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The Norwegian student introductory week: who takes part, and is participation associated with better social integration and satisfaction among students? / Solbjorg Makalani Myrtveit

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Abstract

Norwegian universities and university colleges yearly arrange an introductory week to welcome new students. This study provides new insight about who takes part in the event, to what degree students are satisfied with the event, and whether participation is associated with social integration. Data from the Norwegian study of students' health and well-being was used. Satisfaction with the introductory week and other variables of interest were described for individuals taking part, partly taking part and not taking part in the event. The associations between participation, satisfaction and social integration were investigated (linear regression). More than 70% of students were satisfied with the introductory week and the opportunity it provided for getting to know other students. Participation in the event was associated with higher satisfaction with the student community and student city, and better social integration. Individuals who were younger, single and had moved to the student city were more likely to participate in the event, alcohol abstainers were less likely to participate. Though the introductory week is associated with beneficial outcomes with regards to satisfaction and social integration, the

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event might be in danger of excluding individuals who cannot or do not want to consume alcohol. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)