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**PERSONALITY AND BEHAVIORAL FACTORS
RELATED TO DRINK-DRIVING AMONG YOUNG
MALES**

**A thesis presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Arts in Psychology at Massey University**

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1999

ABSTRACT

The study aimed to replicate the findings of research which highlighted a number of personality and behavioural variables that effect an individuals drink-driving frequency, and intoxication level while driving. These variables are aggression, sensation seeking, self-rated driving style and skill, driving related anger, and alcohol consumption. The studies sample ($N = 129$) was made up entirely of 20 - 24 year old males. This group has been shown to drink-drive more frequently than any other age group in New Zealand, and males drink-drive significantly more than females. Results showed that physical aggression, verbal aggression, alcohol consumption and risky driving style were correlated with drink-driving intoxication level. However, once a regression analysis was employed it was discovered that only alcohol consumption level had significant predictive validity in relation to drink-driving intoxication level. The more a participant drank the more likely they were to drive when drunk. Overall, the results tend to question how much impact the personality variables studied really have on the frequency of drink-driving. Assumptions in relation to the findings, and implications future research on factors effecting drink-driving, are also discussed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my utmost gratitude and sincere thanks to my supervisor, Dr Ross Flett. His encouragement, wise advice and enthusiasm for the project was invaluable when, at times, my desire to continue with the research was not particularly strong. He managed to view every situation with a healthy dose of good humour, making this an enjoyable project to conduct. The extra effort he put in when my desired completion date neared, is also much appreciated.

I would also like to thank my parents, Ken and Ann, and my sister Miri, for their ongoing support, both personal and financial, throughout my university career. Without their support this project would never have reached completion, and I am eternally grateful.

I would finally like to thank Olivia who has offered me consistent encouragement throughout the year. She has always expressed a sincere interest in this study, and has made my research this year a very enjoyable experience.

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