

The Impact of Arrest, Criminal Conviction, Incarceration, and other Disruptive Life Events on Smoking Trajectories through Age 36*

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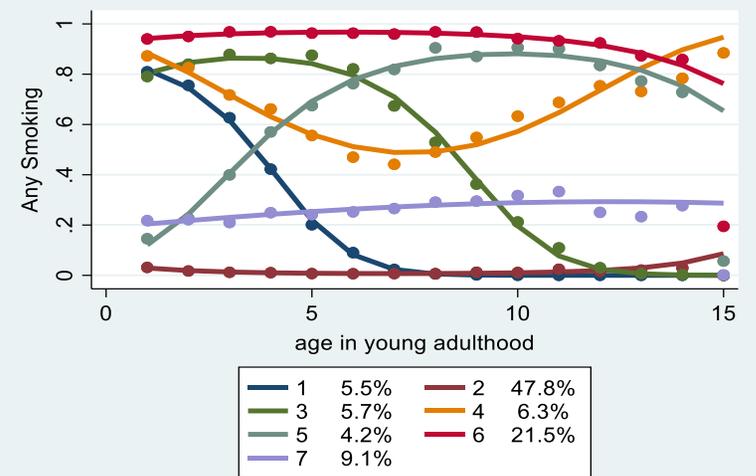
Research Question:

What is the impact of justice system involvement (JSI) in emerging adulthood, family processes (marriage, parenthood) and gender on individuals' smoking trajectories and transitions? Three (3) corresponding hypotheses.

Methods:

Fifteen waves of data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY97; n=8,984) were analyzed using group-based trajectory modeling (GBTM), multinomial logistic regression & latent transition analysis (LTA).

Results: Trajectories of Any Smoking, ages 22 through 36: 7-group quadratic model



Discussion

- As per H₁, there were more smoking classes (trajectories) than hypothesized. But the essence of H₁ – that there would be low-or non-smokers, high smokers, and increasing and decreasing smokers – was supported.
- As per H₂, all types of JSI increased the likelihood of being in a smoking class rather than the non-smoking reference class, as per multinomial logistic regression & LTA. The JSI indicators remained significant even with other predictors included in the regression models.
- Counter to H₂, **arrest and conviction generally had larger odds ratios than the most severe form of JSI – incarceration** – particularly regarding respondents' likelihood of being in the 'problem smoking' classes.
- Across all types of JSI, family variables generally reduced the odds slightly of being in one of the smoking classes – including class 6/chronic smoking – as opposed to class 2/non-smoking. Juvenile smoking was the most robust predictor of smoking in adulthood in the gender-aggregated models.
- As per H₃, differences by gender. For females, both marital status and having children generally *increased* the likelihood of the women being in classes 4 and 5 (unsuccessfully trying to quit smokers, and increasing smokers respectively) as opposed to being in class 2/non-smoking. For men, it was the opposite.

