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Peer and parental influence in academic performance and alcohol use

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HIGHLIGHTS

- The identification strategy is based on quasi-random assignment of students across classes, time varying data, and the use of instrumental variables.
- This paper is among the first to jointly consider peer effects and parental involvement outside the developed world.
- We find that peer and parental investment have a positive influence over adolescents' academic skills and are complementary.
- We find that peer effects are heterogenous (boys, popular students and high achievers are more likely to be influenced by peers academic abilities)
- We find that parental investment decreases alcohol use but no robust evidence of peer peer effects.

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