


Councilmen's knowledge about the use of alcohol and repercussions on the users' health

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Objective: to describe the councilmen's knowledge about the use of alcohol and the repercussions on the users' health.

Method: a descriptive study, with a qualitative approach, developed in the City Council of a municipality in the extreme north of Brazil, in the Amazon region. The data was obtained through an interview with a semi-structured script, processed in the IRaMuTeQ software and analyzed in the word cloud, through the analysis of similarity and the Descending Hierarchical Classification, through the dendrogram. **Results:** the highlighted word was "no", demonstrating a disapproval, by the legislators, about the use of alcohol by the population and the negative repercussions on the users' health, as well as a limitation of scientific and technical knowledge about the theme, exposing, in the majority, ideas that are only common sense and in a generalized way. **Conclusion:** it points out the need to create a parliamentary training center in order to implement effective policies for the alcohol-using population.

Descriptors: Knowledge; Alcohol-induced Disorders; Alcoholic Beverages; Organic Law; Human Rights.

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Conhecimento de vereadores acerca do uso do álcool e repercussões sobre a saúde dos usuários

Objetivo: descrever o conhecimento dos vereadores acerca do uso do álcool e as repercussões sobre a saúde dos usuários. **Método:** estudo descritivo, de abordagem qualitativa, desenvolvido na Câmara de Vereadores de um município no extremo norte brasileiro, na região Amazônica. Os dados foram obtidos por meio de uma entrevista com roteiro semiestruturado, processados no *software* IRaMuTeQ e analisados na nuvem de palavra, mediante a análise de similitude e a Classificação Hierárquica Descendente, por meio do dendrograma. **Resultados:** a palavra destaque foi “não”, demonstrando uma desaprovação, por parte dos legisladores, acerca do uso de álcool pela população e as repercussões negativas na saúde dos usuários, bem como uma limitação de conhecimento científico e técnico acerca da temática, expondo, na maioria, ideias que são apenas de senso comum e de maneira generalizada. **Conclusão:** aponta a necessidade de criação de um núcleo de capacitação parlamentar a fim implementar políticas eficazes à população usuária de álcool.

Descritores: Conhecimento; Transtornos Induzidos por Álcool; Bebidas Alcoólicas; Lei Orgânica; Direitos Humanos.

Conocimiento de los concejales acerca del uso de alcohol y repercusiones sobre la salud de los usuarios

Objetivo: describir el conocimiento que tienen los concejales acerca del uso del alcohol y sus repercusiones sobre la salud de los usuarios. **Método:** estudio descriptivo, de abordaje cualitativo, desarrollado en la Cámara de Concejales de un municipio en el extremo norte de Brasil, en la región Amazónica. Los datos fueron obtenidos por medio de una entrevista con guión semiestruturado, procesados en el *software* IRaMuTeQ que analiza la nube de palabras, es un análisis de similitud y Clasificación Jerárquica Descendente, a través de dendrograma. **Resultados:** la palabra destacada fue “no”, demostrando la desaprobación de los legisladores sobre el uso de alcohol por la población y las repercusiones negativas sobre la salud de los usuarios, así como una limitación de conocimiento científico y técnico acerca de la temática, exponiendo, en la mayoría, ideas que son apenas de sentido común y de manera generalizada. **Conclusión:** apunta la necesidad de crear un núcleo de capacitación parlamentar con el objetivo de implementar políticas eficaces para la población usuaria de alcohol.

Descriptorios: Conocimiento; Trastornos Inducidos por el Alcohol; Bebidas Alcohólicas; Ley Orgánica; Derechos Humanos.

Introduction

Alcohol is considered a global public health problem, causing serious consequences at individual and collective levels. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) report, in the year 2016, the harmful use of alcohol resulted in about three million deaths (5.3% of deaths worldwide) and 132.6 million disability-adjusted life years. It also found that the burden of disease and alcohol-related injuries were most prevalent in the African region, while deaths and years of life lost due to disability were highest in the European region (10.1% and 10.8%, respectively), followed by the Americas region, with 5.5% (deaths) and 6.7% (disabilities). Therefore, mortality from alcohol consumption is higher than deaths from diseases such as tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and diabetes⁽¹⁾.

The recent estimate on alcohol consumption in Brazil was conducted by the Surveillance of Risk and Protective Factors for Chronic Diseases by Telephone Survey (VIGITEL), in the year 2016, and showed that the occasional risky consumption (drinking four or more doses for women or five or more doses for men on the same occasion) ranged from 14.5%, in a capital city located in the North of Brazil, to 24.9%, in another location in the Northeast region of Brazil. When it comes to the state of Amapá, alcohol abuse increased by 25% in the adult population between 2017 and 2018, with excessive use, being three times higher among men. Thus, a study revealed that 20% (one in five) of the adult population of the capital of Amapá presented a situation of abusive use in the year 2018 against a percentage of 15.9% in the previous year⁽²⁾.

It is worth noting that in 2016, 80 countries wrote national alcohol policies, while eight countries had sub-national policies and 11 banned alcohol consumption altogether. Since the year 2008, the percentage of countries with a written national policy on alcohol has increased considerably, while many others have revised their policies in order to reduce consumption, with many African and American countries not writing national alcohol policies. Primary responsibility for policy lies with the health sector in 69% of the countries with a national policy⁽¹⁾.

Given this conjuncture, the right to health as a duty of the State, which is materialized as, for example, the right to mental health care, is associated with the guarantee of several other rights, such as the citizen's access to adequate and effective public policies aimed at promoting the right to health, which can also be subject to judicial review in a concrete case, through the right of access to justice, assured in Article 5 XXXV of the CF, which ultimately functions as a true mediator of the effectiveness of various public policies, including health⁽³⁾.

Based on these assumptions and considering that alcohol consumption is a complex phenomenon and that it has relations with the most varied spheres of society, making it a multidimensional problem in which not only the user is involved, but also the family, the work environment, the health system, besides the legal and judicial apparatus, political measures have emerged with the intention of unveiling the existing social conjuncture, such as the movements that seek to modify mental health care, allowing the promotion of models centered on the community and on social networks in order to help solve the problem.

Finally, due to the lack of research on public policies among a population located in the North of Brazil, in the Amazon region, regarding the problematic use of alcohol and the repercussions on the health of users, this type of research is important to raise the creation of a parliamentary training center so that public hearings and consultations can be held with professionals trained on the subject to develop and implement effective public policies aimed at improving the quality of life of users in order to avoid further damage and harm from abusive use and to develop preventive measures. After all, the councilmen have the competence to propose bills on certain subjects, for example, those related to the administration of the Executive Branch, and thus are able to create bills, a legislative decree, or a resolution, depending on the case.

In this context, this study aimed to describe the councilmen's knowledge about the use of alcohol and the repercussions on the users' health.

Method

It is a descriptive study with a qualitative approach. The study included 11 councilmen in office who were carrying out their legislative activities and who voluntarily agreed to participate in the study, these being the inclusion criteria.

The study was conducted in the Northern region of Brazil, in the State of Amapá, in the Brazilian Amazon, in the border region with French Guyana, in the City Council, which is composed of a legislative secretariat, a finance and administration secretariat and an archive.

Data collection occurred after reading and signing the Free and Informed Consent Term (FICT). The interviews were conducted in the councilors' offices and at a convenient time previously scheduled with each councilor in order not to disrupt their work services, as well as to ensure greater privacy, so that the participants felt safer, thus facilitating the dialogue. The collection occurred in the months of December 2019 and January 2020.

For data production, a semi structured interview script was used, containing questions about information about alcohol use and the health repercussions of users.

Participants were guaranteed confidentiality, anonymity, and the non-use of data to the detriment of others. The interviews had an average duration of ten minutes.

For data processing, the textual analysis software IRaMuTeQ (*Interface de R pour les Analyses Multidimensionnelles de Textes et de Questionnaires*) was used. IRaMuTeQ is free and open source software, developed by Pierre Ratinaud and licensed by GNU GLP (v2), that allows analyses on textual corpuses and on individual/word tables⁽⁴⁾.

It is an innovative tool related to discourse analysis, and the program is able to perform several types of analysis, from basic lexicography (word frequency calculation) to multivariate analysis (Descending Hierarchical Classification), as well as generate similarity analysis and word cloud, which is easily understood and visualized through the generated figures. It is worth pointing out that the textual analysis performed by the program points to three axes: the notions of corpus, text, and text follow-up. The corpus is the set of text that one intends to analyze; the text is each interview that makes up the corpus, and the text segments correspond to the parts of text that the system itself generates with an average of three lines⁽⁴⁾.

In light of this context, in this study, the three axes were used for data analysis. In addition, the software used the lexical analyses for the identification and reformulation of the text units, which become Initial Context Units (ICU) and Elementary Context Units (ECU), which were identified through the number of words, average frequency, and number of hapax (words with frequency). Vocabulary research was carried out and words were reduced based on their roots (lemmatization), and the dictionary was created from the reduced forms and the active and supplementary forms were identified⁽⁵⁾.

Thus, in this study, the following steps were used: 1) Recording and transcription of the interviews, thus constituting the corpus, in which it was placed in a single file, following the precepts of IRaMuTeQ; 2)

The corpus was prepared, after repeated readings, excluding information that did not aim to reach the study's objectives and, in the sequence, the decoding of the variables was done and 3) Analysis generated by the software that generated the data, describing, in this study, the word cloud, the similarity analysis, and the Descending Hierarchical Classification (DHC) by means of the "dendrogram", which are texts classified according to their respective vocabularies, and the set of them is divided by the frequency of the reduced forms.

The study was approved by the Research Ethics Committee of the UNINOVAFAPI University Center with CAEE no. 25315019.2.0000.5210, and approved with Opinion no. 3,734,450.

Results

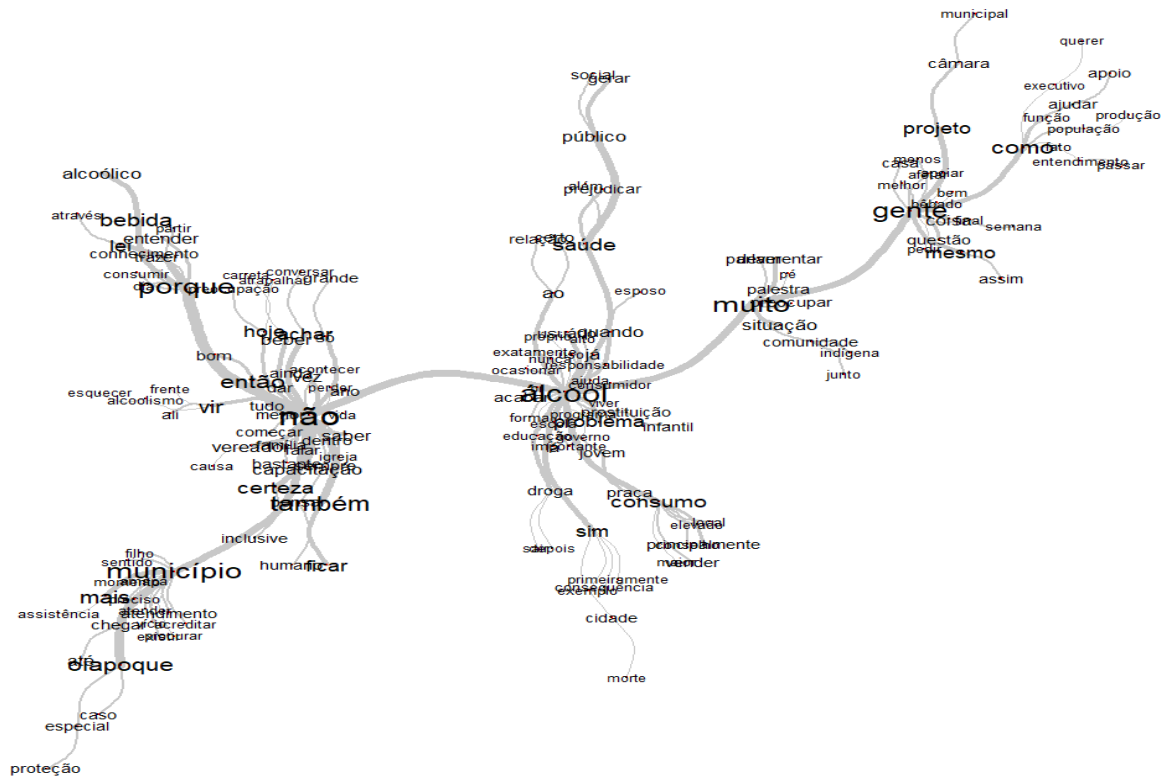
The participants of the research were all 11 councilmen of a municipality in the extreme north of Brazil who are part of the municipality's legislative branch.

As for the sociodemographic characterization of the participants, it was evident that there is a greater presence of men among the councilors; the age range varied from 31 to 63 years, with a predominance of married/stable union, high school graduates, recent graduation of the professionals involved, and most of them in their first mandate.

The results were presented in three aspects: word cloud, similarity analysis and DHC through dendrogram from the councilors' knowledge about alcohol use and the repercussions on the users' health.

The word cloud (Figure 1) groups and organizes words graphically according to their frequency, and is therefore the simplest lexical analysis, but it generates a primary and interesting graph in that it allows the rapid identification of the key words of a *corpus*.

Thus, this graphical analysis is generated from the interviews conducted, highlighting the words that appear most throughout the speeches. In this study, the cloud originated was:



The words that stood out the most were:

Municipality, which interconnected with Oiapoque, case, special, protection, assistance, child, arrive, believe, seek.

No, that intertwined with stay, too, sure, start, training, know, drink, find, come, alcoholism, forget, front, come, everything, lose, today.

Why, that intertwined with alcoholic, through, understand, consume, great, talk, law, knowledge.

Alcohol, linked to health, generate, public, relationship, harm, spouse, exactly, responsibility, education, government, child prostitution, young, when, already, square, consumption, death, city, drug.

A lot, that intertwined with parliamentarian, situation, together, indigenous, community, lecture.

People, who linked to so, even, issue, week, well, better, project, chamber, municipal.

How, which linked to want, support, executive, help, production, function, population, understanding, pass.

Source: IRaMuTeQ, 2020

Figure 2 - Similarity analysis graph based on graph theory

The representation "alcohol" is associated with "consumer", "prostitution", "education", "government", "problem", "responsibility" and others expressed in the way of noting that the consequences of alcohol consumption is a public health problem that affects all spheres, going through government and education.

Other expressions shown and that are linked to the word "alcohol" are "health" and "consumption", "a lot", and these are interlinked to "people", showing that the excessive consumption of alcohol brings harm to the population's health.

"People" communicates with "project," "support," "chamber," "understanding," "executive," and other expressions.

The expression "no", besides the link with "alcohol", interconnects with "drink", "councilman", "empowerment", "certainty", "also", "church". The "because" is associated with "drink", "knowledge", "talk", "law", "consume", "understand", among others.

"Municipality" interlinks to "more", "special case", "protection", "assistance", "believe", among others.

Thus, the most frequent words assume, in the speeches, many questionings, repercussions and consequences resulting from the problematic consumption of alcohol, besides what measures are necessary in order to monitor the consumption of alcohol in a prospective way to control or minimize the risks of abusive consumption in the studied community, always demonstrating the interconnection with the municipal Legislative Power.

In this study, the software recognized the separation of the corpus into 11 texts. The number of distinct forms or different words was 949, with a number of occurrences of 4,164. From the sample of distinct words, the software judged important and analyzed 589, with a minimum frequency of three or more. Based on the above data, the program used (what?) as a parameter to divide the corpus into text segments, classifying them according to their receptive vocabularies. Thus, the corpus was divided

into 89 analyzable text segments out of a total of 105, in which a utilization level of 84.76% of the total study is observed, which were assigned into classes in the DHC. The software generated the data in 59 seconds.

In this step, the program presented the DHC, that is, the dendrogram of the classes, obtained from the corpus, as shown in Figure 3.



Class 1: also, situation, people, beyond, house, then, very, believe, time, generate, quite, health, prostitution, day, life, meaning, program, need, consequences, well, parliamentary, problem, municipality.

Class 3: issue, service, attend, public, health, need, seek, consumer, problem, municipality, better, generate, enough, harm, only, people, more, alcohol, user, sense, still, place, form, moment, Oiapoque, thing, arrive, until.

Class 2: square, drink, including, Amapá, Oiapoque, consumption, alcoholic, arrive, sell, place, always, case, consume, municipality, generate, even, there, year, end, come, home, day, life, sense, consequence, still, search.

Class 7: chamber, yes, law, project, municipal, start, first, school, education, talk, through, sure, drug, leave, cause, no, alcohol, training, parliamentary, thing, councilman, always, social, find, know, well, prostitution, program.

Class 6: understanding, councilman, pass, great, knowledge, human, understand, bring, when, fact, production, assistance, more, as, parliamentary, then, social, so, community, find, sure, know, duty, think, good, empowerment, life.

Class 5: drinking, already, everything, come, stay, happen, population, talk, more, no, then, city, there, there, family, give, just, also, think, good, sell, even, less, exactly, responsibility, use, occasion, front, alcoholism.

Class 4: lecture, relation, to, community, indigenous, church, today, right, user, even, concern, never, responsibility, project, very, together, alcohol, come, in, give, concern, end, know, duty, think, also, prostitution, day.

Source: IRaMuTeQ, 2020

Figure 3 - Class organization of councilors' knowledge about the protection of alcohol users provided by the state

However, the analyzable words were distributed in the seven classes of this study as follows: class one, corresponding to 13.5% of the total segments; class two (13.5%); class three (12.4%); class four (15.7%); class five (13.5%); class six (16.7%) and class seven (15.7%) of the total text segments.

Discussion

The attentive and thorough reading, in a sequential manner, of the analytical graphs about the councilors'

knowledge about the use of alcohol and the repercussions on the users' health made significant sense. From the reports, it was evident a disapproval, by the legislators, about the use of alcohol by the population and the negative repercussions on the users' health, as well as a limitation of scientific and technical knowledge about the theme, exposing, in most cases, common sense ideas and in a generalist way.

Alcohol abuse is undoubtedly a serious and complex phenomenon. The subjects of the study report the harm

caused by the use of such substance and the harm experienced in daily life, understanding the context of addiction as a tortuous and destructive path, permeated by various losses (family, affective and material). This data is solidified by the pre-existing literature.

Regarding the consequences of alcohol use, the WHO report showed that 28.7% of the deaths were due to injuries, 21.3% to digestive system diseases, 19% to cardiovascular diseases, 12.9% to infectious diseases, and 12.6% to cancer. In relation to the years of life lost due to alcohol abuse, 49% are related to mental health conditions and 40% due to injuries, and about 2.3 billion people are alcohol consumers⁽¹⁾.

The prevalence rate of alcohol abuse in Brazil is significant, with a stable trend in both men and women, and national policies must have contributed to this fact. However, intervention strategies and action planning in the public health field must be developed in order to reduce the impacts generated by the exaggerated consumption of alcoholic beverages⁽⁶⁾.

A study that analyzed alcohol consumption among maintenance workers in the state of São Paulo indicated that 78% of the workers consumed alcoholic beverages in the last year researched. Of these, 43% were low risk drinkers, 50% were risk drinkers, and 7% indicated probable dependence⁽⁷⁾.

Still along this line, a research that verified the perception of 2641 Brazilian college students, from the most diverse regions of Brazil, about the risks of heavy episodic drinking behavior showed that 24.8% make this occasional risky use, being men 31.7% and women 19.5%⁽⁸⁾. In another study, it was observed that 68.9% of the users made low risk use of alcohol and 31.1% made problematic use of alcohol, of which 49.8%, risk use, 38.7%, harmful use, and 11.5%, probable dependence, which shows a significant prevalence of such substance⁽⁹⁾.

When reflecting about the other age extremes of the population, which identified alcohol abuse in the elderly, a significant number of alcohol abuse (3.9% in women and 21.7% in men) was identified, i.e., this practice represents a risk to the health of the elderly⁽¹⁰⁾.

Data from a study conducted in the city of Oiapoque, which studied the pattern of alcohol consumption among employees of a public university, showed that 8% had low risk use or no consumption, 24% had risk consumption, 2% harmful consumption, and 6% probable dependence, reflecting on the need to implement brief interventions in the population studied⁽¹¹⁾, evidencing an abusive and problematic use of alcohol in several spheres in the Brazilian segment and thus stressing the reflection on the importance of councilmen having knowledge about the theme under investigation.

Given the above, it can be seen that the consumption of alcoholic beverages among the Brazilian

adult population is excessive. This pattern of alcohol consumption causes damage to health and high costs to society, a fact mentioned in the interviewees' statements. Therefore, there is no single solution, it is a challenge for the government to implement the necessary measures to reduce consumption in the population, besides that the costs involved in consumption are higher than the profits and economic development from the sale of alcoholic beverages⁽¹²⁾.

Among other consequences, one can mention the psychosocial alterations related to the early onset of alcohol consumption, such as psychopathologies, work difficulties, affective bonds, and family acceptance. Family and culture contributed to early drinking, and the consequences reported by the participants were intensified precisely in these segments⁽¹³⁾.

Still regarding the consequences of alcohol abuse, a study showed this use to be a public health problem, which is in agreement with the results of this research and related to several aspects of the life of each individual, such as the economic changes that arise with retirement, abrupt changes in work routine, loss of loved ones, family conflicts, among other aspects. In addition, alcohol, by providing an "escape" from the negative reality experienced, brings, as a consequence, the exaggerated consumption, with the rupture of several affective ties, triggering aggressiveness, discord, stress, instability, mental, emotional, and spiritual illness, and sorrows in the social circle⁽¹⁴⁾.

Thus, when analyzing the graphs coming from the interviewees' speeches that corroborate the scientific data mentioned above, the woes resulting from a problematic use of alcohol stand out, leading, many times, to an incomparable suffering, undermining the life trajectory of these users, trailed with mishaps and losses, sometimes preventing a personal, family, and occupational restructuring. The rupture of affective, fraternal, and family bonds is easily found. The material losses and those related to work activities, bringing serious economic problems, are also highlighted in the councilors' statements. These repercussions, associated with losses, are closely related to alcohol dependency or abuse.

Thus, to be aware of the councilors' knowledge about such repercussions is the necessary way to redirect the assistance provided to the investigated population in face of this problem, a fact easily understood in a research that investigated the consumption of alcohol among the elderly, which pointed out the need for professional training in order to promote a therapeutic space and the implementation of proposed coping strategies, contemplating public policy actions in the face of alcohol abuse and interventions in order to avoid serious consequences and reduce harm⁽¹⁵⁾.

Therefore, the high prevalence of mental health outcomes and the relevant presence of alcohol consumption in different patterns reiterate the relevance of the training of professionals and the organization of health services for the management of these problems⁽¹⁶⁾.

Although there are efforts to qualify professionals, health actions show to be unwelcoming, stigmatizing, and ineffective in the face of the complexity of the issue. The attitudes based on prejudice, criminalization, and the stigmatization process of the alcohol user, focusing on the elimination of risks and total abstinence, in line with the hegemonic biomedical model and far from the needs of the subjects and the complexity that involves the issue, lead to moralizing and little problematized practices, hindering the user's autonomy in health care⁽¹⁷⁾.

Therefore, to achieve a care model focused on health promotion and harm prevention, the professionals involved must be prepared and able to recognize the problems related to drug use and develop care actions.

When considering⁽¹⁸⁾ primary health care services as the gateway to users, families and the community in general, one can affirm that these are relevant spaces for the realization of forms of care and treatment.

The complexity with which this phenomenon is presented makes it imperative to understand the risk/harm consumption as well as strategies and interventions more consistent with individuals who use alcoholic beverages. It is also necessary that the assistance programs and policies developed are more based on the scientific evidence already available on the treatment of chemical dependencies to be more effective and that there is greater control of this serious public health problem.

In this aspect, one research was concerned with recognizing the conditions of life and health and survival, aiming to keep users inserted in the network of health care and social assistance, avoiding marginalization, seeking to provide opportunities for social inclusion and offer conditions for the subject to rethink his/her relationship with drugs. When considering it from this perspective, it becomes possible to draw strategies together with the drug addict that aim to promote health, ensuring respect for their dignity. The offer of treatment, then, occurs as a perspective of gains in terms of freedom and autonomy, emphasizing the co-responsibility of the subject for his/her own treatment⁽¹⁹⁾, thus inciting the importance of adopting effective coping strategies so that these users can understand that it is possible the restoration of their lives and their health.

Therefore, the new public policies must be more inclusive at the level of society and culture and require the participation of multiple social actors such as, e.g., teachers, health professionals, community leaders, families, the press, legislators, legal and public safety

institutions, and it is worth noting that each country must adopt measures that are consistent with its culture and historical context.

Thus, it is important to contextualize the importance of councilors in this assistance process, because they are politicians destined to serve the interests of the community to achieve a public purpose and need technical training to perform their respective functions⁽²⁰⁾. Another research, which aimed to analyze the career profile and political perceptions of councilmen in one state of Brazil, showed the importance of the municipality and the role of legislators in the new constitutional order⁽²¹⁾.

It is important to highlight the councilors' understanding of the role they play in local political activity, in which they state that they represent the population, despite the restricted location to the local base, and point out that being a councilor is an activity that represents the population, not necessarily the interest of all, thus trying to pay attention to their electoral base, although they are not disconnected from the general interests⁽²²⁾.

In this way, parliamentarians are responsible for identifying the social problems of the population, regulating and trying to solve them by means of regulation, i.e., glimpsing the problems of interest to the health area and materializing them with rights and legal guarantees that are strictly related to the worldview that the members of the Legislative Branch have. Understanding how the reality of these political agents works is of utmost importance within the context of public health.

In summary, the problematic use of alcohol, nowadays, has acquired great proportions in detriment of the distortion of its initial purpose (therapeutic, object of social interaction or used in mystical and religious rituals). Thus, it generates wide debate in the social environment, not only for the devastating effects that consume the users, but also for the web of destruction that it entails and, in face of this panorama, the importance of legislators at this juncture stands out, being primordial not only the training of these professionals on the subject, but also the expansion of debates with managers, health professionals and other actors involved.

Therefore, the work must be developed in an interdisciplinary way in order to achieve the resolution of problem situations. It is important to strengthen the significant social network of users so that the care process can be enhanced, highlighting the parliamentary empowerment due to the negative consequences of alcohol consumption, the need for expanded and intersectoral work, the importance of creating bills, the role of legislators in the face of this problem and their (co-)accountability, the vulnerability situations and the lack of specialized services, such as the limitation of state actions.

In this way, lawmakers demonstrate knowledge of the harms and consequences of drugs and the requirement for governmental measures to reduce the harm caused by drug use. However, it is evident, in the speeches, terminologies used in common sense, a limitation of scientific knowledge, exposing, in most cases, ideas that are disseminated in everyday life and common to the population in a generalized way, demonstrating the need for training, a fact that is quite requested, showing the interest of the interviewees, in order to promote improvements to the investigated community in the extreme north of Brazil.

Conclusion

The councilmen's knowledge about the legal protection of alcohol users is empirical and generalist, based on information from the media or common sense, with no scientific basis and far from the current public policies on the problem of alcohol consumption, a fact that is reflected in the activities developed by parliamentarians, influencing the public health and mental health policies developed in the city, indicating the need for more technical knowledge on the subject, since they are the ones who create the laws in order to implement effective policies for the alcohol-using population.

According to the legislators' statements, considering the object of the investigated study, it is necessary that they have critical thinking when developing the laws, a prophylactic culture regarding the use and abuse of alcohol, since, based on the legislative demands, actions and strategies will be developed with the purpose of welcoming, adequate treatment, promotion of health and legality, protective measures and reinsertion of users in the social environment, and prevention must be prioritized with educational measures, meeting the constitutional principle of the dignity of the human being.

From the production of this knowledge, it is expected that the agencies involved, whether in health, social assistance, citizenship, management, legal or any other field, will be able to work in an integral, interdisciplinary way, capable of innovating effective strategies in addressing the issue. Therefore, this study raises the need for the creation of a parliamentary training center in the investigated city.

Even though the data cannot be generalized to other Brazilian contexts, which is the limitation of this study, the study is valid in the areas of public health and law in order to guide horizons regarding this problem in a municipality in the extreme north of Brazil, in the Brazilian Amazon, because it is necessary to confront it, as well as to take imperative measures to prevent aggravations and to trace actions that delay or prevent the problematic consumption of alcohol among the population studied here.

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