

# ONE FOOT IN THE RAVE:

AGEING RAVERS' TRANSITIONS TO ADULTHOOD AND THEIR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN POST-RAVE EVENTS AND DRUG TAKING

Dr Lisa Williams\*, School of Law, University of Manchester and Dr Beate Peter, Department of Languages, Information and Communications, Manchester Metropolitan University



The University of Manchester

### **BACKGROUND**





Changing Lives, Changing Drug Journeys Drug taking decisions from adolescence to adulthood Lisa Williams Capyrighted Material





Biot police 5,000 descend on attacked at Acid House party acid party

SHOCK Drugs party cip-off aided 5000 crackdown

quiet by police

ment and send statement.

# FD OUT





It's groovy and cool-it's our Acid House T-shirt!



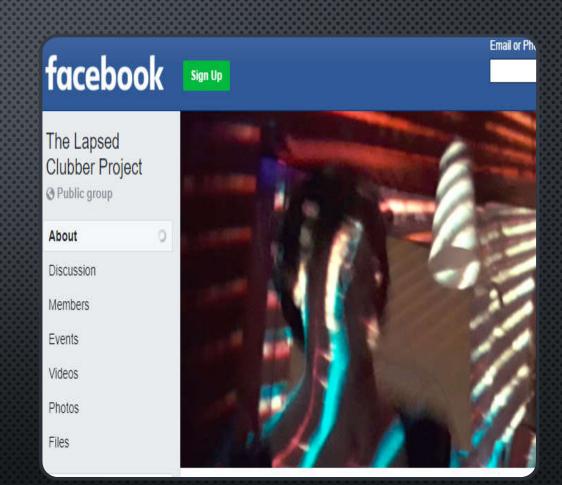






### RESEARCH DESIGN

- ONLINE SURVEY COLLECTED DATA
   ABOUT CLUBBING, DRUG TAKING AND
   TRANSITIONS TO ADULTHOOD
- ADMINISTERED VIA THE LAPSED CLUBBER FACEBOOK GROUP
- CONVENIENCE/SELF-SELECTING SAMPLE









### THE SAMPLE

- N=275
- GENDER EVENLY BALANCED
- AGE RANGE: 35-61; MEAN 44.31
- HALF ARE EDUCATED TO HIGHER EDUCATION LEVEL
- MAJORITY (93%) EMPLOYED
- TWO-THIRDS ARE MARRIED/IN A LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP; A FIFTH ARE SINGLE
- Just under two-thirds are parents



The University of Manchester

•ONE-THIRD ARE LAPSED CLUBBERS

•TWO-THIRDS ARE CURRENT CLUBBERS





# PREVALENCE OF DRUG TAKING, PATTERNS AND FREQUENCY

#### RAVING/CLUBBING AND DRUG TAKING GO HAND-IN-HAND

- MAJORITY (96%) DRUG TAKERS WHEN RAVING/CLUBBING BETWEEN 1985-95
- 2016: **61%** Current drug takers; **73%** of current clubbers were current drug takers compared to **42%** of lapsed clubbers

#### PATTERNS OF DRUG TAKING CHANGED OVER TIME

- 1985-95: MDMA/ECSTASY, AMPHETAMINES, CANNABIS, LSD AND AMYL NITRATE
- 2016: COCAINE, MDMA/ECSTASY, CANNABIS, MAGIC MUSHROOMS AND AMPHETAMINES

#### FREQUENCY OF DRUG TAKING 2016

- A FIFTH TOOK DRUGS ONCE PER MONTH OR MORE
- MOST COMMON FREQUENCY WAS 2-6 TIMES PER YEAR
- TWICE AS MANY CURRENT CLUBBERS (38%) TAKE DRUGS 2-6 TIMES PER YEAR OR AT LEAST ONCE
  PER MONTH (23%) COMPARED TO LAPSED CLUBBERS (15% & 15% RESPECTIVELY)



## CHANGES IN THE FREQUENCY OF RAVING/CLUBBING

#### 1985-1995

- 95% WENT TO RAVES/NIGHTCLUBS WEEKLY OR FORTNIGHTLY
- 55% DID SO TWICE PER WEEK OR SEVERAL DAYS IN A ROW EVERY WEEK
- Current clubbers (29%) were more likely to do so for several days in a row compared to lapsed clubbers (19%)

#### • 2016

- A THIRD ARE LAPSED CLUBBERS, TWO-THIRDS ARE CURRENT CLUBBERS
- CURRENT CLUBBERS TYPICALLY ATTEND POST-RAVE DANCE EVENTS 1-6 TIMES PER YEAR, 9% ONCE PER MONTH
- MEN ARE MORE LIKELY TO ATTEND NIGHTCLUBS MORE FREQUENTLY THAN WOMEN



# THE IMPACT OF TRANSITIONS TO ADULTHOOD UPON CLUBBING STATUS

#### EDUCATION

- IN 1995 30% HAD COMPLETED HIGHER EDUCATION, BY 2016 48%
- Very small differences between current and lapsed clubbers

#### EMPLOYMENT

- LITTLE DIFFERENCES IN EMPLOYMENT STATUS
- HOWEVER, CURRENT CLUBBERS ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE SELF EMPLOYED



# THE IMPACT OF TRANSITIONS TO ADULTHOOD UPON CLUBBING STATUS

#### INTIMATE RELATIONSHIPS

- Lapsed Clubbers (71%) are more likely to be married or in a long term relationship than current clubbers (65%)
- ALMOST TWICE AS MANY CURRENT CLUBBERS (6%) ARE DIVORCED COMPARED TO LAPSED CLUBBERS (3%)
- HOWEVER, MALE CURRENT CLUBBERS (75%) ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE IN A RELATIONSHIP THAN
  FEMALES (56%)



# THE IMPACT OF TRANSITIONS TO ADULTHOOD UPON CLUBBING STATUS

#### PARENTHOOD

- Lapsed Clubbers (73%) are far more likely to be parents than current clubbers (59%)
- Lapsed Clubbers who are parents are more likely to be female (79%) than male (67%)
- FEMALE AND MALE CURRENT CLUBBERS ARE EQUALLY LIKELY TO BE PARENTS
- **BUT** TWICE AS MANY CURRENT CLUBBERS WHO ARE NOT PARENTS (21%) ATTENDED NIGHTCLUBS MONTHLY COMPARED TO THOSE WHO ARE PARENTS (8%)



### **SUMMARY**

- THE ORIGINAL RAVERS STILL GO TO POST-RAVE DANCE EVENTS
- RAVE AND DANCE CULTURE IS STRONGLY ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG TAKING
- YET RAVING/CLUBBING HAS NOT NEGATIVELY IMPACTED UPON OUR SAMPLE'S TRANSITIONS TO ADULTHOOD
- DESISTANCE: PARTLY DETERMINED BY AGE; PARENTHOOD AND COMMITTED RELATIONSHIPS
- PERSISTENCE: LINKED TO FREQUENCY OF PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT WITH THE ORIGINAL RAVE SCENE AND NOT BEING A PARENT OR IN A COMMITTED RELATIONSHIP, AS WELL AS SELF EMPLOYMENT STATUS



The University of Manchester





