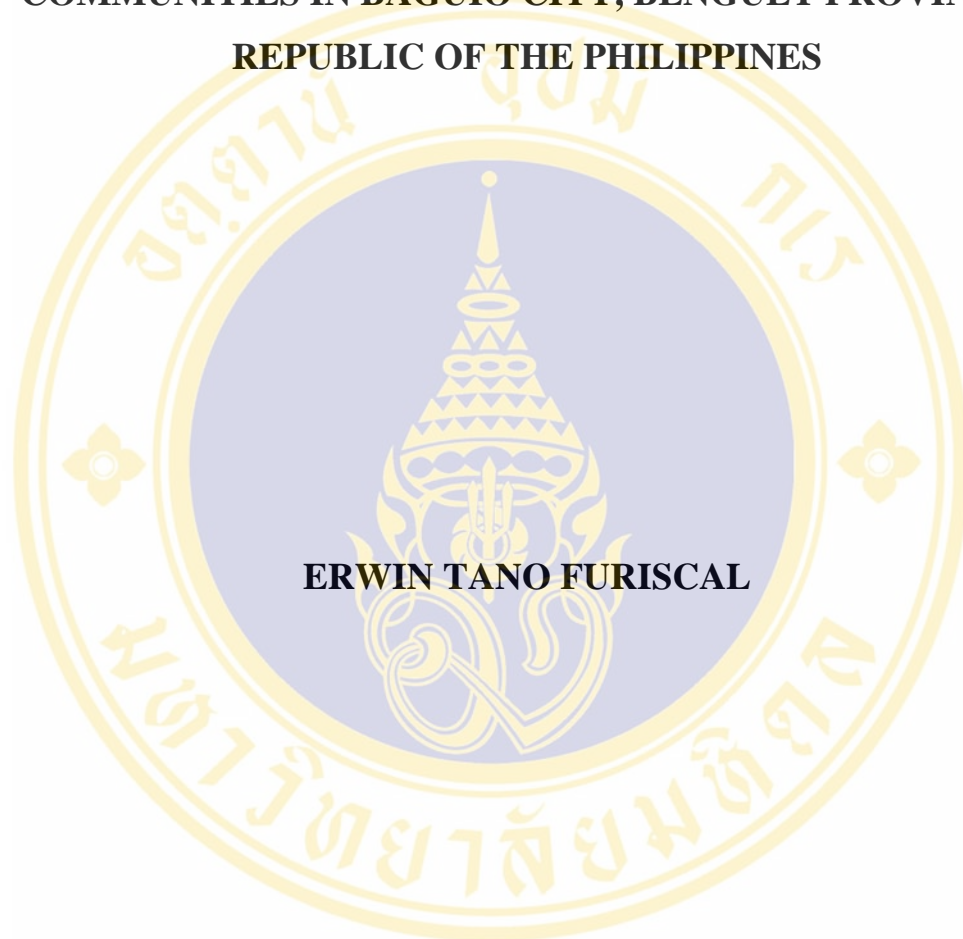


**ALCOHOL DRINKING BEHAVIOR AMONG ADOLESCENT
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS LIVING IN LOW-INCOME URBAN
COMMUNITIES IN BAGUIO CITY, BENGUET PROVINCE,
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**



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ALCOHOL DRINKING BEHAVIOR AMONG ADOLESCENT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN BAGUIO CITY, PHILIPPINES

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BOONYONG KEIWKARNKA, Dr. P.H.**ABSTRACT**

According to the World Health Organization, alcohol drinking consequences has lead to disability and death during the younger years of life. Worldwide, 76.3 million people were diagnosed as potential alcohol abuse in 2005.

This was a cross-sectional survey to assess the alcohol drinking behavior and its related factors among 280 students in the 3rd and 4th year level from one public high school in Baguio, purposively selected during January, 2008. Data were analyzed using MINITAB. Chi-square test was used for testing association between dependent and independent variables with criteria for statistical significance of p-value ≤ 0.05 .

It was found that 74.3% of respondents were 15-16 years old. Students' alcohol drinking pattern indicated that 54.6% were non-drinkers and 30.8% were drinkers. About 63% of drinkers consumed > 1 bottle of alcohol per day. There were statistically significant associations between alcohol drinking behavior and attitude towards drinking ($x^2 = 9.8$; p-value < 0.01), quantity of drink/day ($x^2 = 80.7$; p-value < 0.0001), frequency of drinking ($x^2 = 149.5$; p-value < 0.0001), affordability of liquor ($x^2 = 28.3$; p-value < 0.0001) and parental influence ($x^2 = 30.6$; p-value < 0.0001).

It was concluded that family influence, attitude towards drinking and affordability of liquor were contributing factors to students' increased drinking behavior. It was recommended that families, school and city officials should actively initiate activities against alcohol drinking among adolescents.

**KEY WORDS: ALCOHOL DRINKING BEHAVIOR/ ADOLESCENT/
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