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**An Updated Scoping Review on Intimate Partner Violence Among Sexual Minority
Women: A Focus on Alcohol Use and IPV Intimate Partner Violence among Lesbian and
Bisexual Women of Color**

by

Brittany Jerry, BA

Objective: Intimate partner violence has been examined and studied among individuals with diverse sexual orientations over the years, yet there is a lack of literature focused on Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), especially women of color. Moreover, BIPOC people face unique challenges regarding health disparities from alcohol use. This review aims to provide an update to the previously published Porsch et al. (2023) systematic review on IPV among sexual minority (SM) women. Studies examined in this review will highlight the representation of women of color in studies on IPV among SM women and the role of alcohol as a risk factor.

Method: The previous study was conducted using a search of Medline, Embase, CINAHL, and PsycINFO databases to search papers published between January 2000 and December 2021. These databases were used to identify 25 studies additional that met the same criteria as Porsch et al. (2023) published between January 2022 and March 2024. The studies identified by Porsch et al., (2023) and the additional 25 studies were coded for racial/identity demographics, finding regarding alcohol use, finding of racial or ethnic difference in IPV, findings regarding race/ethnicity & alcohol in IPV.

Results: Only 26 of the 124 studies (20%) reviewed included a separate analysis of racial/ethnic differences in IPV among BIPOC SMW, and 12 (10%) examined alcohol use and IPV among BIPOC SMW. Since the Porsch article was published, there have been 25 studies published that focus on IPV among sexual minority (SM) women. Nine of the studies included a separate analysis of BIPOC sexual minority (SM) women.

Discussion: This review highlights the lack of representation in research on alcohol-related intimate partner violence in BIPOC sexual minority women. While there has been an increase in studies that have focused on alcohol-related intimate partner violence among SM women, the unique experiences and challenges faced by BIPOC SM women remain understudied. The intersection of alcohol use and intimate partner violence among BIPOC women can lead to adverse health outcomes, including substance abuse, increased stress levels, mental health disorders, chronic health conditions, and reduced overall quality of life. National studies suggest that around 61% of SM women are Black women, yet so few studies include race as a factor in analysis. Extending current research to be more inclusive of racial factors could generate more inclusive IPV perpetration prevention programming. Given the increased risk of health disparities that BIPOC women face from alcohol-related intimate partner violence, we need to increase our understanding of IPV and develop more effective strategies to promote the well-being of BIPOC SM women.

An Updated Scoping Review on Intimate Partner Violence Among Sexual Minority Women: A
Focus on Alcohol Use Intimate Partner Violence among Lesbian and Bisexual Women of Color

by

Brittany Jerry, BA

B.A., Georgia State University

A Thesis Submitted to the Graduate Faculty
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APPROVAL PAGE

An Updated Scoping Review on Intimate Partner Violence Among Sexual Minority Women: A
Focus on Alcohol Use and Intimate Partner Violence among Lesbian and Bisexual Women of
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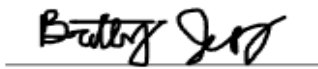
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Author's Statement Page

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Chapter I – Introduction
Intimate partner violence

Chapter II – Review of the Literature

2.1. IPV Among Sexual Minority Women

Data from the CDC's National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (2017) indicates that SMW experience higher rates of IPV compared to heterosexual women; 56.3% of lesbian women and 69.3% of bisexual women reported being a victim of intimate partner perpetrated violence through either rape, physical violence, or stalking whereas 46.3% of heterosexual women. The survey did not include a further categorization for race limiting our understanding of the prevalence of IPV in queer relationships of color. Factors such as intersectional marginalization, cultural norms that could perpetuate violence, generational trauma, and socioeconomic disparities that create barriers to resources and support can lead to higher rates of IPV among BIPOC SMW, and disparities in rates of IPV among populations historically marginalized warrants attention.

2.2. Alcohol Use and IPV

Research focused on the correlation of excessive alcohol use and IPV has been studied on a wide range of demographics, such as newlyweds, new parents, and domestic violence offenders through the last 30 years (Leonard & Quigley, 2016). It has not only shown how the use of alcohol is not only linked to the severity of IPV, but also the frequency (Leonard & Quigley, 2016). The consumption of alcohol has been connected to increased levels of aggression and stress while impairing the judgment of individuals (Sontate et al., 2021). Alcohol's role in IPV may be best understood using alcohol myopia theory (AMT) that suggests that alcohol can affect

an individual's thinking and how they process information (Steele & Josephs, 1990). AMT further posits that alcohol can hinder abilities and limit focus and making it challenging to handle non-salient and inhibitory information. The impairment can also have significant implications within the context of IPV by focusing attention on salient provocative internal or external cues (e.g., anger), but not inhibitory cues (e.g., consequences of perpetrating IPV).

Alcohol may not only increase IPV perpetration, but also victimization risk, particularly for women. SMW that consume alcohol report higher rates of IPV victimization compared to those who do not (Kunins et al., 2007). Consuming alcohol can make a person more susceptible to IPV victimization. Research suggests that women may drink to cope with negative emotions or when experiencing conflict (Spencer et al., 2019). Additionally, alcohol impairs judgment and the ability to make decisions, which may impact the ability to defend oneself, escape from conflict situations.

2.3. Alcohol and SMW

Understanding the alcohol-IPV link among SMW is important given that SMW engages in more alcohol use and experiences more consequences compared to heterosexual women. According to the 2019 CDC's National Health Interview Survey, lesbian and bisexual women were found to be twice as likely as heterosexual women to consume than seven drinks per week (Gonzales et al., 2016). Research has also indicated that binge drinking rates are higher among lesbian and bisexual women (Daigle and Hawk, 2021). An examination of data from the 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health revealed that Black and Latinx SMW had the prevalence of binge drinking compared to white SMW (Buchanan & Smokowski 2009). Research suggests that age plays a role in alcohol consumption patterns among SMW with younger age groups showing higher prevalence, than older ones (Austin & Irwin, 2010). The

study also found that when considering age, older Black lesbian women reported the highest rates of heavy drinking over the past 12 months, whereas younger white and Latina lesbian women had reported the highest past-12-month heavy drinking (Austin & Irwin, 2010).

Previous studies have shown that systemic inequalities that women of color face could be used to explain the higher rates of excessive alcohol use (Gilbert & Zemore, 2016). Systemic inequalities provide context to the structural and institutional biases that result in the lack of resources and opportunities to minority individuals. As a response to the inequities experienced by BIPOC SMW, they may resort to alcohol and engage in binge drinking as a coping mechanism. Based on data from the 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, Black and Hispanic sexual minority women showed rates of binge drinking compared to white sexual minority women and white heterosexual women (Greene et al., 2020). Understanding the prevalence of alcohol among lesbian and bisexual women can lead to understanding alcohol-related risk factors for IPV perpetration.

2.4. Intersectionality: Lesbian and Bisexual Women of Color

Intersectional Theory (Crenshaw, 1989) is important to consider when researching alcohol use and IPV among BIPOC SMW. The theory explains how gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, class, and other marginalized forms of identity intersect to shape an individual's experiences (Etaugh, 2020). Addressing the prevalence of IPV among lesbian and bisexual women of color requires a comprehensive approach that highlights the intersecting experiences of these women. The intersectional theory can be used to provide a framework to understand individual and societal factors that impact BIPOC SMW (Kelly, 2011). The intersectionality of multiple identities can lead to differing experiences and encounters with discrimination.

The cumulative stress from the experience of forms of discrimination such as racism, homophobia, biphobia, and sexism can pose adverse side effects on an individual's mental health, self-perception, and perception of the world. Intersectional discrimination experienced by BIPOC SMW is a fundamental aspect of intersectional theory as it shapes the influence of multiple identities on an individual, giving rise to a distinct array of biases and stereotypes (Maldonado et al., 2022). The risk of facing further discrimination might make one feel like they cannot access the social, legal, and mental support that they need, which may ultimately contribute to IPV and related outcomes. The inability to gain help or support when a woman of color has experienced violence may make it easier for the cycle of violence to continue. Further to align with cultural norms, some BIPOC SMW may opt to keep their sexual identity hidden from their families. The fear of being outed or rejected from their family or community can prevent queer women of color from disclosing that they are victims of IPV (Gehring & Vaske, 2015). IPV perpetrators can use this fear of being outed or rejected to prey on victims' sense of vulnerability and insecurity.

2.5. Minority Stress Theory: Lesbian and Bisexual Women of Color

The Minority Stress Theory is a framework used to describe how minority individuals have unique challenges and stressors that are due to being a member of a minority group (Meyer, 2003). This theory can be used to show the association that being a member of a marginalized community can have adverse mental health outcomes among individuals. Minority stress experiences are associated with psychological and relational variables such as depression, substance use, and low relationship quality (Edwards & Sylaska, 2012). When researching queer women of color, intersectional minority stress must be looked at as well to understand how individuals of different identities experience things (Reyes et al., 2022).

Minority status can result in possessing external and internal stresses (McConnell et al., 2018). External stresses can be homophobia, racism, and sexism, while internal stresses can be identity conflict and internalized racialism, homophobia, and sexism. The presence of heteronormative ideals in society, stemming from homophobia, creates challenges for individuals experiencing violence in same-sex relationships to access necessary social support. Sexism is behind the misconceptions that women cannot perpetrate violence and that women are overdramatic and exaggerate when they report violent situations (Rollè et al., 2018). The internal conflict of being unable to accept one's identity due to cultural or religious beliefs can be a source of tension. The internalization of societal messages, bias, and stereotypes can lead to internalized racialism, homophobia, and sexism.

The external and internal minority stressors experienced can serve as predictors for increased alcohol consumption as a coping mechanism to escape negative emotions such as self-loathing and depression. Additionally, these stressors not only help explain the higher rates of alcohol use and IPV perpetration within LGB+ populations but also create contexts that increase the likelihood of IPV perpetration in the presence of alcohol use (Shorey et al., 2018). Addressing the complex challenges that SMW BIPOC women face will provide context to identify the protective factors that this specific population faces and likely decrease the probability of alcohol use. Protective factors, such as fostering social support networks, enhancing resilience, and providing access to effective coping strategies are key when it comes to reducing the negative effects of minority stress and increasing healthier outcomes.

2.6. I3 Theory: Lesbian and Bisexual Women of Color

The I3 model framework can be used to understand IPV and includes three contributing factors for IPV: instigating, impelling, and inhibiting factors (Slotter & Finkel, 2011). Instigating

factors are situations that increase the likelihood of aggression (e.g., conflict). Impelling factors are predisposed feelings or beliefs that can lead to a strong urge to act aggressively in certain situations, such as internalized homophobia. Internalized homophobia can cause negative feelings and beliefs because of an individual's sexual identity and pose as a risk factor for depression or anxiety. Inhibiting factors are traits that would allow for a person to control themselves and fight the urge to act aggressively, such as emotional regulation and conflict resolution skills. Conversely, disinhibiting factors are attitudes or behaviors that reduce one's inhibition, include alcohol use. The perfect storm theory suggests that when instigating and impelling factors are high, and inhibiting factors is low, there is an increased likelihood for IPV to occur.

2.7. Alcohol use and IPV among Lesbian and Bisexual Women of Color

The existing literature lacks knowledge that is specifically the prevalence alcohol use and IPV among BIPOC SM women. Despite the current body of literature acknowledging that intersectionality is related to multiple forms of oppression, such as marginalization and discrimination, and it contributes to the heightened risk of alcohol use and IPV (Klostermann et al., 2011). It is crucial to closely examine the consequences of these disparities to gain a comprehensive understanding of the risks associated with IPV perpetration and victimization. given the increased disparities faced by BIPOC SM individuals.

2.8. The Present Study

While a recent review by Porsch et al. (2023) provided an in-depth look at IPV studies for a diverse range of subgroups among SMW, it highlighted the lack of knowledge in existing literature around alcohol use and IPV among lesbian and bisexual women of color. The purpose of this updated scoping review is to provide an in-depth look at the state of knowledge of alcohol

use and IPV among BIPOC SMW, identify research gaps, and provide recommendations for future research and targeted prevention strategies. This study aims to address this research gap by reviewing the current state of knowledge on alcohol use and IPV among sexual minority women of color. Specifically, this review aims to understand (1) racial/ethnic demographic of populations included in existing SMW IPV research, (2) the prevalence of IPV among SMW, (3) racial/ethnic differences in IPV among SMW (4) the association between alcohol and IPV among SMW, (5) the association between alcohol and IPV among BIPOC SMW.

Chapter III – Methods & Procedures

3.1. Framework

The Arksey and O'Malley framework was used as a methodological guide to complete the scoping review process: (1) formulating the research question, (2) identifying relevant studies, (3) selecting studies to be included, (4) organizing the collected data, and (5) summarizing and reporting the findings (Arksey & O'Malley, 2005). The same method used in Porsch et al. (2023) was conducted for this updated scoping review to summarize the existing research on IPV perpetration and to highlight the lack of existing literature on IPV among lesbian and bisexual women of color and the role of alcohol as a risk factor.

3.2. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

The inclusion and exclusion criteria outlined by Porsch et al. (2023) were replicated in this study to guide the selection of studies to be included, utilizing identical criteria. Since the previous focus dates were from January 2000 to December 2021, this paper continues using peer-reviewed quantitative or mixed methods studies and research papers published in academic journals between January 2022 and March 2024. The studies had to provide data that focused on adult SMW who identified as 18 years or older. The studies focused on any individual who self-identified as a woman, and this was inclusive of both cisgender and transgender women. While

the studies did not have to focus specifically only on SMW, they had to provide a separate set of reporting data for SMW.

Studies from all over the world were included in the search. However, they were only included if published in English due to the difficulty of correctly translating and analyzing data in another language. Qualitative methods studies and studies that do not report on data and focus on reviewing were also excluded because the methodology differs from quantitative or mixed methods studies. In order to ensure that data was only used from SMW, any study that focused on anyone under 18 or had a large proportion of their data from individuals under 18 was excluded.

3.3. Selection Procedure

In March 2024 a search was conducted across four databases: PubMed, Embase, CINAHL, and PsycInfo. The strategy focused on articles on IPV among SMW, and the search encompassed the following terms: lesbian women, bisexual women, sexual minority women, and IPV.

3.4 Data Extraction

To gather relevant information from the studies, Rayyan, a web-based software platform designed to screen and select relevant studies for systematic reviews, was used to assist with the data extraction process. Porsch et al. (2023) and 25 other studies were coded to examine the racial and identity demographics and the relationship between alcohol use and IPV. The studies also investigated any racial or ethnic disparities in IPV and explored the associations between race/ethnicity, alcohol, and IPV.

3.5. Quality Assessment

When conducting the quality assessment of the studies, the Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) Critical Appraisal Checklist for Systematic Reviews and Research Syntheses was used (Aromataris et al., 2015). This checklist ensures that the studies were appropriate, adequate, and relevant to the research question. The PRISMA-ScR (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses Extension for Scoping Reviews) guidelines helped provide a structured approach for reporting the reviews and used to evaluate the quality of the studies included (Tricco et al., 2018). This approach offers a transparent perspective to present the methods, findings, and implications of the information from existing literature. Since this updated study seeks to provide a refocus on lesbian and bisexual women of color and alcohol use and IPV, an additional quality assessment was conducted to examine sexual and gender minority women of color as a separate category. This additional assessment will allow for the inclusiveness of intersectionality in the research to be analyzed.

Chapter IV – Results

The final study selection included 124 studies (Figure 1). 99 of the 124 were initially included in the Porsch et al. (2023) study. All of the studies had a separate reporting category for sexual minority women. The studies focused on IPV-related data in terms of both victimization and perpetration of a variety of IPV among SMW. Of the 124 studies, 26 reported on racial/ethnic differences in IPV, and 12 studies reported on how alcohol use and IPV affects different racial and ethnic demographics. All information on sexual identity sample demographics, racial identity demographics, racial sample representation, findings regarding alcohol use and IPV, findings regarding racial or ethnic differences in IPV, and findings regarding race/ethnicity & alcohol use and IPV are displayed in Table 1.

4.1. Racial/Ethnic Demographic of Populations Included in Existing SMW IPV Research

Of the 124 studies, 80 (65%) reported on the racial/ethnic demographics of the participants in the study. In other words, 35% did not report any information of the racial/ethnic demographics of their study. The most common racial groups reported among the studies were Black, Latino, White, and Asian SMW. Of the studies that reported race, 61% (49 of the 80) had majority white representation. In the context of the racial demographic of Asian SMWs, five specific studies focused on examining the experiences of Asian women from China (Eric et al., 2022; Lin et al., 2020; Lin, K. et al., 2023; Lo et al., 2023; Mak et al., 2010).

4.2. The Prevalence of IPV Among SMW

Among the 87 studies that examined differences between SMW and heterosexual women, 55 (63%) found that SMW experienced higher rates of IPV. SMW who reported higher instances of psychological aggression victimization and had a history of previous physically aggressive relationships showed a greater likelihood of engaging in more frequent perpetration of partner violence (Milletich, 2014). The most common form of violence that bisexual women report experiencing is sexual violence, especially sexual coercion by male partners (Balsam et al., 2005). The most common form of violence reported by lesbians was psychological violence, such as verbal threats and manipulation (Ayhan Balik and Bilgin, 2019).

4.3. Racial/Ethnic Differences in IPV among SMW

Of the 124 studies, 26 (22%) studies examined racial/ethnic differences in IPV among BIPOC SMW. Of these 26 studies, 23 reported higher rates of IPV among BIPOC SMW compared to white SMW. Black and Latina SMW also reported higher rates of severe IPV than white women (Steele et al., 2020). A study done by Reuter et al. (2017) reported that the most common type of IPV to be reported by Black and Latina SMW was verbal and physical IPV. One epidemiological study conducted in California reported that Black individuals were more

likely to report both past year and lifetime perpetration and victimization of IPV (Goldberg and Meyer, 2013). In Whitton et al. (2019) when compared to white SMW, Black SMW were 2.5 - 7.03x times more likely to report all eight IPV types: minor psychological victimization/perpetration, severe psychological victimization/perpetration, physical victimization/perpetration, sexual victimization, and perpetration. While Latinx SMW were 2.5-4.8 times more likely to experience four IPV types: minor psychological victimization/perpetration, severe psychological perpetration, and physical perpetration (Whitton et al., 2019). Another study found that two-spirit Indigenous women experienced higher rates of physical and sexual trauma compared to white women, with 78% reporting physical assault and 85% reporting sexual assault, whereas only 15 to 53% of white women reported sexual assault (Balsam et al., 2005; Lehavot et al., 2009). When looking at data related to Asian SMW, there were lower odds of reporting emotional and sexual IPV compared to white women (Whitfield et al., 2021). Within same-sex relationships in Hong Kong, lesbian and bisexual women encountered significantly high rates of psychological aggression (78.5%), physical assault (approximately 40%), and sexual coercion (over 20%) (Mak et al., 2010).

4.3. The Association between Alcohol and IPV among SMW

Of the 124 studies, 46 found that alcohol use was positively associated with IPV. Lesbian who reported perpetration also reported higher rates of alcohol problems and substance abuse compared to non-lesbian women who perpetrated IPV (Fortunata and Kohn, 2003). An empirical investigation completed using data collected from self-identified lesbian women recruited from online market research panels reported that alcohol use also plays a direct role in psychological and physical violence among heterosexual and sexual minority relationships (Lewis et al., 2017). Another study reported that women who reported higher levels of alcohol use were associated

with having higher levels of psychological aggression against a female partner (Balsam and Szymanski, 2005).

Of the 124 studies, 24 found that alcohol use is also a consequence of IPV. There is a high use of alcohol as a coping mechanism for both perpetrators and victims. Both emotional distress and alcohol use are confounding when it comes to bidirectional partner violence among lesbian women (Ireland, 2017). One study reported that high levels of alcohol consumption have been found to affect conflict resolution strategies among lesbian same-sex couples (Baker et al., 2002).

4.5 The Association Between Alcohol and IPV among BIPOC SMW

Of the 124 studies, 12 (10%) reported the association between alcohol and IPV by racial/ethnicity among SMW women. Of these 12 studies, 11 (91%) studies found racial differences. Overall, there was a stronger positive association between alcohol and IPV among Black and Latina SMW compared to white or Asian women (Closson, K. et al., 2023; Goldberg and Meyer, 2013; Harper et al., 2021; Miller et al., 2001; Pittman et al., 2020; Reuter et al., 2017; Swann, G. et al., 2022; Trujillo et al., 2020). For example, Closson, K. et al. (2023) found that Black SMW who reported alcohol use once or twice per week or more during the pandemic had higher odds of perpetrating physical IPV compared to those who were not Black and reported less frequent alcohol use. When compared to Asian SMW, Swann et al. (2022) found that Black and Latina SMW also had a higher rate of alcohol use and IPV perpetration and victimization. Muzny et al. (2018) reported that alcohol/drug use during sex was reported by a significant proportion of African American women who have sex with women, particularly when they were having sex with male partners. In contrast to these results, Kimerling et al. (2016)

reported that race/ethnicity was not significantly associated with alcohol use and IPV among SMW.

Chapter V – Discussion & Conclusion

The aim of this systematic review was to review and examine the existing literature on IPV among SMW and to highlight the gaps racial diversity in IPV research up to 2021.

5.1 Racial/ethnic demographic of populations included in existing SMW IPV Research

Only 65% of the studies reporting on the race and ethnicity of the sample limit our understanding of the representation of racially and ethnically diverse women in SMW IPV research. Further, of the studies that reported on race and ethnicity, 78% focused on majority white populations. The lack of racial and ethnic diversity in current IPV research is problematic because although the term BIPOC is meant to be inclusive of individuals who identify as a person of color, it is essential to acknowledge the significant nuances and differences that exist within each race. Therefore, there is a need for a more detailed breakdown and examination of each racial demographic to provide a better understanding of the unique experiences and challenges faced by different racial groups. Notably missing from studies is a reporting category for Indigenous women. Only 30 of the studies had a separate reporting category for indigenous SMW. The overall lack of research on indigenous women can explain this. Reluctancy among indigenous communities to participate in research studies could be why this gap exists. Barriers such as language and cultural differences could also cause a lack of participation among this population. To address this gap, community-based participatory research should be engaged to foster relationships and build connections with indigenous communities to form trust. Women of color often face generational trauma due to the impacts of oppression on marginalized people, especially marginalized women (Hankerson et al., 2022). The increase in challenges and

experiences of IPV could be linked to a rooted generational trauma, colonization, and ongoing systemic marginalization that women of color often face.

5.2 The Prevalence of IPV Among SMW

In many studies, 63% (55 of the 87) found that SMW experienced higher rates of IPV.

Bermea et al., 2018 found that Bisexual women who experience IPV possibly have less access to formal and informal support available to help them deal with the effects of IPV than heterosexual women due to misconceptions about queer relationships and IPV. The high rates of sexual violence against bisexual women could also be linked to the over-sexualization of bisexual women, stereotypes, and myths that bisexual women are more sexually promiscuous or open to sexual experiences, which leads to objectifying and devaluing bisexual women. (Bermea et al., 2018). The high rates of psychological abuse among lesbian women can lead to a decrease in self-esteem and create power imbalances in relationships (Garay-Villaruel et al., 2023). The effects of experiencing violence often extend beyond the immediate period of abuse.

5.3 Racial/Ethnic Differences in IPV among SMW

With over 88% (23 out of 26) of studies reporting that BIPOC SMW reported higher rates of IPV than white SMW, this review underscores the racial differences in IPV. Further, more severe and continuous patterns exist for this specific racial and ethnic SMW. While many of the studies reported higher rates of IPV among Black and Latina women compared to white women, the occurrence and characteristics of violence can differ among racial and ethnic groups (Closson, K. et al., 2023; Goldberg & Meyer, 2013; Harper et al., 2021; Miller et al., 2001; Pittman et al., 2020; Reuter et al., 2017; Swann, G. et al., 2022; Trujillo et al., 2020). In future research, an intersectional approach must be taken to examine how race, alongside other factors such as socioeconomic status and prior experience with childhood abuse, can contribute to the prevalence of IPV.

5.4 The Association between Alcohol and IPV among SMW

Over a third of studies reviewed (37%) found that SMW have higher rates of alcohol use and IPV. The perpetration of violence and the use of alcohol were also reported in many studies. (Baker et al., 2002; Basting et al., 2024; Carvalho et al., 2011; Closson, K. et al., 2023; Coston, 2019; Muzny et al., 2018; Oginni et al., 2021; Oswald et al., 2022; Pittman et al., 2020; Pyra et al., 2014; Reuter et al., 2017; Tubman, J. G., 2023; Valentine et al., 2015) Increased research and subsequently programming focused on strategies to navigate conflict resolution and aggression while consuming alcohol for SMW could be an impactful step forward to decrease the prevalence of alcohol involved IPV. Across many of the studies, SMW reported drinking as a way of coping with the violence that they were presently experiencing or had experienced in the past. (Alexander et al., 2016; Balsam and Szymanski, 2005; Bimbi et al. (2007, Chen et al., 2020, Descamps et al., 2000; Eaton et al., 2008; Grocott, L et al., 2023; Harper et al., 2021 Hellemans et al., 2015; Hughes et al., 2010). SWM may be more prone to use alcohol as a coping strategy, given a lack of social support and an increased likelihood of having generational trauma. Understanding moderators of drinking alongside the perpetration and victimization of IPV is an important next step to developing informed programming and support services for this population.

5.5 The Association Between Alcohol and IPV among BIPOC SMW

The findings of this review suggest that there is a lack of research focused on alcohol and IPV among BIPOC lesbian and bisexual women of color, with only 10% of studies examining this association. The studies reviewed were consistent with reporting that BIPOC SMW is at an increased risk for alcohol-related IPV. This information shows that there is a need for increased representation and research focus on the prevalence of IPV among all women of color. Being a woman of color often has a variety of adversities and unique challenges. When it comes to

experiencing and committing to IPV, these challenges are also present, such as healthcare disparities that cause limited access to mental health services and substance abuse treatment. With only 12 of the studies providing an analysis of the intersection of race, alcohol use, and IPV, it highlights the lack of research on this intersection. The barriers to seeking help can result from cultural, social, and systemic factors. While alcohol use and IPV are issues for all races of SMW, Black and Latinx women face high rates of experiencing physical violence from alcohol use, which can cause severe consequences.

5.2. Limitations

The reviewed studies have some limitations around the sampling bias, reliance on self-reported data, lack of comprehensive data, and lack of an intersectional analysis regarding other intersectional identities such as disability status, religion, and immigration status. While some studies took into consideration the role of socioeconomic status and education status, Balsam and Szymanski (2005) reported that women of color and those with less education reported more violence. A lower level of education can limit financial mobility opportunities, increase vulnerability, and reduce access to support systems for victims of violence. The risk factors associated with the multiple intersectional identities influence the experiences and challenges around IPV among SMW. Sampling bias could be a limitation when considering self-selection bias and over/underrepresentation. People who experienced violence might be more motivated to share their experiences, so that would lead to the overrepresentation of this group. The motivation for individuals to share experiences around IPV could be through the desire to seek support or improve knowledge about IPV. Individuals who have not experienced IPV might feel they have nothing to offer, so they do not share their experiences and perspectives. Another perspective is that some individuals may not understand that what they experienced was IPV, so

they decide their experience is not worth sharing. One way to reduce sampling bias would be to incorporate more diverse recruitment strategies. An increase in the diversity of recruitment strategies might help reach a wider variety of participants from different backgrounds that are more representative of the population. Even with participants from diverse backgrounds, relying on self-reporting can be difficult because it relies on the accuracy and reliability of memory. Some people might be hesitant to share details of the violence that they endured due to fear or concerns around privacy. Considering the findings of all of the studies reviewed, it is essential to consider these limitations.

5.3. Future Research & Recommendations

To address the prevalence of IPV among BIPOC SMW, public health practitioners, program planners, policymakers, and researchers must take a comprehensive intersectional approach. The sexual orientation, gender identity, race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, disability status, and immigration status of different individuals need to be addressed and considered when looking at approaches to decrease alcohol use and IPV among BIPOC SMW. While we did not code for other identities in the studies reviewed (e.g., disability status), it is essential to note that other aspects of identity are rarely reported on when describing study samples. Future research should consider reporting on other identity dimensions to understand study samples better.

Program planners must address the lack of culturally competent services that address racism, discrimination, and other barriers preventing BIPOC SMW from accessing much-needed resources and social support. Factors that can be seen that contribute to SMW being more likely to IPV victimization and perpetration are minority stress, discrimination, and the lack of culturally competent services for lesbian and bisexual women (Alexander et al., 2016). Existing prevention programs have not only been focused on heterosexual individuals but also lack the

cultural understanding and unique considerations that women of color need. More effective strategies for prevention and intervention can be developed through increased research on the risk factors along with the individual- and relationship-level factors.

When considering the future of IPV research, there is an increased need to focus on intersectionality, IPV patterns over time, and barriers to seeking support. Existing literature does not focus enough on the unique challenges and experiences that BIPOC SMW face, such as intersectional discrimination, the lack of resources and support that is exclusive to BIPOC SMW, and the barriers to legal support that people of color face and leave gap in ways that IPV is studied and intervened against.

5.4. Conclusion

The increase of research around IPV in SMW has been significant but lacks the inclusion of BIPOC SMW. Much of the existing literature examining alcohol use and IPV is not only focused on the heterosexual men and women lens but also through a non-racially diverse lens. This paper aims to highlight the existing knowledge on the subject and the direction for future research. While there are similarities in the experiences and challenges of IPV between SMW white women and SMW BIPOC women, there are unique stressors and risk factors that are associated with being a member of this specific minority group that have rarely been examined to understand risk factors for IPV among SMW. Unique stressors and risk factors include intersectional discrimination, economic disparities, cultural differences, and systemic barriers. Through an increased understanding of the differing risk factors, there can be increased attention from policymakers and program planners on how racial differences play a role in the prevalence of IPV among BIPOC SMW.

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Figure 1. PRISMA Flow Diagram

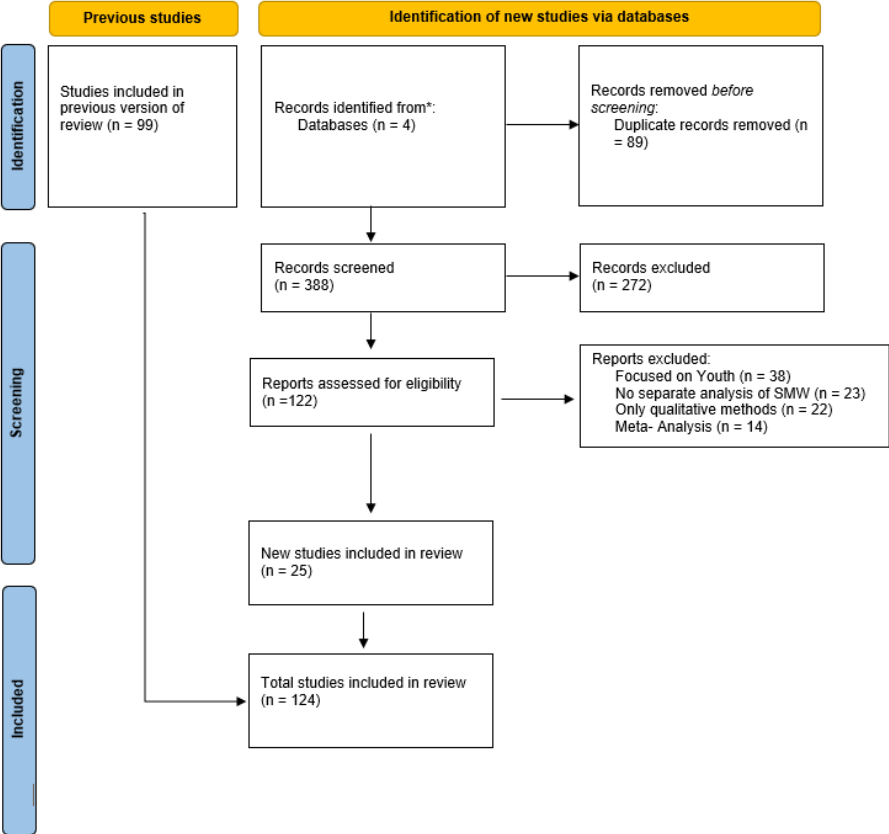


Table 1 of Findings

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
Ackerman and Field (2011)	N=12,549	National	2.57% women in same-sex relationship N=170	Limited SMW	18.2% Black 16.3% Latinx 57.6% White 7.9% Other	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Alexander et al. (2016)	N=149	National	28% WSWM, N=42	Limited SMW	100% Black	All Black	SMW reported higher rates of alcohol use compared to heterosexual women. Factors contributing to this included coping with stress, trauma, and discrimination	Not Reported	Not Reported
Ayhan Balik and Bilgin (2019)	N=149	Turkey	100% lesbian women	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Baker et al. (2002)	N=54	United States	100% lesbian	All SMW	100% White	All white	Alcohol consumption was found to influence conflict resolution strategies differently based on testosterone levels in lesbian couples.	Not Reported	Not Reported
Balsam and Szymanski (2005)	N=272	USA and Canada	77% lesbian/ gay, 18% bisexual,	Mostly SMW	85% White 6% Black, 2% Latina 1% Asian American/Pacific Islander 1% Indigenous 4% biracial	Majority White	Alcohol showed no predictive link to violence in SMW relationships, but women who consumed alcohol did exhibit psychological aggression towards their female partners.	BIPOC women in the sample reported more experiences with domestic violence.	Not report
Balsam et al. (2005)	N=1,274	USA (national)	15.7% bisexual women, 41.6% lesbian women	Mixed SMW	91.7% White 1.1% Black 0.5% Asian 2.5% Latinx	Majority White	Not Reported	There are higher rates of lifetime victimization among lesbians of	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
					0.6% % Indigenous			color when compared with white lesbian	
Barrett and St. Pierre (2013)	N=372	Canada	100% lesbian, gay, or bisexual	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	
Barrientos et al. (2018)	N=640	Spain, Mexico, Venezuela, Chile;	45.2% lesbian	Mixed SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Gay men victims of psychological abuse reported higher daily alcohol consumption compared to lesbian victims of psychological abuse	Not Reported	Not Reported
Basting et al (2024)	N=342	Tennessee and Milwaukee	19.4% Lesbians	Limited SMW	87.6% White 7.00% Asian 6.71% Black 5.83% Multiracial 2.62% Indigenous 0.58% Middle Eastern 1.75% Other	Majority White	Alcohol use was positively related to physical IPV perpetration among sexual minorities. The interaction between alcohol use and PTSD symptoms predicted psychological IPV perpetration	Not Reported	Not Reported
Battista et al. (2021)	N=165	Italy;	100% lesbian women	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Bimbi et al. (2007)	N=1,048	New York metropolitan area	37.7% bisexual, lesbian, or queer women	Mixed SMW	15.4% Black 2.2% Asian/ Pacific Islander 55.5% White 18.9% Latinx 7.9% Other	Majority White	Lesbians are more likely to have alcohol-related issues than heterosexual women. Domestic violence experiences may exacerbate alcohol use tendencies among lesbians. Lesbians who experienced nonphysical	Not Reported	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
							domestic violence were more likely to report alcohol use.		
Blosnich and Bossarte (2009)	N=7,998	USA (national)	1.1% female victims of female perpetrators	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Bourbet et al. (2023)	N=4,607	Australia	21.4% Lesbians 29.66% Bisexual	Mixed SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Alcohol use was associated with increased odds of experiencing IPV among SMW. SMW who reported hazardous alcohol use were more likely to experience IPV. Hazardous alcohol use was linked to a higher likelihood of experiencing coercively controlling violence	Not Reported	Not Reported
Brown et al. (2015)	N=10,451	Not Reported	2% SMW	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Carvalho et al. (2011)	N=581	USA (national)	25% lesbians N=67	Limited SMW	79% White	Majority White	Alcohol use was associated with IPV perpetration among SMW, with substance use being a common factor in abusive relationships. The study highlighted the link between stress, violence, and	Not Reported	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
							substance use in both same-sex and heterosexual relationships		
Cavanaugh (2023)	N = 19,261	USA (national)	0.8% bisexual women	Limited SMW	70.7% White 12% Black 10.9% Latinx 2.3% Indigenous 4.1% Asian	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Castro et al. (2020)	N=435;	Southwest USA	6.7% LGBT women	Limited SMW	91.52% White, 8.48% Non-white	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Charak et al. (2019)	N=288;	USA (national)	16% lesbian, 41.3% bisexual women	Mixed SMW	56.6% White Non-Latinx, 26.0% White Latinx 6.6% Black , 5.2% Asian, 4.2% Bi- or Multi-racial, 1.4% Indigenous	Majority White	SMW in the high victimization class reported the highest levels of alcohol use	People of color were more likely to be in the high victimization class compared to the lower victimization class among SMW	Not Reported
Chen et al. (2020)	N=32,512 ;	USA (national)	1.3% bisexual women 0.8% lesbian women	Mixed SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	SMW who reported heavy episodic drinking were more likely to experience IPV (IPV) compared to individuals who did not engage in heavy episodic drinking.	Not Reported	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
Closson, K. et al. (2023)	N=1588	South Africa	6.0% Lesbian, gay, bisexual, or questioning women (LGBQW):	Mixed SMW	73.0% Black 11.5% Coloured 15.6% White, Indian, or Asian	Majority Black	SM women who reported alcohol use once or twice per week or more during the pandemic had higher odds of perpetrating physical IPV (IPV) compared to those who reported less frequent alcohol use. 22.8% of LGBQW who drank once or twice per week or more perpetrated IPV, while only 9.5% of those who drank less frequently did	Black respondents having higher odds of experiencing and perpetrating physical IPV compared to other racial groups. Black respondents had greater odds of experiencing and perpetrating physical IPV during the COVID-19 pandemic in South Africa	SM women who were Black and reported alcohol use once or twice per week or more during the pandemic had higher odds of perpetrating physical IPV compared to those who were not Black and reported less frequent alcohol use.
Conron et al. (2010)	N=67,359	USA (Massachusetts)	0.1% lesbian 0.01% bisexual women	Mixed SMW	Gay or Lesbian Women: 87.2% White, non-Latinx (618) 4.5% Black, non-Latinx (35) 5.7% Latinx (46) 1.2% Asian (5) 1.5% Indigenous and other (15) Bisexual Women: 78.9% White, non-Latinx (330) 4.7% Black, non-Latinx (27) 9.3% Latinx (47) 5.7% Asian (14) 1.6% Indigenous and other (14)	Majority White	Bisexual women, in addition to reporting higher rates of binge drinking, were also more likely than heterosexual women to report lifetime experiences of intimate partner violence.	Not Reported	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
Coston (2017)	N=2,657	USA (national)	0.08% lesbian women, 18.7% bisexual women	Mixed SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Bisexual women with high scores on the more intersection identities such as race where more likely to report sexual violence	Not Reported
Coston (2019)	N=3,542	USA (national)	4.2% bisexual women	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	IPV victimization is linked to alcohol use as a coping mechanism	Not Reported	Not Reported
Coston (2020)	N=not reported	USA (national)	5.1% bisexual-identified/16.1% behaviorally bisexual women	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	The intersectional identity of BIPOC SMW does not cause a barrier to accessing support services and resources for IPV	Not Reported
Craft et al. (2008)	N=87; Midwestern USA	Midwestern USA	47% lesbian women	Mixed SMW	22% Black 63.4% White 14.6% Other	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Daigle and Hawk (2021)	N=232,458,335	USA (national);	among women 93.4% heterosexual, 6.6% LGB	Limited SMW	76% White 10% Black 10% Latinx 3% Other	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Dardis et al. (2017)	N=411	USA	4.4% lesbian, 3.9% bisexual women, 1.2% not sure, 1% other	Limited SMW	69.2% White LBQ Women Veterans (27) 30.8% Non-White LBQ Women Veterans (12)	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
De Wet-Billings (2024)	N=63,567	South Africa	100% SMW	All SMW	48,389 Black 2,388 White 217 Coloured 10,032 IndiaNot Reportedsian	Majority Black	Not Reported	Race was associated with an increased likelihood of violence among females in same-sex partnerships, with Black respondents having higher odds of	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
								experiencing IPV compared to other racial groups	
Descamps et al. (2000)	N=1,925;	USA (national)	100% lesbian	All SMW	88% Whites 6% Blacks 4% Asian Americans and Indigenous	Majority White	Lesbians who experienced abuse and violence had higher rates of substance use, leading to increased problem drinking and drug use	Latinx, Black and White lesbians experienced intimate partner violence at similar rates	Not Reported
Diaz (2023)	N= 1364	Mexico City	4.8% Bisexual Women 1.5% Lesbian Women	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	
Dyar et al. (2020)	N=368	Chicago, IL, USA	24.7% lesbian/gay, 39.7% bisexual, 10.3% queer, 18.2% pansexual,	Limited SMW	23.6% White (87) 38.6% Black (142) 24.7% Latinx (91) 13.0% Other (48)	Multiracial Sample	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Eaton et al. (2008)	N=226;	Atlanta, GA, USA	100% women who had a same-sex partner in last 5years	All SMW	81.3% White 10.4% Black 3.1% Latinx 2.1% Asian 3.1% Other	Majority White	Problematic alcohol use was significantly associated with being in the group of SMW who experienced IPV	Not Reported	Not Reported
Edwards et al. (2015)	N=6,030; .6% White	New England, USA;	14.4% behaviorally SMW	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	
Edwards et al. (2023)	N=11,361	National (USA)	47.2% Bisexual women 9.1% Lesbian	Mostly SMW	71.5% White 85.9% Latinx	Majority White	Sexual minority victims of IPV did not differ significantly from heterosexual victims in overall hazardous drinking	Not Reported	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
Eric, S et al. (2022)	N=155	Philippines	64.58% lesbian	Mostly SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Erickson et al. (2022)	N= 276	Vancouver	36.6% SMW	Mixed SMW	34.8% White 55.4% Indigenous 9. 8% Other	Majority Indigenous	The alcohol consumption and IPV can result in heightened stress levels, impaired memory, and challenges in effectively managing medication.	Not Reported	The alcohol consumption and IPV can exacerbate the obstacles faced by Indigenous women living with HIV in adhering to antiretroviral therapy (ART).
Everett et al. (2022)	N=10,328	National (USA)	1.0% Exclusively heterosexual-WSW 1.9% Bisexual	Limited SMW	58.3% Non-Latinx White 21.6% Non-Latinx Black 13.6% Latinx 6.5% Other race/ethnicity	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Fedele et al. (2022)	N=400	Canada,	36.8% of participants were not strictly attracted to women (identified as bisexual, heterosexual, or other). 27.8% of participants were gender diverse	Mixed SMW	80.9% White 2.4% Black 1.4% Indigenous /First Nations 2.4% Asian 1.4% Middle Eastern 1.4% Latinx 10.0% Mixed race/ethnicity	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Flentje et al. (2016)	N=1,027;	San Francisco, CA, USA;	5.5% lesbian women, 6.4% bisexual women, 2.0% queer or other	Limited SMW	Lesbian: 7.1% Asian American/ Pacific Islander 46.4% Black 1.8% Multiracial 1.8% Indigenous 16.1% Other race/ not specified 26.8% White Bisexual:	Majority Black	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
					9.1% Asian American/ Pacific Islander 34.9% Black/ Black 10.6% Multiracial 1.5% Indigenous 16.7% Other race/ not specified 27.3% White				
Fortuna and Kohn (2003)	N=92;	San Francisco, CA, USA;	100% lesbian women	All SMW	83% White 17% Other (BIPOC)	Majority White	Lesbian batterers were more likely to report alcohol problems and higher rates of substance abuse compared to non-batterers.	Not Reported	Not Reported
Gabbay and Lafontaine (2017)	N=310;	Canada and USA	31.0% lesbian women, 18.1% bisexual women, 16.5% other	Mixed SMW	41.2% Black 8.5% Indigenous 4.2% Asian 4.2% Latinx 3% Pacific Islander 3% Middle Eastern	Majority Black	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Gaman et al. (2017)	N=214;	USA (national)	8.4% female–female couples	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Glick et al. (2020)	N=247;	MD, USA;	25.5% sexual minority-identified women	Limited SMW	Identity: 58.7% White (37) 41.3% Black, Latinx, Other (26) Behavior: 42.9% White (9) 56.1% Black, Latinx, Other (12)	Majority White	SMW sex workers reported higher use of alcohol during sexual encounters which was linked to high rates of physical IPV	Not Reported	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
Goldberg and Meyer (2013)	N=30,373	California, USA;	0.9% lesbian women, 0.8% bisexual women, 0.3% WSW	Limited SMW	Lesbian: 64.1% White 10.6% Latinx 8.9% Black 16.3% Other Bisexual: 56.6% White 16.1% Latinx 5.3% Black 22.1% Other WSW: 52.2% White 22.9% Latinx 7.2% Black 17.8% Other	Majority White	Alcohol use, (binge drinking) was related to IPV among SMW.	Latinx women were less likely to experience lifetime and 1-year IPV compared to white women. Black women were more likely to experience lifetime and 1-year IPV	Latinx who binge drink were less likely to experience lifetime and 1-year IPV compared to white women
Graham et al. (2019)	N=4,081	USA (national)	1.5% women in same-sex relationships	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	
Grocott, L. et al. (2023)	N=230	National (USA)	20.9% lesbian	Limited SMW	87.8% White 9.4% Black 7.9% Asian 6.9% Multiracial 9.1% Latinx	Majority White	Alcohol use was associated with an increased risk of IPV victimization among SMW..	Not Reported	Not Reported
Harper et al. (2021)	N=527;	Kenya	24.9% cisgender SMW	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Majority Black	Alcohol use was associated with experiences of violence among SMW in Kenya	Not Reported	There is a link between elevated alcohol use among Kenyan (Black) SMW experiencing of intimate partner violence and sexual/gender minority-based violence

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
Heintz and Melendez (2006)	N=58;	New York, NY, USA	19% lesbian-identified WSW	Limited SMW	35% Latinx 25.5% Black 23.5% White 16% Multiethnic, Asian and/or Pacific Islander, Arab, or Indigenous	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Hellemans et al. (2015)	Sample 1 N=1,690, Sample 2 N=2,401; Flanders,	Belgium	Sample 1= 5% nonheterosexual Sample 2=women in sample 1, 36% in sample 2	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	SMW with a history of IPV reported increased rates of alcohol abuse compared to those without IPV experiences. IPV victimization was associated with higher levels of alcohol use among SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported
Hirschel and McCormack (2021)	N=2,625, 75	USA (national)	2.1% female couples	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Holmes et al. (2020)	N=398;	Midwestern USA;	18.6% women with at least some degree of same-sex attraction	Limited SMW	72.7% Non-Latinx White 13.6% Black 5.3% Latinx 3.6% Asian/Pacific Islander 0/8% Arab 6.6% Multiracial	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Hubbell, J.T. et al. (2024)	N=284,614 Same sex female: 4,029	National (USA)	1.42% lesbian	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
Hughes et al. (2010)	N=34,653	USA (national)	0.4% lesbian women, 0.5% bisexual women, 0.3% women who are not sure about sexual identity	Limited SMW	70.91% White 11.05% Black 2.19% Indigenous 4.27% Asian or Pacific Islander 1.19% Latinx	Majority White	SMW had elevated rates of victimization, including childhood sexual and physical abuse, partner violence, and non-partner violence, which were linked to higher likelihoods of substance use disorders in sexual minority women.	Not Reported	Not Reported
Ireland et al. (2017)	N=287	Australia;	84.9% lesbian, gay, or homosexual, 9% bisexual, 6.1% other (full sample)	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Jacobs on et al. (2015)	N=278	USA (national)	55.4% LGBTQ-identified women	Mixed SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Jones and Raghavan (2012)	N=114	Northeast USA	23.7% LGB women	Limited SMW	63.6% Latinx 12.7% Black 10.9% White 12.7% Other	Majority Latinx	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Kelley et al. (2015)	N=819	USA (national)	71.1% only lesbian, 26.7% mostly lesbian, 2.2% other, 0.5% prefer not to answer	All SMW	79.1% White 8.9% Black 0.7% Indigenous 4.3% Some other race alone 1.3% Two or more races 1.1% Prefer not to answer	Majority White	Both types of psychological aggression and the alcohol quantity discrepancy were significantly linked to lower relationship satisfaction. When the partner consumed a greater quantity of alcohol, the relationship	Not Reported	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
							satisfaction was actually higher.		
Kelly et al. (2011)	N=2,200	New York and Los Angeles, USA;	19% lesbian or bisexual women	Limited SMW	57.1% White 10.6% Black 20.2% Latinx 12.1% Asian/Pacific Islander/Other	Majority White	Alcohol use was linked to physical and verbal aggression among lesbian women and their same-sex partners.	Not Reported	Not Reported
Kimerling et al. (2016)	N=6,287	USA (national)	7% lesbian or bisexual women	Limited SMW	66.7% White 22.6% Black 10.0% Other	Majority White	Alcohol use was not significantly associated with past-year IPV among SMW	Not Reported	Race/ethnicity was not significantly associated with alcohol use and IPV among SMW
Lehavot et al. (2009)	N=152	USA (national)	USA; 38% lesbian, 45% bisexual women, 17% two-spirit	Mostly SMW	100% Indigenous	All Indigenous	Alcohol use was associated with higher levels of childhood trauma and IPV among SMW.	The rates of physical assault and experiencing sexual assault were higher for two-spirit women when compared to the general population and mainly heterosexual Native, lesbian, and bisexual women.	Increased alcohol use is associated with IPV victimization among two-spirit women
Leone (2022)	N=326	National (United States)	84.0% Lesbian 45.7% Only attracted to women 48.5% Mostly attracted to women	Mostly SMW	71.5% White 88.3% Latinx/Spanish Origin	Majority White	Partner hazardous alcohol use was associated with higher levels of psychological perpetration but not physical perpetration among SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
Lewis et al. (2014)	N=220	East, Midwest, South, and West USA	100% lesbian women	All SMW	2% Black (5) <1% Asian or Pacific Islander 1% Mixed (3) <1% Indigenous (2) 95% White (209)	Majority White	N/A	Not Reported	Not Reported
Lewis et al. (2015)	N=414; USA; 74.9% only lesbian, 23.4% mostly lesbian, 1.7% other	USA (national)	74.9% only lesbian, 23.4% mostly lesbian, 1.7% other	All SMW	8.7% Black (36) 0.5% American Indian and Alaska native (2) 3.6% Asian or Pacific Islander (15) 0.2% Indigenous and other Pacific Islander(2) 80.9% White (335)	Majority White	Both emotional distress and alcohol use were identified as risk factors for bidirectional partner violence among lesbian women	Not Reported	Not Reported
Lewis et al. (2017)	N=1,051	USA (national)	100% lesbian women	All SMW	77.6% White (813) 10.4% Black (108) 1% Indigenous (11) 4.1% Asian (43) .3% Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander (3) 4.1% Some other race alone (4.1%) 1.4% Two or more races (15) 1.1% Prefer not to answer (12)	Majority White	Alcohol use among lesbian women was associated with IPV (IPV) through psychological aggression and anger. Partner alcohol use was linked to more partner physical violence, highlighting its role in the occurrence of physical violence within lesbian	Not Reported	Not Reported
Lewis et al. (2018)	N=1,052	USA (national)	100% lesbian women	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Discrepant alcohol use in lesbian couples was linked to increased psychological aggression over time, indicating a potential risk factor for IPV. Both psychological and physical aggression predicted later differences in	Not Reported	Not Reported

Study	Sample Size	Location	Sexual Identity Sample Demographics	Sexual Identity Sample Representation	Racial /Identity Sample Demographics	Racial Identity Sample Representation	Key Findings regarding alcohol use and IPV	Key Findings Regarding Racial or Ethnic Differences in IPV	Key Findings Regarding Race/Ethnicity, Alcohol use and IPV
							drinking patterns, suggesting a cyclical relationship between IPV and alcohol use		
Lin et al. (2020)	N=225	China	100% lesbian women	All SMW	100% Asian	Majority Asian	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Lin, K et al. (2023)	N=225	China	100% lesbian	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Lo (2023)	N=428	Hong Kong	100% lesbian	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Longares et al. (2016)	N=357	Spain	42% lesbian women	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Mak et al. (2010)	N=339	Hong Kong;	64.3% SMW	Mostly SMW	95.9% Chinese individuals 0.9% Other Asians 2.1% White 1.2% multiracial	Mostly Asian	Alcohol use was significantly associated with experiencing IPV among SMW in Hong Kong. Women who reported alcohol use were more likely to be victims of psychological aggression, physical assault, and sexual coercion	Not Reported	Not Reported
Mason et al. (2014)	N=342	USA (national)	83.3% only lesbian, 16.7% mostly lesbian	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported

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McCaulley et al. (2015)	N=3,455	Western PA, USA	9.6% WSWM	Limited SMW	80.6% White, 13% Black/, 6.4% other racial/ethnic groups	Majority White	Not Reported	Women who identified as multiracial/ethnic were more likely to report IPV victimization compared to white women	Not Reported
McKenry et al. (2006)	N=77	Midwestern USA;	48.1% lesbian women	Mixed SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Alcohol use was prevalent among both perpetrators and nonperpetrators of violence in lesbian relationships.	Not Reported	Not Reported
McNair et al. (2018)	N=521;	Australia	57.0% lesbian, 17.1% bisexual, 18.0% queer/pansexual, 6.9% other	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Low levels of service use for alcohol-related problems despite high levels of risky drinking among SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported
Messinger (2011)	N=14,182 ;	USA (national)	1% SMW	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Messinger et al. (2019)	N=457	IL, USA;	24.1% lesbian, 37.6% bisexual, 12.3% queer, 17.9% pansexual, 8.1% other sexual identity	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported

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Miller et al. (2001)	N=284;	Southeast USA	100% lesbian women	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Alcohol use is higher among SMW who experience IPV compared to those who do not. Alcohol use was found to be associated with increased severity of IPV	Black and Latina women were found to report higher rates of IPV compared to White women	alcohol use and IPV was more prevalent among Black and Latina SMW compared to White women
Milletich et al. (2014)	N=209	USA (national)	55.5% lesbian, 30.6% bisexual, 13.9% heterosexual or straight (100% had past year)	Mostly SMW	66.0% White (non-Latinx) 18.9% Black 4.9% Latinx 0.5% Asian American 0.5% Indigenous 3.4% Other	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Mize and Shackelford (2008)	N=51,007	USA (national)	0.3% women with same-sex partners	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Moracco et al. (2007)	N=1,800	USA (national)	2.3% lesbian/bisexual women	Limited SMW	81.6% White 9.1% Black: 1.9% Biracial 1.9% Multiracial: 1.4% Indigenous 1.2% Asian 2.9% Other 4.8% Latinx	Majority White	Not Reported	Ethnic minority group status was not a significant risk factor for any type of violence. The prevalence and patterns of violence did not vary significantly across different racial or ethnic groups	

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Muzny et al. (2018)	N=165	Birmingham, AL, USA;	50.9% lesbian 44.2% bisexual 1.2% heterosexual	Mostly SMW	100% Black	All Black	IPV was associated with alcohol/drug use during sex and STI history	IPV was associated with higher rates of depressive symptoms, incarceration, and risky sexual behaviors among Black women who have sex with women Black women were at higher risk for severe IPV compared to women of other racial/ethnic backgrounds.	Among African American Women who have sex with women (AAWSW) and have a history of IPV, there was a 42% elevated risk of engaging in alcohol or drug use during sexual encounters with women.
Oginni et al. (2021)	N=9,697	UK	48.9% exclusively heterosexual female, 9.2% mostly heterosexual female, 1.6% bisexual female, 1.3% mostly gay/lesbian female, 1.3% exclusively gay/ lesbian female	Mixed SMW	Not Reported	N.A	alcohol use and IPV IPV was higher for gay men	Not Reported	Not Reported
Oswald (2022)	N=677	National (USA)	13.5% SMW	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Sexual minority identity was a more prominent risk factor for IPV compared to alcohol use	Not Reported	Not Reported
Owen and Burke (2004)	N=66	Virginia, USA;	50% SMW	Mixed SMW	89.4% Euro-American 4.5% Black 1.5%, Latinx 1.5%) Indigenous 1.5% other racial identities	Majority White	Not Reported	Among Black, Latinx, Indigenous, and other racial identities there was not a significant differences based on race or ethnicity reported in the rates of IPV	Not Reported

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Pepper and Sand (2015)	N=40	location unspecified	72.5% lesbian, 12.5% bisexual, 10% did not self identify, 2.5% queer	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Pittman et al. (2020)	N=9,435	USA (national)	5.1% Bisexual: 1.1% Lesbian: 7.1% Asexual 1.5% Pansexual 1.5% Questioning 0.4% Other	Limited SMW	7.1% White 6.7% Black 5.4% Latinx 5.8% AAPI (Asian American and Pacific Islander) 9.8% Multiracial: 0.5% Indigenous	Majority White	Heavy alcohol use is associated with a higher likelihood of perpetrating or experiencing violence in various contexts	Latinx SMW had the highest risk of emotional and physical IPV compared to other racial or ethnic groups. Latinx and Black SMW, were at increased risk for physical IPV compared to white heterosexual SMW white	Increased risk of IPV victimization among Latinx SMW is linked to alcohol and drug abuse
Poorman and Seelau (2001)	N=15	USA (national)	100% lesbian	All SMW	86% were Anglo-Americans	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Pyra et al. (2014)	N=1,743	NYC, Chicago, DC, and San Francisco	7.8% bisexual women, 4.7% lesbian	Limited SMW	lesbian white=12.6% Black= 62.1% Latinx= 22.3% other= 2.9% bisexual white= 12.1% Black=61.9% Latinx= 20.2% other=5.8% wsw white=11.5% Black= 59.8% Latinx=25.3% other=3.5% wsmw white= 11.1% Black= 71.1% Latinx= 13.3% other= 4.4%	Majority Black	There is an increased likelihood of experiencing psychological IPV among bisexual women, in comparison to heterosexual women, due to increased involvement in high-risk sexual behavior and alcohol use	Not Reported	Not Reported

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Rausch (2016a)	N=87	USA and Canada	100% lesbian or queer	All SMW	90% White 3% Latinx 2% Black 2% Asian 1% India Not Reported Alaska Native 1% Multiracial	Majority White	SMW reporting three or more alcoholic drinks per day had a significantly higher occurrence of current adult abuse	Not Reported	Not Reported
Reisner et al. (2013)	N=2,653	Boston, MA, USA	8.9% lesbian; 2.6% bisexual women, 2.4% other non heterosexual women	Limited SMW	Lesbian 87.3% (207) White 8.4% (20) Black 2.1% (5) Latinx 2.1% (5) Other race/ethnicity Bisexual 78.3% (207) White 10.1% (20) Black 1.5% (5) Latinx 10.1% (5) Other race/ethnicity	Majority White	Alcohol use completely mediated the link between experiencing IPV and engaging in a higher number of sexual relationships throughout their lifetime among SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported

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					Other non heterosexual 60.3% (207) White 4.8% (20) Black 6.4% (5) Latinx 28.6% (5)Other race/ethnicity				
Reuter et al. (2017)	N=172;	Chicago, IL, USA	29.4% lesbian, 32.9% bisexual, 7.7% questioning/ unsure/other (across all genders)	All SMW	11.6% Latinx 58.1% Black 13.4% White 16.8% Other	Majority Black	Alcohol use was not associated with IPV among SMW in this study. Lesbian-identified young adults were not at a higher risk for alcohol use compared to gay, bisexual, and other identities.	Black young adults were at higher risk for experiencing physical IPV compared to White, Latino, and other racial groups. Racial/ethnic minorities were more likely to experience verbal and physical IPV than White individuals	Black young adults were at higher risk for alcohol use and physical IPV compared to other racial groups. Racial/ethnic minorities were more likely to experience alcohol use and IPV than White individuals.
Ronzón - Tirado (2022)	N= 288	Madrid and Rio Grande Valley	16.7% Lesbian	Limited SMW	56% White 26% White Latinx 6.6% Black 5.2% Asian 4.2% Bi- or multi-racial 1.4% American Indian Not Reported Alaska Native	Majority White	Not Reported	Individuals from racial or ethnic minority groups are at a higher risk of experiencing IPV compared to non-Latinx White individuals.	Not Reported
Sarno (2023)	N=488	Chicago, IL	53.4% Bisexual 23.65% Lesbian/gay 13.1% Queer 4.3% Unsure/questioning 1.4% Asexual 1.2% Straight/heterosexual	All SMW	34.8% Black 26% White 24.9% Hispanic 8.6% Multiracial 4.9% Asian 1.0% Other	Multiracial Sample	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported

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Scheer and Baams (2021)	N=354;	USA	50.8% sexual minority cisgender women	Mixed SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Scheer et al. (2020)	N=42,000 ;	28 European Union member states	1.7% SMW	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Scheer, J.R et al. (2022)	N=42,000	28 countries in the European Union	1.7% sexual minority women	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Schwab-Reese et al. (2021)	N=9,828;	USA	1.5% bisexual, 0.8% mostly homosexual, 1.3% 100% homosexual	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Steele et al. (2020)	N=608;	Chicago, IL, USA	57.1% exclusively lesbian; 16.1% mostly lesbian, 25.8% bisexual	All SMW	White 37.01% Black 37.83% Latinx 25.16%	Multiracial Sample	Not Reported	Black and Latina participants reported higher rates of severe IPV than white women.	Not Reported
Stevens et al. (2010)	N=434	Tucson, AZ,	5.5% lesbian	Limited SMW	34% (146) Latinx 32% (140) White 17% (72) Indigenous 12% (51) Black 3% (15) Multiracial	Multiracial Sample	The frequencies of threatening with a dangerous object and beats when drinking were higher for the heterosexual self-perpetrator group compared to the lesbian self-perpetrator group.	Not Reported	Not Reported

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Sutter et al. (2019)	N=150	location not specified	38.7% lesbian, 32.7% bisexual women, 28.6% queer or other women	All SMW	29.3% non-Latinx White/European American 26.0% non- Latinx Black 16.7% Asian/Pacific Islander 11.3% Latino/Latinx 2.7% Indigenous 12.7% Multiracial/Multiethnic 1.3% Other	Multiracial Sample	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Swann et al. (2020)	N=433	USA	38.1% bisexual, 21.5% lesbian, 17.3% pansexual, 11.8% queer, 3.7% questioning, 3.0% gay, 1.8% asexual, 1.4% straight, 1.4% other	Mostly SMW	36.0% Black (156) 25.4% /Latinx (110) 24.9% White (108) 8.3% Multi-Racial (36) 4.2% Asian/Pacific Islander (18)	Multiracial Sample	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Swann, G et al. (2022)	N=249	Illinois	26.1%Lesbian: 40.2% Bisexual 15.7% Pansexual 8.0% Queer 4.0%Unsure/Questioning 0.8% Asexual 2.0% Not Listed	All SMW	36.1% Black 29.3% Latinx 10.0% Asian 14.6% Multiracial	Multiracial Sample	Alcohol consumption was found to be connected to elevated levels of IPV occurrence and victimization within the SMW community. Bisexual women who admitted to consuming alcohol had higher rates of both perpetrating and experiencing IPV. The use of alcohol was identified as a contributing factor to the heightened	Black and Latinx sexual minority women experienced higher rates of IPV (IPV) perpetration and victimization compared to Asian women. Black women had the highest rates of IPV perpetration and victimization among racial groups. Latinx women were more likely to report IPV perpetration and victimization compared to Asian women	Black and Latinx sexual minority women had higher rates of alcohol use and IPV perpetration and victimization compared to Asian women. Black women had the highest rates of alcohol use and IPV perpetration and victimization among racial groups. Latinx women were more likely to report alcohol use and IPV perpetration and

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							risk of IPV perpetration and victimization for both SMW.		victimization compared to Asian women
Swiatlo et al. (2020)	N=13,653	USA	8.4% mostly heterosexual women, 1.2% bisexual women, 0.9% homosexual women	Limited SMW	67% White Females 16% Black Females 12% Latinx Females 6% Other	Majority White	Alcohol use was connected to an elevated probability of perpetrating physical violence among both males and females. There was no significant association found between alcohol use and other forms of violence perpetration or victimization.	Not Reported	Not Reported
Szalacha et al. (2017)	N=8,850	Australia	6.4% mainly heterosexual women, 1.1% bisexual women, 1.1% mainly or exclusively lesbian	Limited SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Alcohol use was associated with increased vulnerability to interpersonal violence among sexual minority women	Not Reported	Not Reported
Telesco (2003)	N=105	New York, NY, USA	100% lesbian women	All SMW	22% Black lesbians 11% Latino lesbians	Not reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Tognasso (2022)	N=325	Italy	100% lesbian	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Trombetta, T et al. (2023)	N=120	Italy	39.2% Lesbian:	Mixed SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported

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Trujillo et al. (2020)	N=277	USA	17% lesbian, 43% bisexual women	Mixed SMW	Race-ethnic minority of SMW (7.6%) Lesbian (21) (18.6%) Bisexual women (50)	Multiracial Sample	Exposure to multiple types of cyber IPV was linked to higher alcohol use. Psychological and stalking cyber IPV did not show significant associations with alcohol use	SMW from racial and ethnic minority groups who are survivors of sexual assault during adulthood have been identified as risk factors for alcohol use.	Latinx SMW with a history of sexual IPV victimization was associated with increase alcohol use
Tubman, J. G. (2023)	N=452	National (USA)	44.9% lesbian 55.1% bisexual	All SMW	Lesbian participants: 20.1% Black 63.2% White 6.9% Asian, Pacific Islander, or Desi: 2.9% Indigenous Nation: 3.9% Biracial or Multiracial: 2.9% Other racial group: 20.2% Latinx: Bisexual participants: 16.1% Black 68.3%White 2.0% Asian, Pacific Islander, or Desi: 1.6% Indigenous 8.4% Biracial or Multiracial: 3.6% Other racial group: 18.1% Latinx	Majority White	SMW might resort to alcohol as a means of dealing with the specific stressors associated with their sexual minority status or to navigate challenges within their relationships. But the use of substances in such circumstances can amplify the likelihood of interpersonal violence by diminishing inhibitions and potentially intensifying conflicts.	Not Reported	Not Reported

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Turell (2000)	N=499	Southeast USA;	39% lesbian, 11% gay women	Mixed SMW	75% White 9% Black 8% Latinx 4% Multi-ethnic people (18) 3% Indigenous (13) 1% Asian People (3)	Majority White	Not Reported	Significant differences in physical abuse and coercion among different ethnic groups, with Indigenous women reporting the highest frequencies. Whites and Latinos reported equal frequencies of physical abuse, followed by Black women.	Not Reported
Turell et al. (2018)	N=439	USA	47% bisexual women	Mixed SMW	Black-Female 7 Trans woman 0 Asian-Female 4 Trans woman 0 Latino - Female 6 Indigenous - Female 2 Multi-racial-Female 11	Multiracial Sample	Not Reported	Black participants reported higher levels of IPV perpetration and victimization compared to other racial identities in the study.	Not Reported
Ummak et al. (2021)	N=449	Denmark and Turkey	54.3% lesbian women, 45.7% bisexual women	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Unmak, E et al. (2023)	Turkey:N =152 Demark:N =257	Denmark and Turkey	Turkey: 40.1% lesbian 59.9% bisexual Denmark: 63.0% lesbian 37.0% bisexual	All SMW	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported

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Valentine et al. (2015)	N=341 76.5% lesbian, 23.5% bisexual women	MA, USA	76.5% lesbian, 23.5% bisexual women	All SMW	85.3% White/European American (291) 8.5% Black/Black (29) 2.3% Asian (8) 1.8% Latinx (6) 2.1% Other (7)	Majority White	SMW who reported problematic alcohol use had 6.4 times higher odds of reporting partner violence compared to SMW without such alcohol use issues.	Not Reported	Not Reported
Valentine et al. (2017)	N=7,572	MA, USA	5.3% lesbian, 2.4% bisexual women, 3.4% "something else/don't know"	Limited SMW	74.4% White 7.6% Black 2.9% Multiple Race: 0.3% Indigenous 6.1% Asian 0.7% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander 1.6% Other: 6.5% Refused or unknown	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Velopulos et al. (2019)	N=6,348	USA	0.7% women in same-sex pairings	Limited SMW	55% Non-Latinx White women 28% Black women:	Majority White	Incidents in same-sex pairings were more likely to involve alcohol use, indicating a potential contributing factor to the violence in these relationships.	Not Reported	Not Reported
Wathen et al. (2018)	N=7,918	Canada;	2.9% SMW	Limited SMW	4.5% (n= 360) identified as an Indigenous person of Canada		Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Webermann (2023)	N=263	National (United States)	11% Lesbian or Bisexual	Limited SMW	Not Reported		Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Whitehead et al. (2020)	N=346,565	Canada	2% female victim and female accused.	Limited SMW	Not Reported		Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Whitfield et al. (2021)	N=88,975	USA;	cisgender women 1.7% lesbian 4.5% bisexual	Limited SMW	66.64% White 8.76% Asian 7.85% Latinx	Majority White	Not Reported	Black participants had higher odds of reporting emotional	Not Reported

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			2.1% unsure		5.20% Black 11.55% Other			and physical IPV compared to White participants, while Asian participants had lower odds of reporting emotional and sexual IPV	
Whitton et al. (2021)	N=308; USA; 27.6% gay/lesbian, 55.5% bisexual/pansexual, 16.9% other AFAB	USA;	27.6% gay/lesbian, 55.5% bisexual/pansexual, 16.9% other AFAB	All SMW	13.8% White = 34 (13.8) Black/Black = 141 (57.3) Latinx = 28 (11.4) Other = 43 (17.5)	Majority Black	Not Reported	Black SGM individuals were more likely to experience all types of IPV compared to White participants, with Latinx individuals also at increased risk for certain types of IPV.	Not Reported
Whitton, Dyar, et al. (2019)	N=488	Chicago, IL	23.6% lesbian, 37.1% bisexual, 13.1% queer, 16.8% pansexual, 4.3% questioning, 2.5% asexual, 1.4% other	All SMW	23.3% (82) White 37.8% (133) Black 26.4% (93) Latinx 12.5% (44) Other	Majority White	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
Whitton, Newcomb, et al. (2019)	N=248 Chicago, IL, USA	Chicago, IL, USA	27.9% lesbian, 28.7% bisexual, 9.4% questioning (full sample)	Mostly SMW	43.2% (133) Black 30.2% (93) Latinx 26.6% (82) White	Majority Black	Not Reported	Race/ethnicity moderated the trajectories of physical IPV among LGBTQ+ youth	Not Reported
Wong et al. (2020)	N=477, Hawai'i, USA; 54.9% gay, 36.1% lesbian, 16.6% bisexual/pansexual/queer/other	Hawai'i, USA	36.1% lesbian, 16.6% bisexual/pansexual/queer/other	Mixed SMW	36.5% White 26.2% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander 12.2% multiracial 7.1% Asian 9.4% Latinx 8.2% Black	Multiracial Sample	Not Reported	Black individuals were most likely to report a history of physical IPV, with a significantly higher odds ratio compared to other racial groups	Not Reported

