



Abstract Nr: 189
Internet ID: 463

Type of Presentation: Oral Presentation

Social defeat and psychosis in young Caribbean immigrants to Rotterdam

David Vinkers¹, Jim Van Os², Wijbrand Hoek²

¹D.J. Vinkers, ROTTERDAM, The Netherlands
The Netherlands

Learning Goal:

1. To understand the concept of social defeat and its relation with psychosis in immigrants.
2. To understand the relation between social defeat, psychosis and crime in Caribbean immigrants.

Abstract Text:

Rationale: The social defeat hypothesis posits that the negative experience of being excluded from the majority group is the common denominator of major schizophrenia risk factors, namely migration, urban upbringing, childhood trauma, low intelligence, and drug abuse. The social defeat theory is furthermore supported by the high frequency of perceived discrimination, a weak or negative ethnic identity and social problems in psychotic immigrants. Moreover, psychotic disorders in immigrants have the highest incidence in neighbourhoods where they form a minority or where there is little support from ethnic peers. The relation between social defeat and psychosis has, however, never been examined prospectively.

In a similar vein, social problems as unemployment, dropping out of school, financial problems and broken family structures have been related to crime in immigrants. Social defeat may also increase crime rates through psychotic symptoms, which are an independent risk factor for crime.

Objective: To assess the prospective relationship between social defeat on one hand and psychosis and crime on the other hand in Caribbean immigrants to Rotterdam aged 18 to 24 years.

Main study parameters/endpoints: Acculturation, perceived discrimination, sense of mastery and the evaluation of self and others, psychotic symptoms and crime through annual online questionnaires. The municipality of Rotterdam delivered data about Caribbean immigrants.

Results: will be presented during the congress. This study examines social determinants that may be important and relatively cheap targets for prevention in high-risk immigrants, for example, through community programmes reducing discrimination or stimulating ethnic disfragmentation of neighbourhoods.

**ON THE HEALING POWER
OF HUMAN RECONNECTION**