

Exclusion, Drugs, & African Immigrants: Testing Social Exclusion Theory

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Introduction

African immigrants are prepared to thrive in the US, but they struggle more than most immigrant groups.

Helpful Traits

- Speak English
- Christian
- Highly educated

Challenges

- Housing segregation
- Underemployment
- Skill devaluation

Social Exclusion Theory:

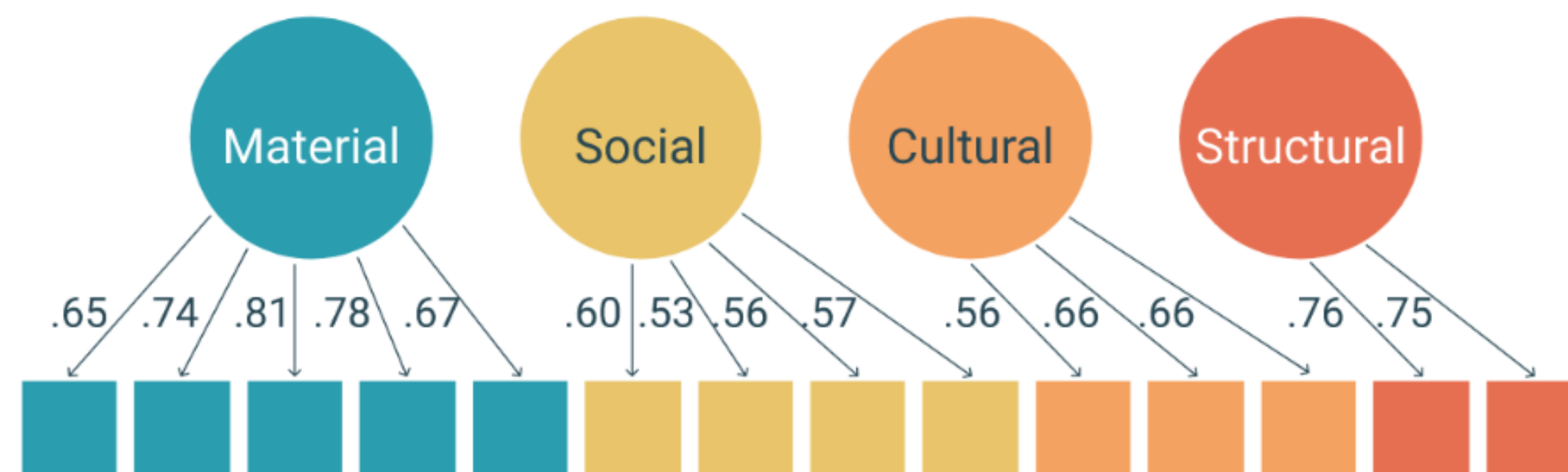
Maybe exclusion explains this disconnect.

Our question to test this theory:

Does exclusion predict drug use for African immigrants?

Methods

600 African immigrants from all across USA responded to a survey.



Using Mplus, we regressed substance use and prescription drug abuse on these four dimensions of exclusion.

Results

Structural Exclusion

- Predicted increased substance use & prescription drug abuse

Other 3 Exclusion Forms

- Were unrelated to substance use.
- They also predicted less prescription drug abuse

African immigrants who experience exclusion are more likely to abuse substances and prescription drugs.

Discussion

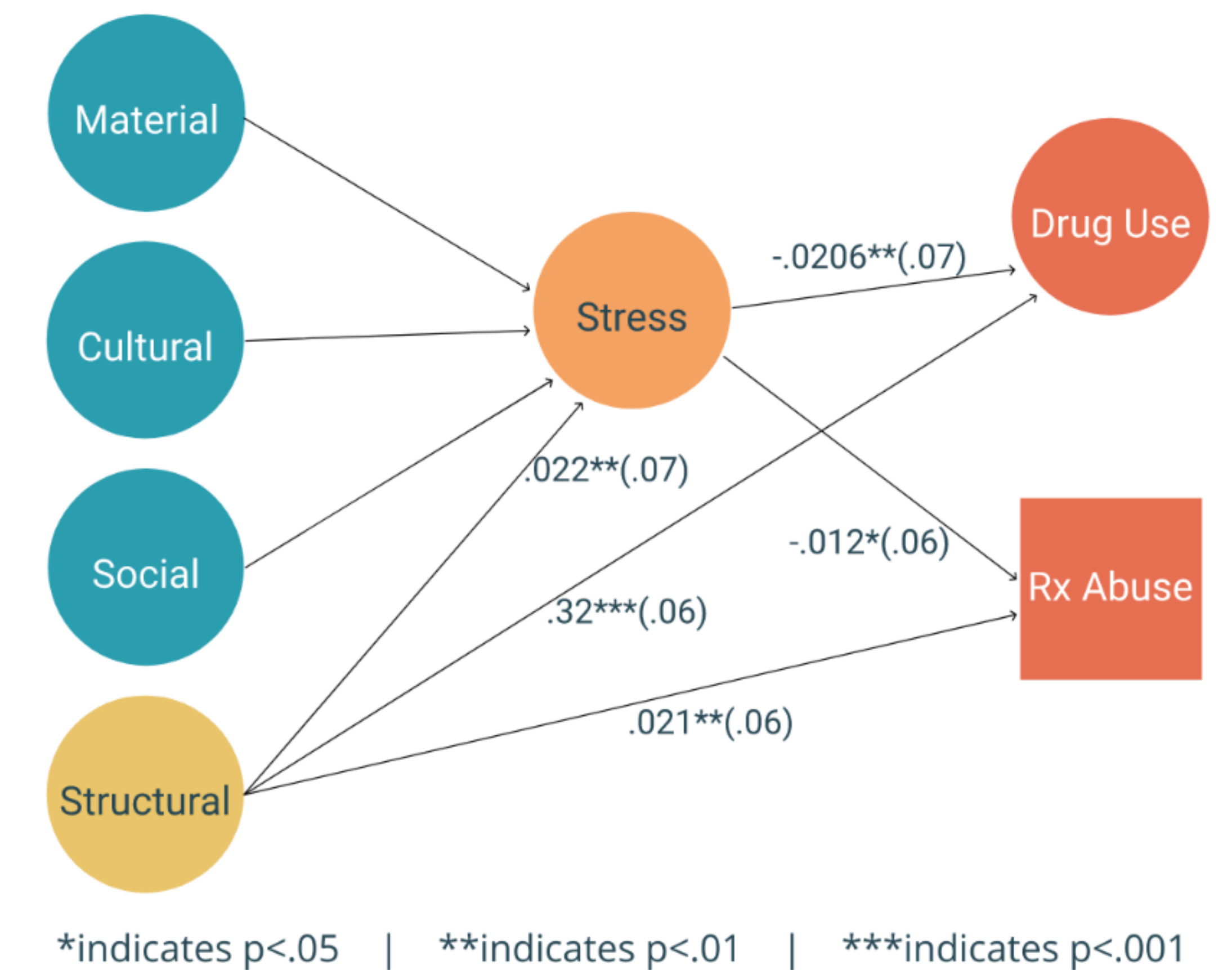
Findings provide support for social exclusion theory.

Structural barriers help explain one of the many challenges African immigrants face.

Social exclusion theory isn't commonly used in the US. Our nuanced findings necessitate further research to understand this theory in this context.

Extra Tables & Figures

Structural Model with Significant Effect Coefficients



	Structural	
	Drug	Rx
Direct Effect	.316***	.212***
Indirect Effect	-.045	-.026
Total Effect	.271	.186

	Exclusion	
	Drug	Rx
Direct Effect	.065	-.139*
Indirect Effect	-.059*	-.034
Total Effect	.006	-.173

Want to know more?
Check out the full report.

