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**An Evaluation and Comparison
of the
Horowhenua and Tararua
Community Alcohol Action Programmes
(CAAP)**

This Thesis is presented as partial fulfilment of the requirements for the
Degree of Master of Arts in Psychology
at
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ABSTRACT

In New Zealand, Community Alcohol Action Programmes (CAAP) have emerged to address the high number of alcohol-related road injuries and fatalities. The present study is an evaluation and comparison of the Horowhenua and Tararua CAAP programmes. Subjects (n=175) from several different groups within these communities were interviewed and observational studies of licensed premises (n=36) were used to collect data. Statistical analysis (chi-square) was conducted to see whether one programme had been more successful in meeting its aims and objectives than the other. Few statistically significant differences were found indicating that the programmes were on the whole similar. However, prior to the commencement of this piece of research, a number of potential problems concerning the evaluations were identified. These relate mainly to the fact that the evaluation of the programmes had not been planned for before they were implemented. It was concluded that the citizens involved in community action programmes often have little awareness of research design and evaluation. This can limit the utility of such programmes and make it difficult to draw valid or reliable conclusions concerning their efficacy.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are derived from the work of Bailey and Carpinter (1991).

The Drinking Driver - In general, the term 'drinking driver' is used to refer to anyone who is over the legal limit of blood alcohol for driving. Sometimes it is used to refer to anyone who drinks before s/he drive irrespective of his/her level of intoxication. In the present study however, it is reserved for those drivers over the legal limit. Other terms describing a drinking driver include:

DWI - Driving While Intoxicated;

DUI - Driving Under the Influence.

Blood Alcohol Levels (BAL/BAC) - Alcohol in the blood is measured in milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood. The legal limit for fully licensed drivers in New Zealand is 80 milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood. This is written as 80mg%. This level varies from country to country.

Random Stopping (RS) - Random Stopping is where vehicles passing through a checkpoint are stopped at random. If a driver says s/he has been drinking when asked, or if the traffic officer has good reason to suspect the driver has been drinking, s/he is breath tested.

Compulsory/Random Breath Testing (CBT/RBT) - This is similar to random stopping except that all drivers passing through checkpoints are breath tested.

Server Intervention/Host Responsibility (SI/HR) - It should be noted that the term server intervention is a term used in the United States. In New Zealand, the equivalent term is host responsibility.