



Protecting Well -Being in Law School and in the Transition to Law Practice

Sponsored by the Law Student Division and the Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs (CoLAP)



Welcome

Janet Stearns, Dean of Students, University of Miami School of Law



Faculty

Moderator

Lannette Richardson, Chair, ABA Law Student Division

Speakers

Dr. Katherine Bender, Assistant Professor, Bridgewater State University

Laura Farber, Partner, Hahn & Hahn LLP and Co-Chair, ABA Coordinating Group on Practice Forward

Roberta Liebenberg, Senior Partner, Fine, Kaplan and Black and Principal, The Red Bee Group

Dr. Stephanie Scharf, Partner, Scharf Banks Marmor LLC and Principal, The Red Bee Group, LLC

Updated Survey of Law Student Well Being (USLSWB)

Katherine M. Bender, Assistant Professor
Bridgewater State University

David Jaffe, Dean of Students
American University Washington College of Law

Jerome M. Organ, Bakken Professor of Law and
Co-Director of the Holloran Center for Ethical Leadership
University of St. Thomas School of Law

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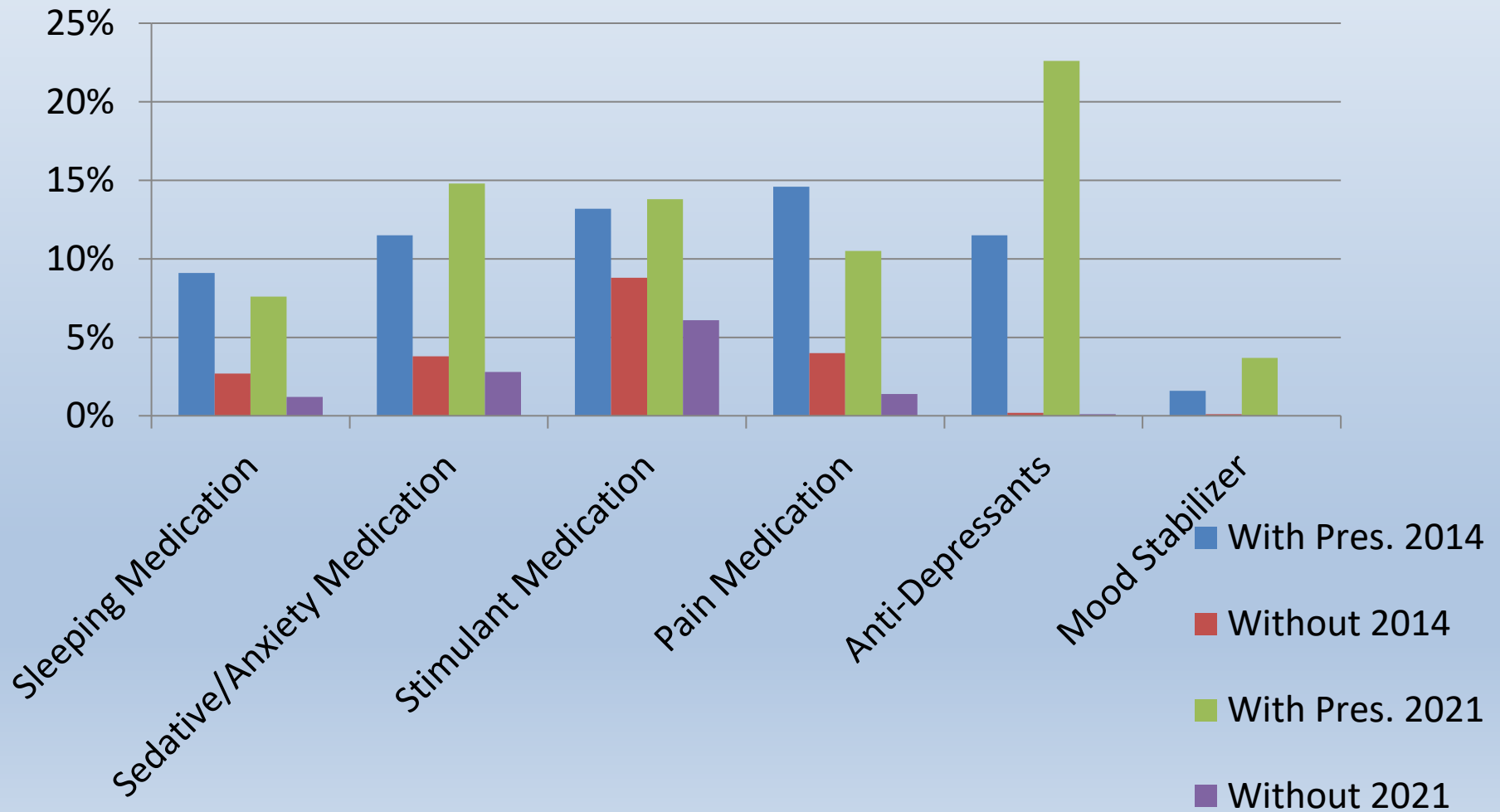
Participants & Methods

- IRB Approval
- Web-based Survey Design
- 39 Law Schools in Spring 2021
- About 24,000 Law Students
- More than 5,000 Respondents
- Response Rate of More than 20%

Alcohol Consumption	SLSWB	USLSWB	Healthy Minds (Grad.)	Healthy Minds (Undergrad)
Prior 30 days - drank enough to get drunk	53%	53%	39%	61%
Prior 2 weeks - binge drank at least once	43%	39%	36% 32%	45%
Prior 2 weeks - binge drank 2 or more times	22%	18%	21%	30%

Street Drugs	Marijuana	Cocaine
Prior 12 months (USLSWB)	39%	6%
Prior 12 months (2014 SLSWB)	25%	6%
Prior 12 months (1991 AALS)	21%	5%
Prior 30 days (USLSWB)	26%	2.3%
Prior 30 days Healthy Minds 2020 Masters Level	17%	
Prior 30 Days (2014 SLSWB)	14%	2.5%
Prior 30 Days (1991 AALS)	8%	1%

Prescription Drug Use in the Past 12 Months



Depression or Anxiety Diagnosis

Diagnosis

Depression

2021 USLSWB – 33% in lifetime, 18% of whom were diagnosed since starting law school

2020 Healthy Minds masters level graduate students: 26.6%

2014 SLSWB -- 18% in lifetime, 17% of whom were diagnosed since starting law school

Anxiety

2021 USLSWB -- 40% in lifetime, 22.5% of whom were diagnosed since starting law school

2020 Healthy Minds masters level graduate students: 24.3%

2014 SLSWB -- 21% in lifetime, 30% of whom were diagnosed since starting law school

Frequency of Suicidal Thoughts

- 2021 USLSWB – 33% have thought seriously about suicide sometime in their life
- 2014 SLSWB -- 20% have thought seriously about suicide sometime in their life
- 2021 USLSWB – 11% have thought seriously about suicide in the last 12 months
- 2020 Healthy Minds 8.2% (masters level students) in the last 12 months
- 2014 SLSWB -- 6% have thought seriously about suicide in the last 12 months