

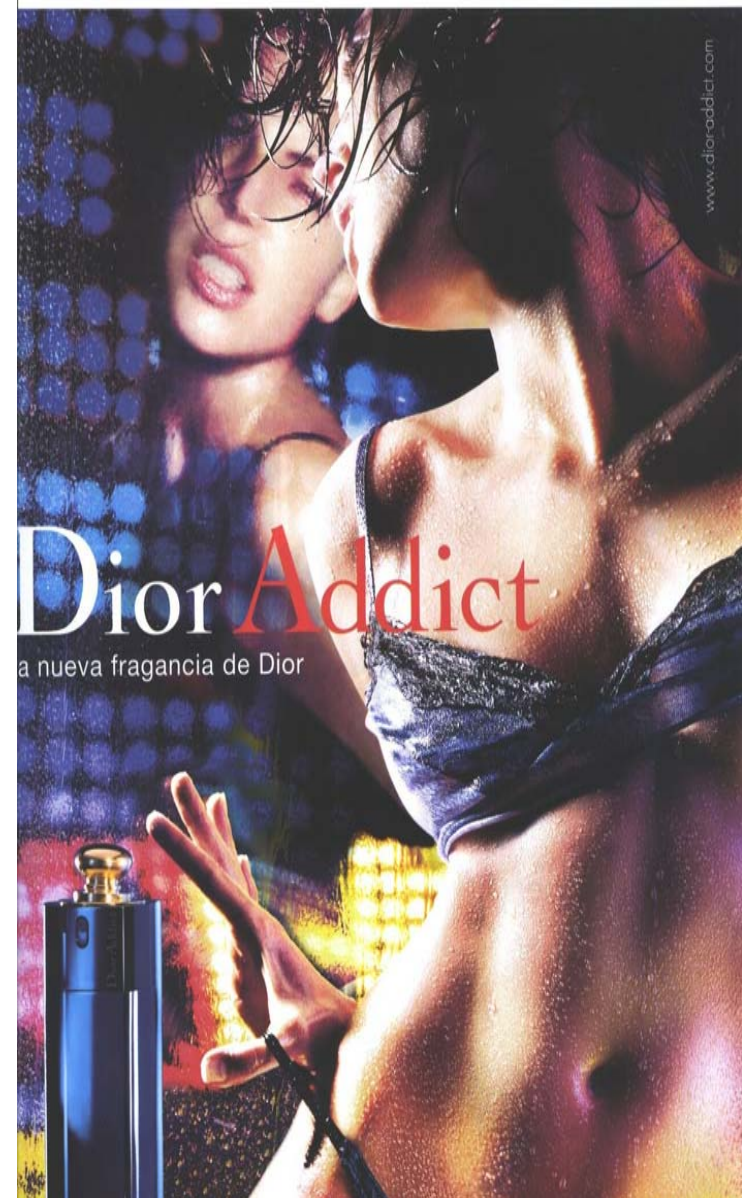
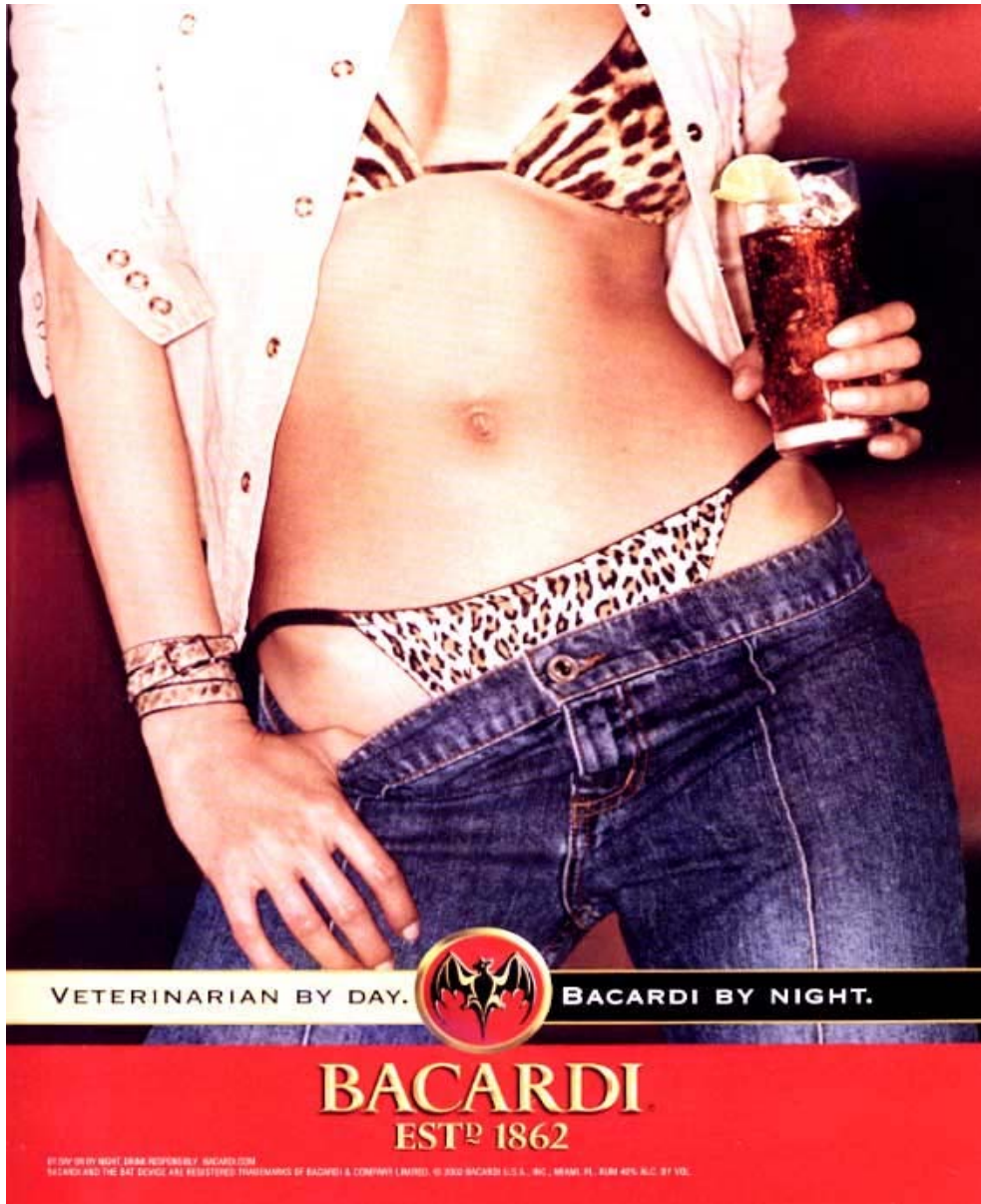
# Risky **sex** and **alcohol** in nightlife. A **gender** perspective

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## **Background. SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT**

- **A good part of the messages reaching young people informs them that sex, drugs and having fun is theirs by right; and experiencing them is a form of counterculture rebellion.**
- **Eliminating traditional norms is a road to liberty and equality (Heath and Potter 2004).**
- **The recreational context becomes a temple for experiencing transgression, rebellion, the counterculture (Winlow 2006)**



**Women are one of the key collectives targeted by these messages**



**The masculinisation process (being like men) is considered to be an ideal of liberty and equality**

# Nightlife is an excellent context for sex opportunities

## Some comments from interviews

*“It is easy in the discos because the people are very drunk or drugged and are always more receptive and less fussy.” (girl, age:17)*

*“When I am looking for sex I go to a place where I can find pill-popping chicks, because you can find easy sex. They are the typical girls you can offer a line to and then you shag them.” (boy, age:19)*

*“There are two good places to get sex. Where the posh sluts are, where ecstasy is fashionable, and the whole ‘we're all friends together’ thing is in. Although god knows what you'll find! And then, any place where there is a university party. They are like the circus where all the animals pair off.”*

(research: SOCIDROGALCOHOL 2006)

# Alcohol

Alcohol disinhibits; you lose any embarrassment; you are more daring; when you drink alcohol you score more.

Difficulties with an erection, difficulties with an orgasm, less intense orgasms.

***“Alcohol provokes the desire,  
but frustrates its performance”***  
William Shakespeare

# Alcohol and sex

**“I know of a lot of men who think that if a girl is drunk, it is going to be a lot more likely that she'll get off with them.” (girl 20).**

**“With alcohol, I like the feeling of being drunk, of not remembering anything and having a good time.” (girl 19).**

**“Alcohol is the best, because it makes you go wild. Because it makes you horny, you want it more. Alcohol eases the approach. It makes sexual relations easier because it's easier to let go of yourself” (girl 16).’**

# Times of Drunkenness last month

<b>Drunkenness Last month</b>	<b>never</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Dos</b>	<b>&gt;2</b>
	<b>19,3 %</b>	<b>16,1%</b>	<b>18,9%</b>	<b>44,5%</b>
Gender (p = 0,000)				
Males	29,4%	40,8%	61,4%	53,1%
Females	70,6%	59,2%	38,6%	46,9%





# Reasons to use drugs in sexual intercourse

(SOCIDROGALCOHOL research 2007, N: 440):

	ALCOHOL	COCAÏNA	CANNABIS
To prolong sex	15,6	<b>66,7</b>	8,9
To enhance sensations and sexual arousal	<b>42,6</b>	17,4	<b>21,7</b>
To facilitate a sexual encounter	<b>74,7</b>	10,1	6,3
To get into unusual/exciting new sexual activity'	<b>54,8</b>	<b>25,8</b>	3,2

# Reasons to have sex without condoms

Razones	TOTAL	Men 	Woman 
Sex with a steady partner/Trusted partner	<b>68,7%</b>	68,4%	68,9%
Got carried away	<b>38,9%*</b>	45,6%	32,0%
Chose not to use a condom	<b>37,1%*</b>	44,2%	30,5%
Forgot to use a condom / Did not have a condom	<b>29,3%</b>	35,8%	24,1%
Too drunk/high	<b>26,5%*</b>	34,6%	19,3%
Felt awkward asking/using	<b>12,9%*</b>	19,7%	7,4%

(estudi SOCIDROGALCOHOL 2007, N: 440):

# CONCLUSIONS

- **A sex-alcohol-and-drugs and having fun link exists. The current sexuality style is “instant”, “fast” and should be “easy”.**
- **Many women experience this sexual model as a liberator. Substances are valued as promoters of sexual relations.**
- **In drug use linked to sex, there are a number of potential risks that affect women just as much or even more.**
- **A good part of the values that define sexuality are being defined by a market, through advertising with a merchandising end, with no pro-social ethics.**
- **The convergence theory of gender relationships must be discussed in relation to both the values on sexuality as well as drug use. Its defence is that the use of drugs among women is an indicator of a greater quota of equality.**



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