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Greek Involvement and Personality

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Many young college students involve themselves with Greek life to involve themselves with a group of people similar to themselves and to engage in life on campus. The intent of this research is to measure the relationship between Greek membership and/or involvement and personality. Data from Spit for Science: the VCU Student Survey will be examined to analyze this relationship. The participants included freshman fall and sophomore spring survey participants from the 2012 Spit for Science cohort. The measures for the study were the Big Five Inventory (BFI) and the UPPS impulsive behavior scales.

The BFI includes the personality traits of agreeableness, conscientiousness, extraversion, neuroticism, and openness. The UPPS scales include the domains of lack of perseverance, lack of premeditation, negative urgency, positive urgency, and sensation seeking.

Results

Table 1. High conscientiousness (p = 0.021) and high extraversion (p = 0.001) were associated with Greek membership. In addition, high conscientiousness (p = 0.001) and high extraversion (p < 0.001) were associated with frequency of Greek involvement.

Table 2. High sensation seeking (p = 0.001) was associated with frequency of Greek involvement.

Conclusion

This study provides insight on personality characteristics correlated with the Greek system involvement and highlights areas of research potentially related to previous findings on alcohol consumption in Greek life.

Works Cited


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