

Risky Behaviours in Youth



Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Health and Human Services

What aspects of youths' environments have an impact on their engagement in risky behaviours?

Discussion



- The P.A.R.T.Y Program has been successfully reducing the risk-related behaviors in Canada since 1989
- As nursing students, we are aware of the need for health promotion, and through our assessment, noticed a gap in the research on why youth take risks
- For programs like these to have the most impact, factors causing youth to take risks need to be considered
- Our literature review will provide insight into which factors most influence youth to engage in risk-related behaviors
- Our findings can be used to inform changes that could be made to improve the P.A.R.T.Y Program

P.A.R.T.Y Program

Prevent Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth

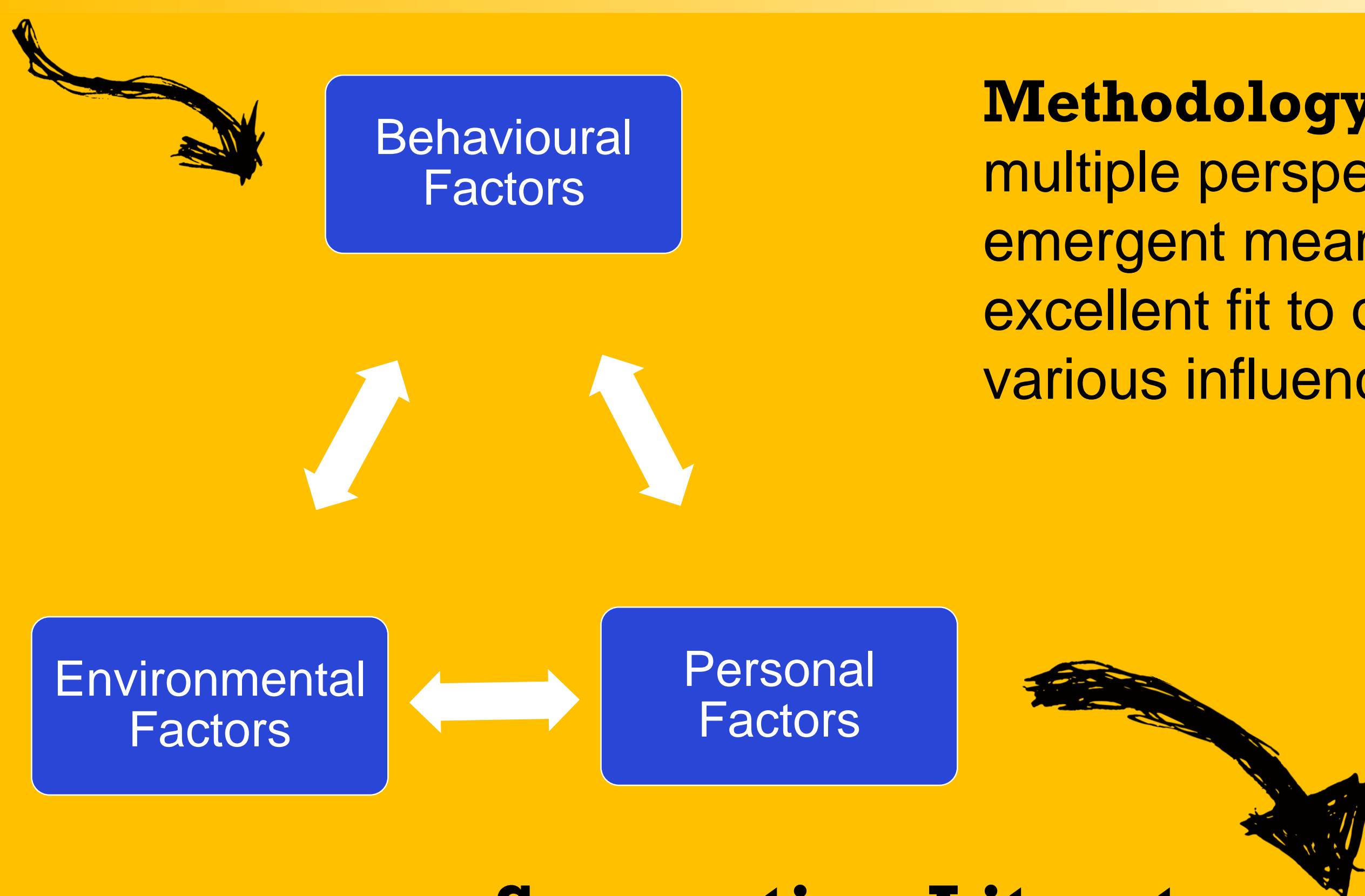
This program designed for Grade 10 students invites health care providers, related professionals, and crash survivors to share their experiences surrounding risk-related trauma. Nurses teach the trauma station, which aims to inform the students about the reality of the trauma patient's experience in the Emergency Room.

Bandura's Social Learning Theory:

In society, adolescents are influenced by a variety of environments and role models such as family members, characters on TV, teachers, and peer groups. This theory acknowledges that there are multiple different social factors that are involved in the risk-taking behaviours of youth, which is reflected in the central themes identified in the supporting literature and chosen methodology.

Other Things to Consider

- What do youth consider to be risk-taking behaviour?
- Why is the PARTY program taught in Grade 10?
- How does the PARTY program address the factors that influence youth to take risks?

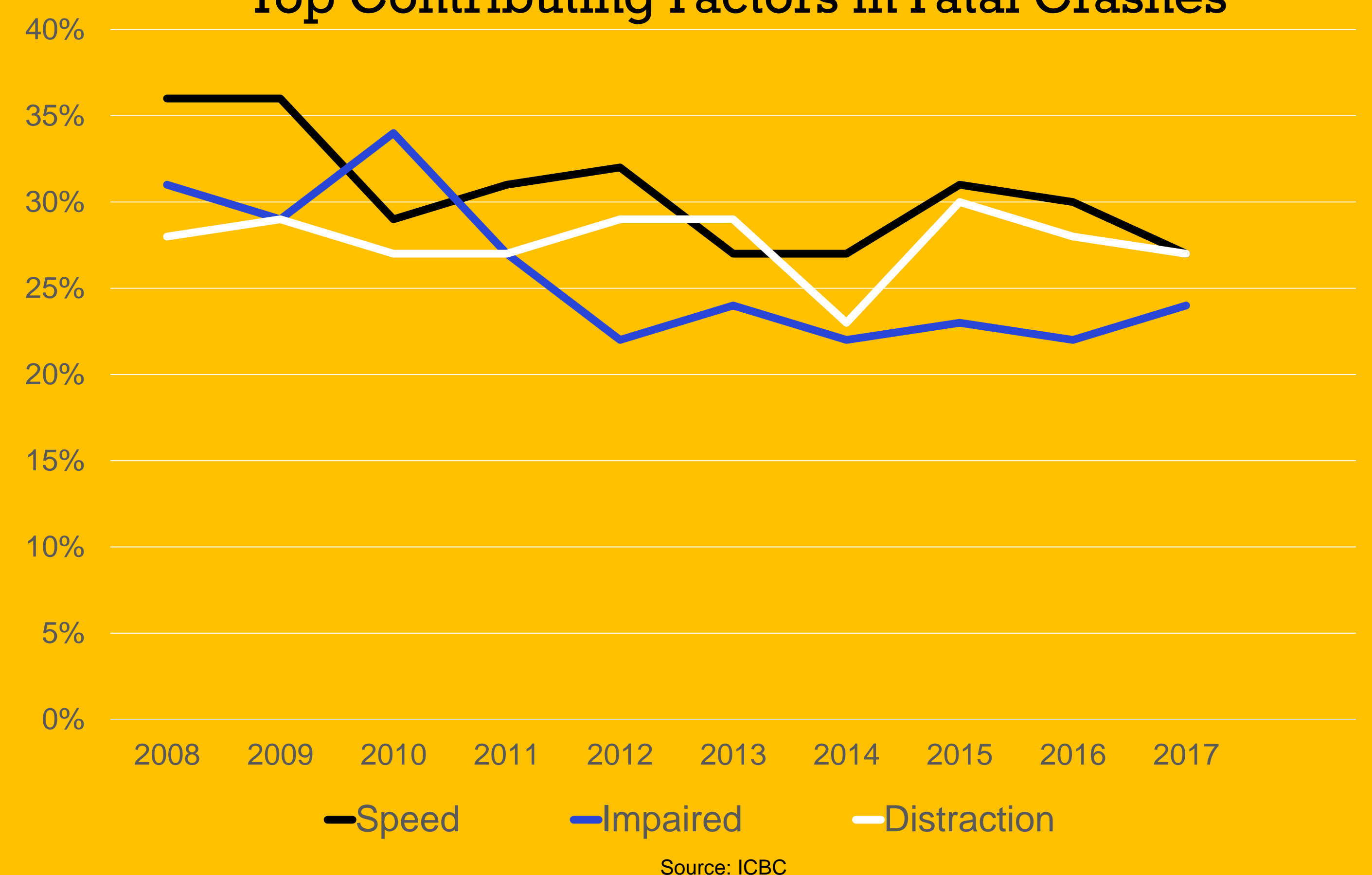


Methodology - Constructivist Grounded Theory: considers processes, seeks multiple perspectives, locates experience in its social context, and studies emergent meanings and actions, and how each affects the other. This is an excellent fit to our use of social learning theory and pursuit of understanding the various influences in youth risk-taking behaviour.

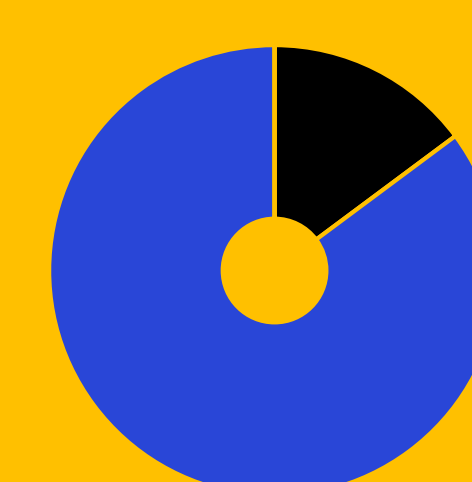
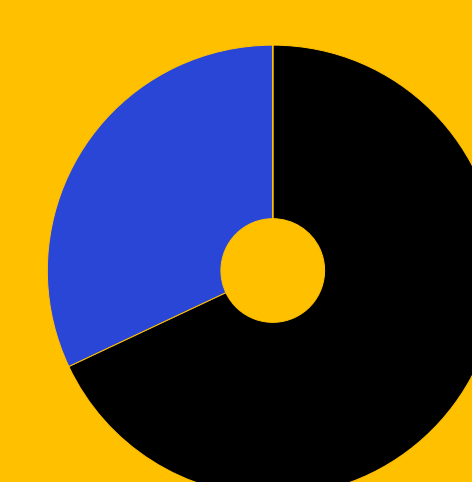
Supporting Literature

- The 3 central themes of youth risk behaviour are: cognitive/personal factors (beliefs, norms, pressures, ability to engage in/avoid risk), behavioural factors (refusal-skills, interpersonal competence), and social/environmental factors (interaction with high-risk peers, healthy role models, socialization agents) (Wolfe, Jaffe & Crooks, 2006)
- Adolescent risk behaviour is often attributed to a lack of knowledge and an underlying belief of invincibility, but both have little correlation to risk in the research (Romer, 2003)
- Youth act based on their beliefs about appropriate behaviour, their values (other's opinions of them), their risk perception, and the degree that they reflect on their options (Romer, 2003)
- The prefrontal cortex (controls emotions, impulse restraint, and rational decision making) develops until age 25, introducing a physiological component to risk (Wolfe, Jaffe, & Crooks, 2006)

Top Contributing Factors in Fatal Crashes



Quick Statistics



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Nursing 313: Nursing Inquiry
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