1. Introduction
Experimentally, the influence of alcohol on risk-taking has largely been examined in isolated contexts, disregarding social factors generally coinciding with alcohol use in the real world. Examination of alcohol and risk-taking in social contexts may offer useful considerations for future alcohol safeguarding practices.

• Aims
Examine the independent and combined influence of group contexts and alcohol consumption on individual risk-taking behaviour

2. Method

• Design
Mixed design (between: beverage and context, within: risk tasking pre & post beverage)

• Participants
99 social drinkers (62 female) tested in isolation or groups of 3.

• Conditions
(1) Isolation Alcohol (2) Isolation Placebo (3) Group Alcohol (4) Group Placebo

• Self Reports
AUDIT and RT-18 (trait risk-taking)

• Risk-Taking Tasks
Stoplight Task (SLT)
Balloon Analogue Risk Task (BART)

3. Results
Mixed ANOVA was performed to examine the effect of beverage and context on risk-taking behaviour

• Context
Participants who were tested within groups were more risk-taking on both the SLT \(p < .01\) and the BART \(p = .05\)

• Beverage
Alcohol did not influence risk-taking behaviour. However, those who consumed placebo were significantly less risky on the SLT \(p = .03\)

• Interaction
No interactions were found between context and beverage on risk-taking.

4. Conclusion
The results suggest that an individual’s risk taking behaviour is influenced by group contexts to a greater extent than alcohol consumption. By targeting the influence of group contexts in combination with drinking practices, it is possible that more successful interventions will emerge.

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