

# “Drugs, Parties, Gender, Sex and me?”

## PartyZine

### Methodological Guidelines

Written by Mélina Germes, May 2020

#### Aim of the method

What’s your experience of drug, alcohol and medication use during parties and festivals? Do things go well for everyone? How would things be improved?

PartyZine is investigating the festive consumption of drugs, alcohol and mind-altering substances and particularly gender roles and gender identities. What are the effects of drug and alcohol use on the relations between people at parties? How do people organise themselves, individually and as a group?

This DIY zine circulates to get as many stories from as many viewpoints as possible – your opinion interests us even if you don’t really go out, or don’t drink or take drugs! We’d like everyone to have the chance to contribute their own point of view to the collective conversation.

#### Method suited for

Whereas individual, collective or groups or peer, you just need to want to talk about your own experiences and observations. Your point of view is interesting even if you don’t do drugs.

#### Inspiration

Inspired by Zine and DIY subculture and queer-feminist zine practices.

#### Themes

Party; Gender; Sexuality; Semi-public spaces; Users; Non-users; Self-governance

#### What do you need

You have the choice

1. Download and print the PDF as a A5 booklet. You can then send an exemplar per mail or scan and upload it.
2. Online: write your zine on an online form.

#### Requirements

The PartyZine is available in English, German and French. You like to be creative or write about your experiences and observations. Be careful not to give too much details about your private life.

#### Linked to

Collection in the archive; Other method of the project: link

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## A contribution to queer-feminist peer research on drug uses and partying

There are concerns expressed in the queer and/or feminist communities about the role of partying and drug uses. Some examples of these concerns about a dominant “intoxication culture” taking advantage of the particular vulnerability of queer folx is expressed in different ways in zines made by Nick Riotfag and Clementine Morrigan and Faith Alexandra Marie.

These questions are a blind spot of the international research in social sciences and at the same time a very relevant issues for the communities. How to deal with night-time socialities, in order to exclude no one? Neither sober folx (struggling or not to remain sober), nor people telling about their addictions?

The aim of this collection of zines is to dig deeper into a huge variety of experiences, observations, anecdotes, in order to construct together a documentation on practices from different points of view – with the aim to reach an intersectional/interwoven approach on these questions.

### Strengths of this research practice

- ❑ Non-leading open questions
- ❑ Autonomy and creativity of the participants (in comparison to interviews or questionnaires)
- ❑ Making place for intimacy, tales of experiences, analysis of situations and observation of practices and situated knowledge
- ❑ The publication of the PartyZines allows sharing of ideas across activists’ networks, sharing of practices and their effects
- ❑ Fostering a collective discussion in order to make these spaces more accessible

### Limits of this research practice

- ❑ Qualitative research: no measurements.
- ❑ Very individual responses to non-leading questions will make comparisons between people and cities difficult in the phase of analysis of the results

## Getting Ready

### Steps

Go to [www.tinyurl.com/partyzines](http://www.tinyurl.com/partyzines) and make a choice between:

1. Download, print this PDF file as an A5 booklet and write it on paper.
2. Write your zine online (text only).

### Ethics

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### Data Protection

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## In Action

### Steps

**Make the PartyZine yours** with text, collages, photos, drawings... You can add as many pages as you like, ignore the questions you don't fancy or add other ones.

### Ethics

Write, draw and craft about your experience and observations; don't tell about the personal life of people.

### Data Protection

For your safety, it's vital that your zine remains **anonymous**. Some tips:

- Don't include any personal information (names, pseudonyms, phone number, email, date of birth, etc.). Why not try a false name, just for this zine?
- Instead of specifics (place of work, family members, medical conditions...), keep it vague and use general terms.
- Instead of addresses, talk about neighborhoods and cities.
- Make sure no one is identifiable in your photos – which is boosting creativity!

**We double-check the zines' anonymity before publication.** Anything too personal will be crossed out in black. If there are just too many identifiable features, the zine won't appear in the open archive.

## Upload of your files

### Finalize the file

1. You made your zine on paper:
  - You can send it per post to: Mélina Germes, UMR PASSAGES, 12 Esplanade des Antilles, 33607 Pessac Cedex, France
  - You can scan it and send it per mail: [melina.germes@cnrs.fr](mailto:melina.germes@cnrs.fr)
  - You can scan it and upload it: [www.tinyurl.com/partyzines](http://www.tinyurl.com/partyzines)
2. You wrote your zine online? just click "Save" on the last page!

## Links:

- PartyZine online: [www.tinyurl.com/partyzines](http://www.tinyurl.com/partyzines)
- PartyZine in English: [https://drusec.hypotheses.org/files/2020/05/PartyZine\\_EN.pdf](https://drusec.hypotheses.org/files/2020/05/PartyZine_EN.pdf)
- PartyZine in French: [https://drusec.hypotheses.org/files/2020/05/PartyZine\\_FR.pdf](https://drusec.hypotheses.org/files/2020/05/PartyZine_FR.pdf)
- PartyZine in German: [https://drusec.hypotheses.org/files/2020/05/PartyZine\\_DE.pdf](https://drusec.hypotheses.org/files/2020/05/PartyZine_DE.pdf)