adults completed the survey in Spanish
 - 30 adults completed the survey in English

Results for South Tucson Teens Teens Perspective on Teen Alcohol Usage How wrong would your parents feel it is for your to drink beer, wine, or hard liquor (for example vodka, whiskey, or gin) regularly? 80% 74% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 11% 11% 10% 0% Very wrong Wrong A little bit wrong Not at all wrong

The majority of teens (74 %) felt that their parents would feel it was "Very Wrong" for them to drink regularly.

- 91.3 % of the youth who were NOT from the City of South Tucson reported that their parents would feel it was "**very wrong**" from them to drink regularly.
- National Reports indicate that most (89.7 %) adolescents reported that their parents would *strongly disapprove* of them having one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day, which was similar to the rates in 2007 (89.6 %) and 2002 (89.0 %).
- National reports indicate that youth aged 12–17 who believed their parents would strongly disapprove of their using substances were less likely to use illicit substances compared to youth who believed their parents would somewhat disapprove or neither approve nor disapprove. (http://oas.samhsa.gov/NSDUH/2k8NSDUH/2k8results.cfm#Ch6)





- · When asked what they thought about their teenagers using alcohol regularly...
 - 100 % of adults said that it would be "very wrong" for their teenage to drink alcohol regularly.
 - 100 % of the adults NOT from the City of South Tucson felt it would be "very wrong" for their teens to drink regularly.

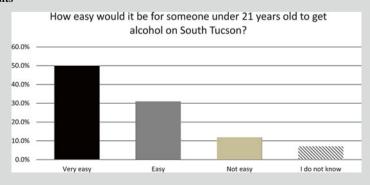
Question: Why is there a discrepancy between what adults report and teens? How can we change this?

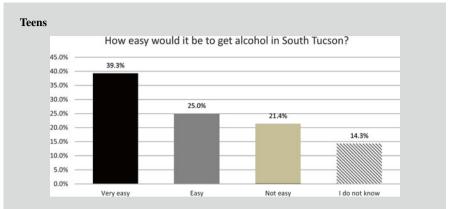
How can parents get this message across to their teens?

Results for South Tucson Residents Accessibility of Alcohol in the Community

- 39.3 % of teens feel that it is <u>very easy</u> to get alcohol in the city of South Tucson. On the other hand, 35.7 % said it was not easy or that they did not know.
- 50.0 % of adults feel that it is <u>very easy</u> for someone under the age of 21 to get alcohol in the city of South Tucson.

Adults

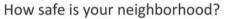


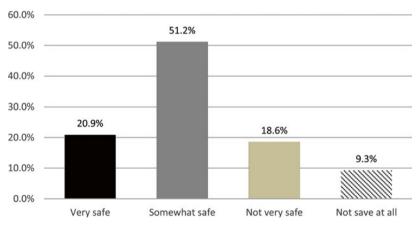


- 50 % of adults NOT from City of South Tucson felt it was "very easy"
- 26.1 % of youth NOT from City of South Tucson felt it was "very easy"; 56 % said they did not know or that it was "not easy"

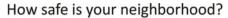
Question: How can adults help make it less easy for teens to get alcohol?

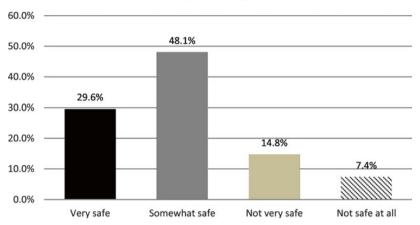
Results for South Tucson Residents Neighborhood Safety Adults





Teens



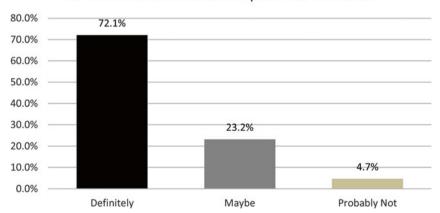


Results for South Tucson Residents

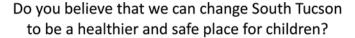
Can you make South Tucson a healthier and safer place?

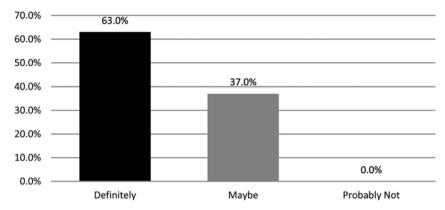
Adults

Do you believe that we can change South Tucson to be a healthier and safe place for children?



Teens

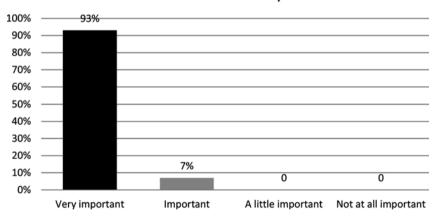




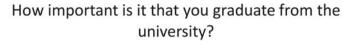
Results for South Tucson Residents

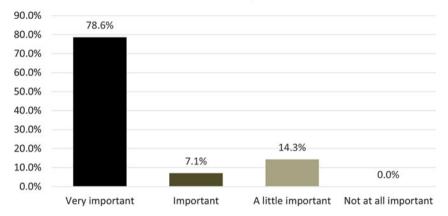
Are South Tucson children college bound? Adults

How important is it that your child graduates from the university?



Teens

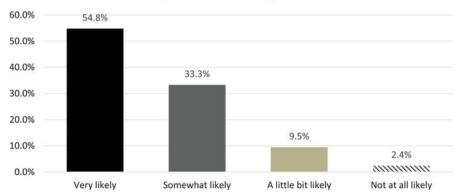




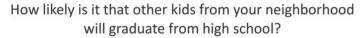
Results for South Tucson Residents

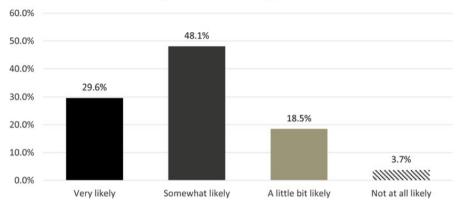
Education NormsAdults

How likely is it that children from your neighborhood will graduate from high school?



Teens

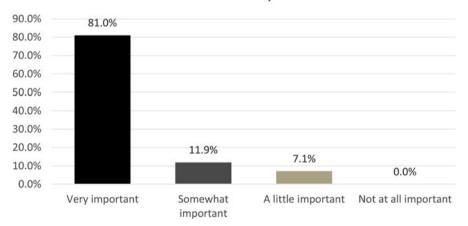




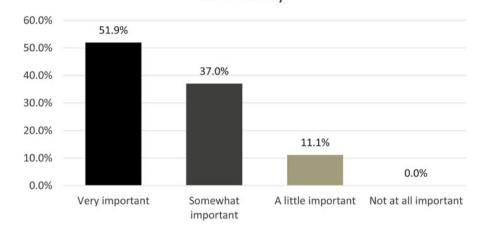
Results for South Tucson Residents

Arts and Cultural Events Adults

How important are art and cultural events in your community?



How important are art and cultural events in your community?



Results Comparing South Tucson Residents and Nonresidents

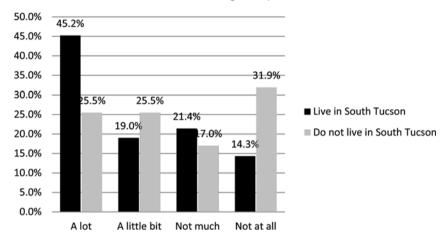
• Nonresidents were less likely to be parents of teens (65.2 %) and the majority (87.2 %) completed the survey in English.

The Effects of SB1070 on Family and Daily Life

- 45.2 % of Adults and 48 % of youth who live in the City of South Tucson reported that SB 1070 had already changed their daily life "A lot."
- Whereas, 31.9 % of adults and 30.4 % of youth who do NOT live in the City of South Tucson reported that SB 1070 has "not at all" changed their daily life.

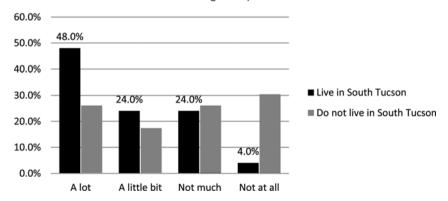
Adults

Has SB 1070 changed the way that you and your family live your daily life? (such as not going to church, not going to school, not going to doctor/hospital, or not using resourced from federal, state or local agencies)



Teenagers

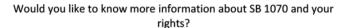
Has SB 1070 changed the way that you and your family live your daily life? (such as not going to church, not going to school, not going to doctor/hospital, or not using resourced from federal, state or local agencies)

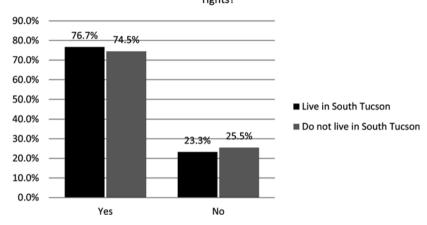


Request for More Information About SB 1070

• The majority (average 75 %) of adults and youth both in the City of South Tucson and outside the City reported that they would like to know more about SB 1070 and their rights.

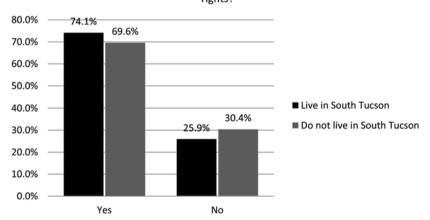
Adults





Teenagers

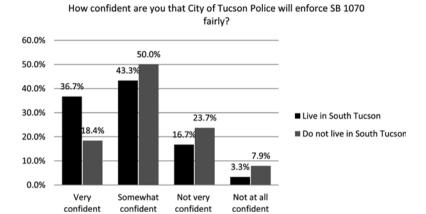
Would you like to know more information about SB 1070 and your rights?



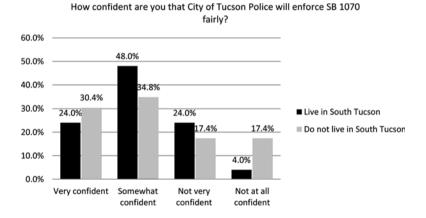
South Tucson Police, SB1070 and Fair Enforcement

- On average, adults and teens are confident that that City of South Tucson police will fairly enforce SB 1070.
- However, 17 % of teens who do NOT live in South Tucson felt "not at all confident" that South Tucson police would fairly enforce SB 1070.

Adults



Teenagers



Discussion: How can Parents and the Community Get Involved?

THANK YOU SOUTH TUCSON PREVENTION COALITION MEMBERS

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