

The Association between Adolescence Cocaine Use and Adulthood Intimate Partner Violence



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Introduction

- Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) including physical violence, sexual violence, stalking and psychological aggression is common in the United States. Couples who have experienced IPV are over half of the total number of families (Jose & O'Leary, 2009).
- Research shows that perpetrators of domestic violence are more likely to have used drugs (Moore, 2008). Cocaine has the strongest relationship to psychological, physical, and sexual abuse in IPV (Smyth, 2012).
- In addition, cocaine use during youth may carry over into adulthood and even into married life (Caffino, 2021). Teenage drug users are more likely to experience domestic violence related trauma, which also increases the likelihood of drug use and IPV in adulthood (Herrero, 2008).
- However, the study about the association between adolescence cocaine use and the condition of adulthood IPV is still limited. Researchers mainly focused on the whether adult cocaine use causes IPV, while the cross-age continuous studies have not been conducted.

Research Questions

- What is the relationship between adolescence cocaine use and adulthood intimate partner violence?
- Whether individuals used cocaine in adolescence are more likely to become the abuser or the abused?
- Does the association vary by adulthood cocaine use condition of participants?

Results

Univariate

- 2.35% of participants in their adolescence had used 1-10 times of cocaine within 30 days; 0.6% of participants had used cocaine 10 times more in 30 days. 2.07% of participants reported cocaine use in adulthood.
- 20.17% of participants reported being abused in intimate relationships
- 15.18% of participants reported abusing someone in intimate relationships.

Bivariate

- Observed on the bar graphs, increased cocaine use during adolescence increases both the proportion of being the abuser or the abused in IPV in adulthood (Figure1 & Figure2).
- However, Chi-Square Test for the association between adolescent cocaine use and being the abuser in the adulthood is **p-value = 0.6169**. This suggests that there is not enough evidences to prove a significant association between the two variables.
- Chi-Square Test for the association between adolescent cocaine use and being the abused in the adulthood is **p-value = 0.3187**. This also suggests that there is not enough evidences to prove a significant association between the two variables.

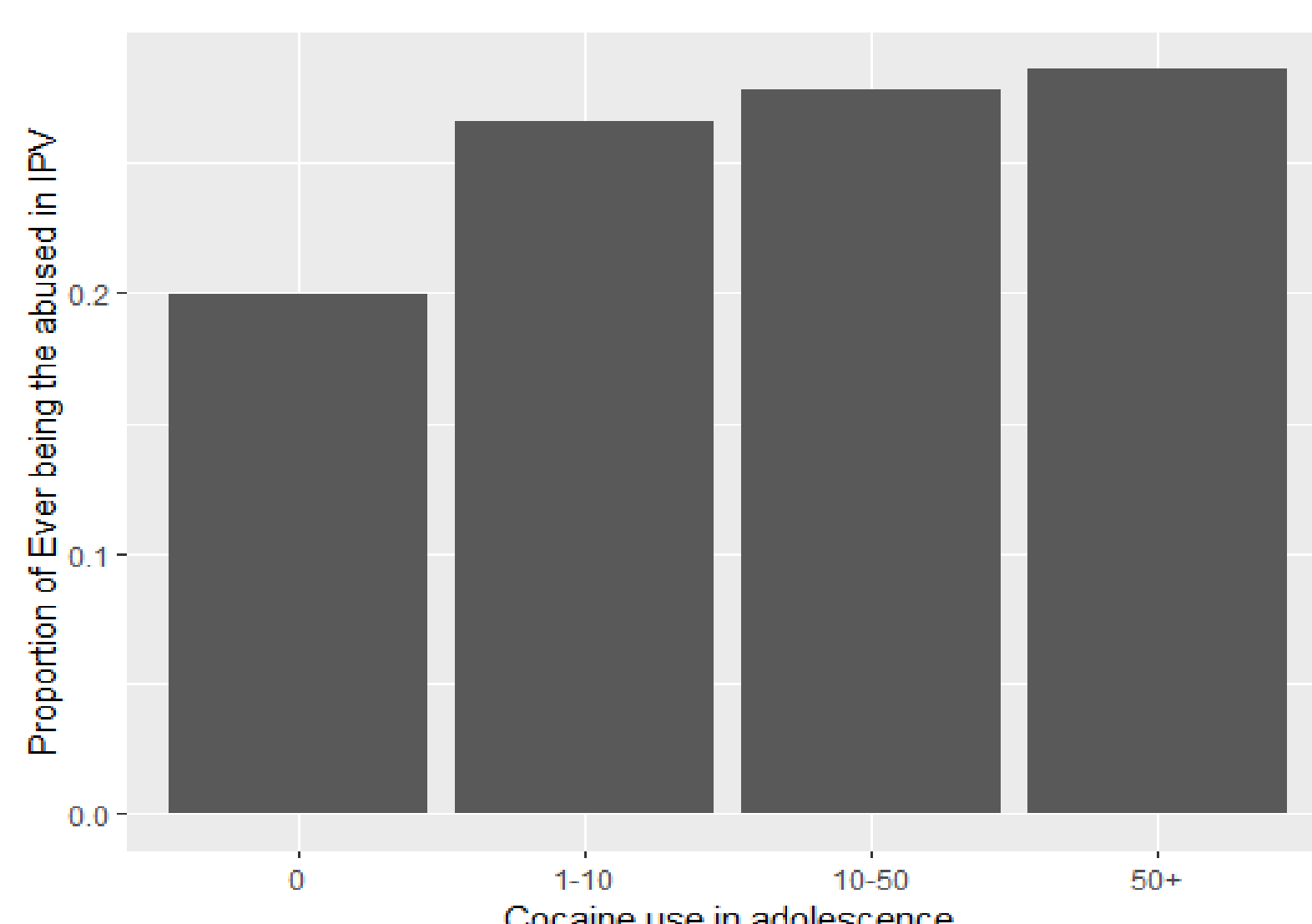


Figure 1. Condition of cocaine use in adolescence and proportion of ever being the abused

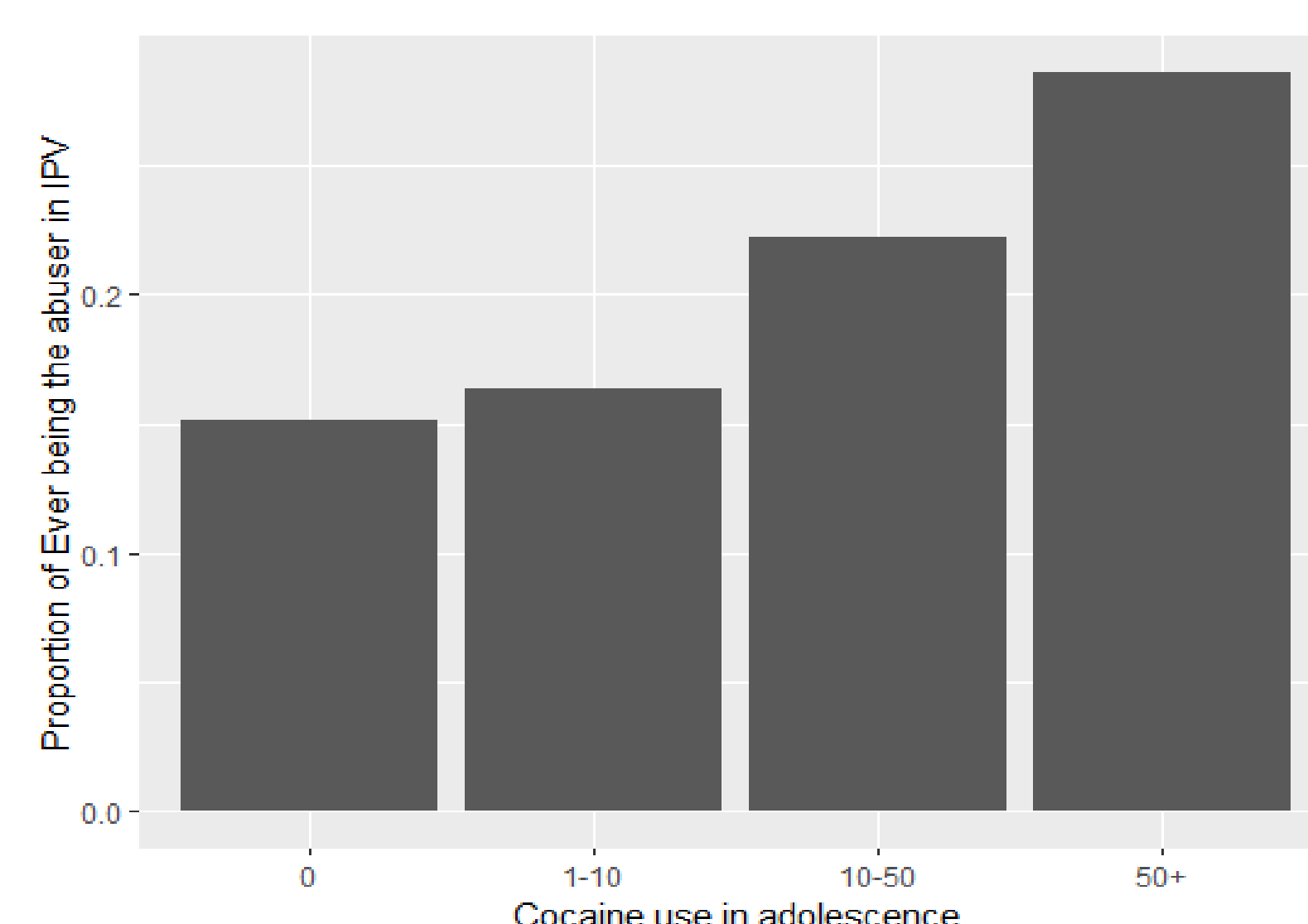


Figure 2. Condition of cocaine use in adolescence and proportion of ever being the abuser

Multivariate

- By adding a third variable, cocaine use condition in adulthood, it can be observed from the graphs that participants who use cocaine in adulthood take a larger proportion that participants who become the abuser or the abused in Intimate Partner Violence. (Figure 3 & Figure 4)
- Thus, It is hypothesized that participants' cocaine use in adulthood may be related to their IPV condition.
- Further analyzed through logistic regression, it is found that there is a significant relationship between cocaine use in adulthood (O.R. 1.81, CI: 1.07-2.94) and proportion of being the abuser, because its p-value which equals to 0.0202 is smaller than 0.05. Those used cocaine in the adulthood have an expected odds of becoming the abuser in IPV that is 1.81 times higher than those did not use cocaine holding all other variables fixed.
- Similarly, it is found that there is a significant relationship between cocaine use in adulthood (O.R. 0.70, CI: 1.26-3.16) and proportion of being the abused in IPV, because its p-value which equals to 0.002 is smaller than 0.05. Those used cocaine in the adulthood have an expected odds of becoming the abused in IPV that is 0.70 times higher than those did not use cocaine holding all other variables fixed.

Methods

Sample

- National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health Wave 1 and Wave 5
- It is a longitudinal study of a nationally representative sample of adolescents (6504 participants in total) during the 1994-95 school year, and have been followed for five waves to date, most recently in 2016-18 (Add Health).
- Wave 1 focuses on samples' adolescence, and Wave 5 reflects participants' life between age 30 to 40.

Measures

- Response Variables:**
Abused– In Wave 5: “how often did your partner push or shove you...that could hurt?” + “how often did your partner slap, hit or kick you?” + “how often did you have an injury...because of a fight with your partner?”
Abuse– In Wave 5: Opposite with the above, aggregating the datum of the frequency of shoving the partner, kicking the partner, making injury on the partner.
- Main Explanatory Variables:** **Adolescence cocaine use**, named as cocaineW1 (0, 1-10, 10-50, 50+ times) is measured specifically by the data “cocaine use frequency in last 30 days” in Wave 1
- Other Variables:** **Adulthood cocaine use**, named as cocaineW5, reflected by “cocaine use in last 30 days” in Wave 5.

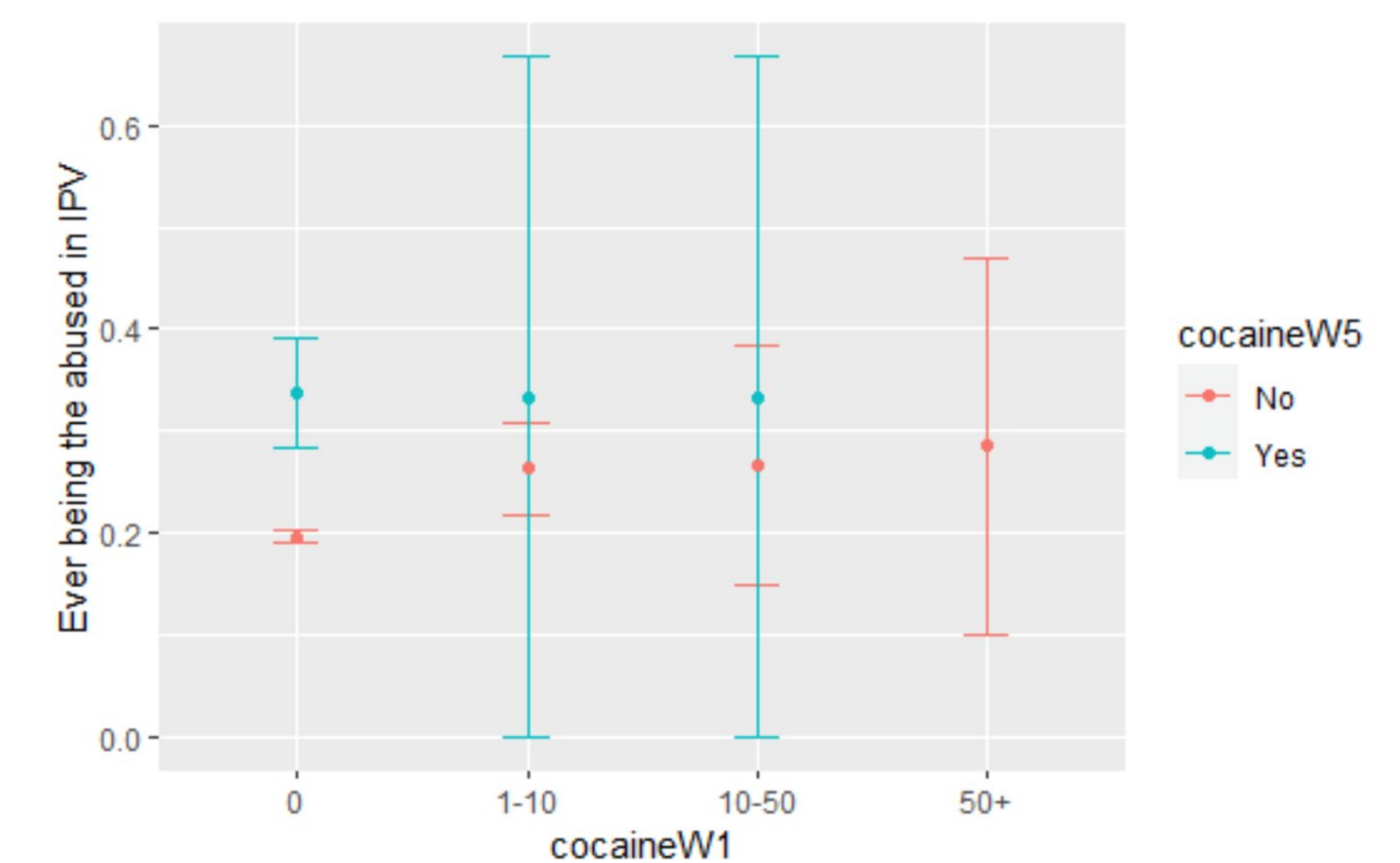


Figure 3. Cocaine use in adolescence & Cocaine use in adulthood & proportion of ever being the abused

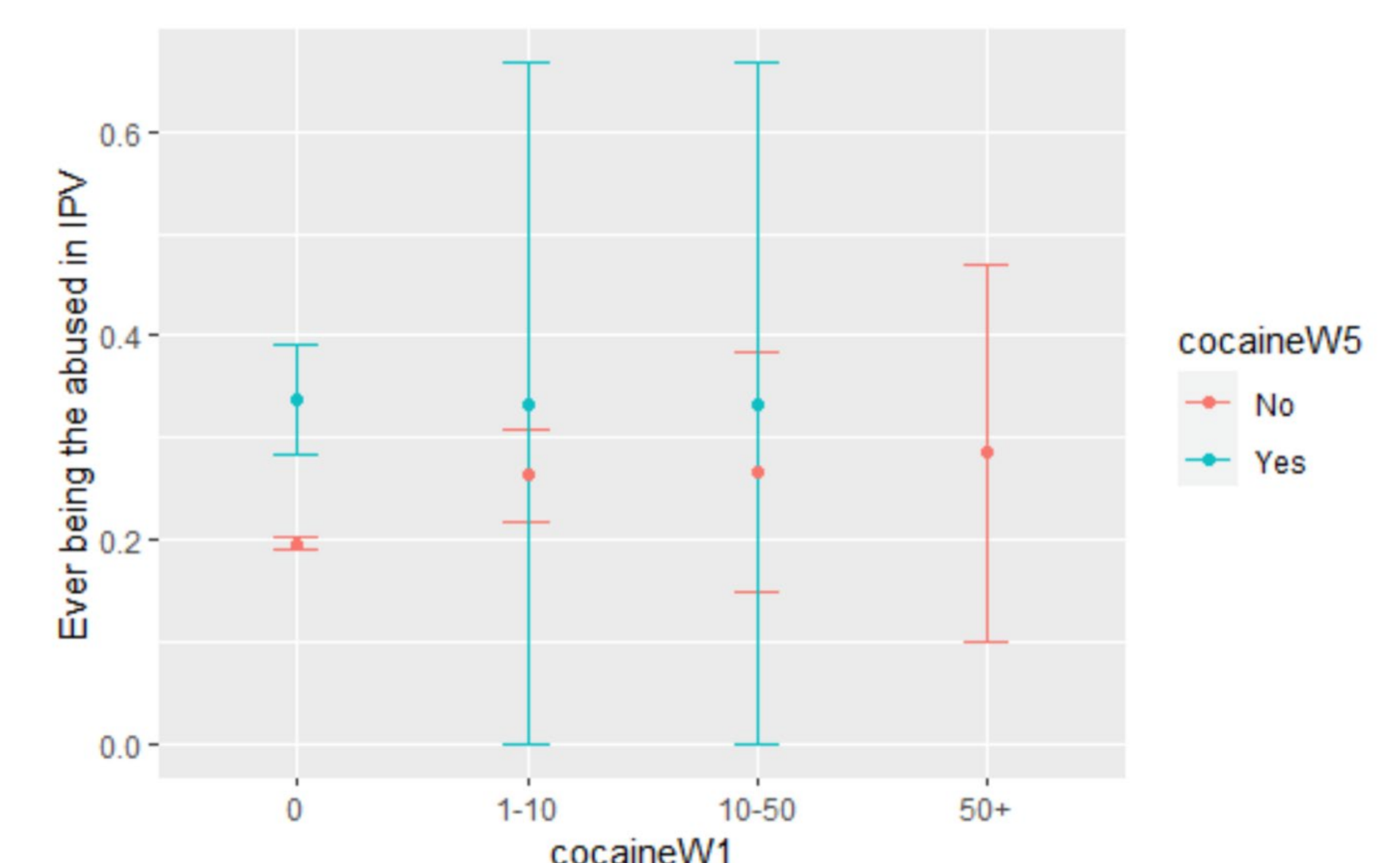


Figure 4. Cocaine use in adolescence & Cocaine use in adulthood & proportion of ever being the abuser

Discussion

- This study does not provide enough evidence to prove that cocaine use in adolescence is significant to the adulthood Intimate Partner Violence condition of being abused or abusing.
- Regardless of cocaine use history, individuals who use cocaine in the adulthood are more likely to be an abuser or the abused in Intimate Partner Violence.
- The result might be helpful for adjusting adolescence and adulthood cocaine use control in this country.
- Further research is required to determinate what prevents the teenager who uses cocaine to not easily involved in Intimate Partner Violences.

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