



**A STUDY ON RELATIONSHIP OF THEORY OF PERSONALITY AND
TYPE OF ALCOHOLIC PERSONALITY**

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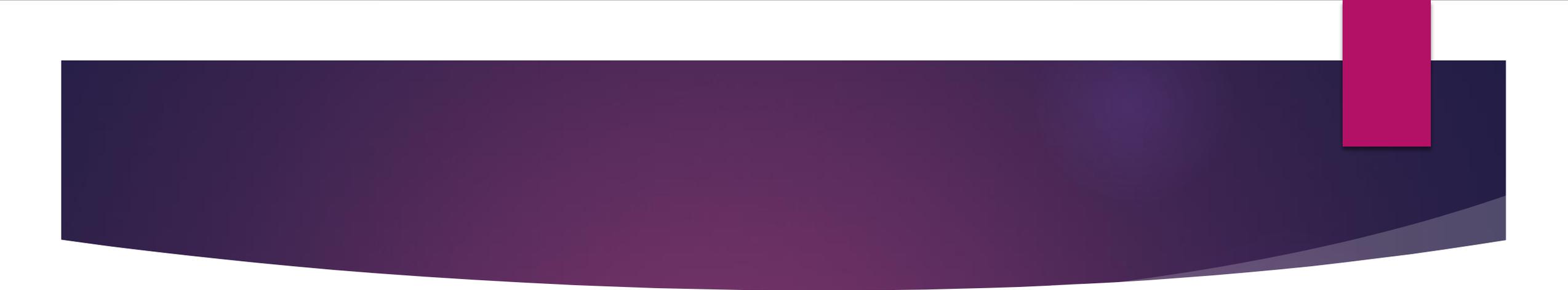


A Study on Relationship of Theory of Personality and Type of Alcoholic Personality

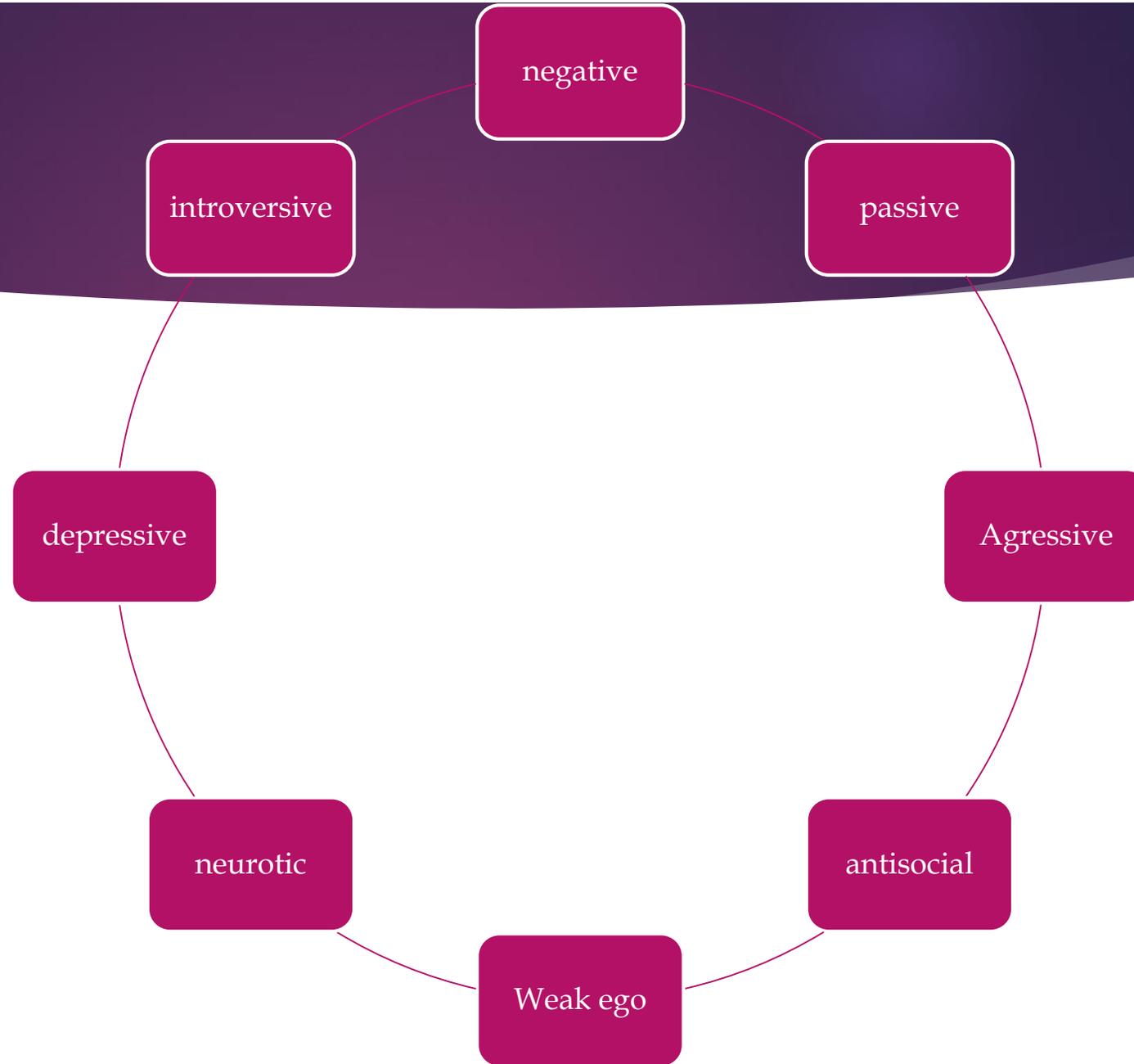
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Introduction

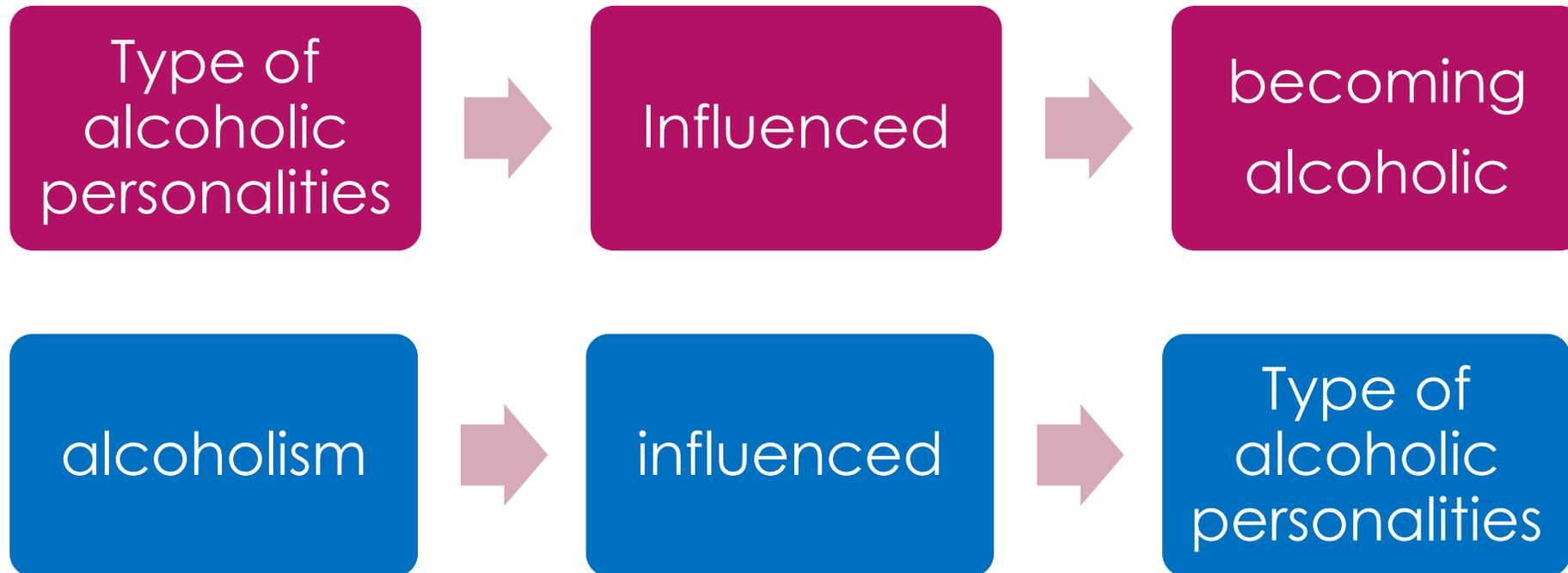
- ▶ alcoholics are getting increased steadily not only in Korean but also in worldwide
- ▶ alcohol use causes violence, accidents and injury, family problems, unemployment, diseases and so on
- ▶ Alcohol is a causal factor in more than 60 medical conditions, including mouth, throat, stomach, liver and breast cancers, high blood pressure, cirrhosis of the liver, and depression (Alcohol Concern, 2015)

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- ▶ Talbot - alcohol is a severe drug (Wholey, 1984)
 - ▶ social needs - improving alcohol problems are required
 - ▶ what the most important factor causing alcoholism
 - ▶ Main Facotr: researches have focused on personality type of the alcoholic (Alvanzo, et al., 2013; Tragesser, et al., 2009; Nowinski, 1995)

▶ Type of alcoholic personalities



- ▶ Type of personality - applies in treatment of alcoholics
- ▶ Researcher exams

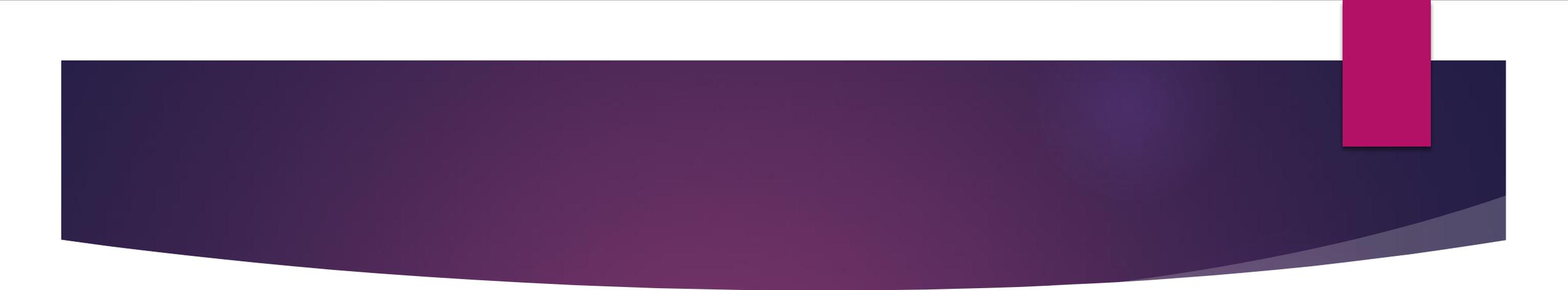


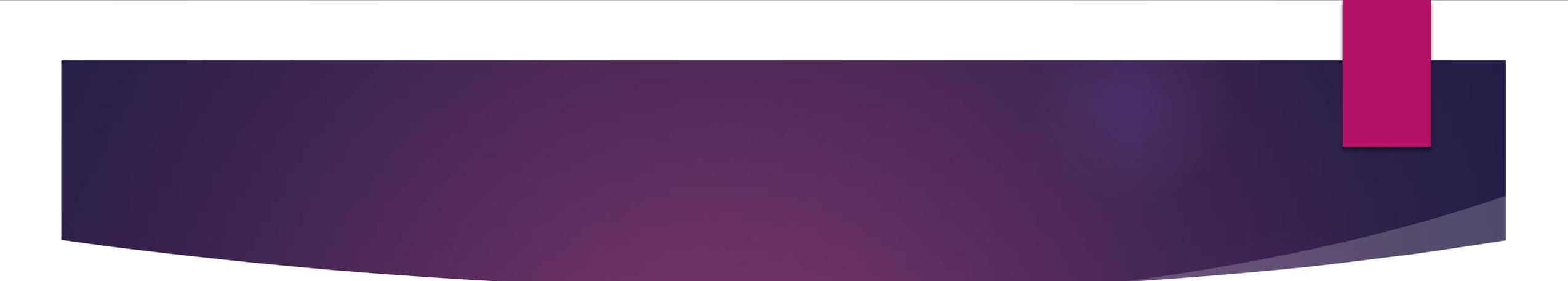
Aims of this study

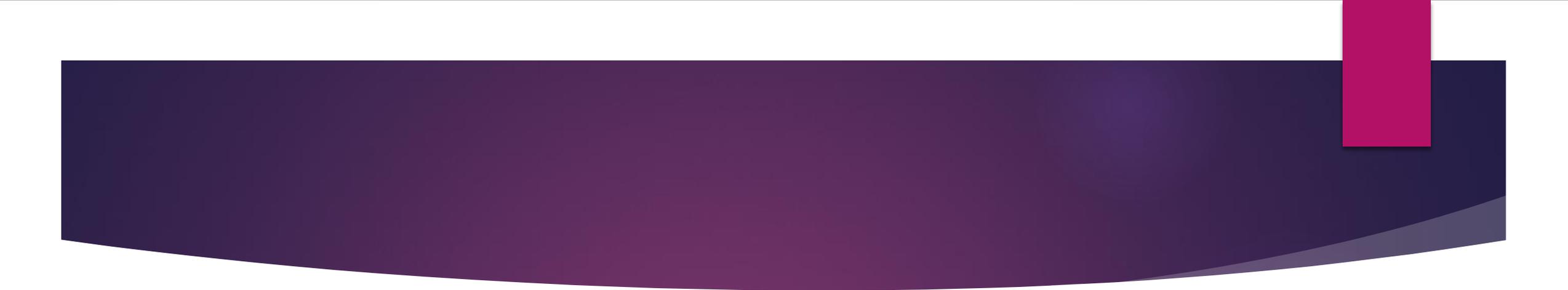
- ▶ First, examine theory of personality and type of alcoholic personality resulted in the field of alcoholism study and research
- ▶ Second, analyze if theory of personality can be applied to adolescence – before alcoholic
- ▶ Third, derive external factors- main mechanism to be alcoholics

Previous Studies and Researches

- ▶ **Personality - fundamental on the study of psychology**
- ▶ Sigmund Freud - human mental and behavioral processes can be considered as theory of personality
- ▶ Theory of Personality in addiction field - concepts of psychological pathology and inadequacy of character
- ▶ certain emotional and psychological character = abnormal propensity → using substances
- ▶ unique characters → drugs and alcohol user : for escape from reality to evade issues of life
- ▶ Evading from his/her reality is a adapt mechanism as less mature individual (Lindesmith, 1997; Gitae Kim, et al., 2005).

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- ▶ Adlers' theory focuses on individual's inferiority complex for interpretation of substance abuse
 - ▶ The inferiority awareness of individual → alcohol and drug → avoiding social participation and pursuing
 - ▶ those who depend → alcohol and drugs → believe to promote the ability for overcoming obstacles (Saduk Won and Hyunkyung Lee, 2005).

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- ▶ the nature of some personalities work as individual's factor on the use of alcohol.
 - ▶ Alcoholic personalities can be defined as dependent, immature, and impulsive (Traesser, et al., 2007; Gitae Kim, 2005).
 - ▶ Theory of Personality has a basic precondition which is inducing people to alcoholism is related with deficiency of character and/or potential deficiency.
 - ▶ researchers consider that alcoholics are defective in the most fundamental personality.
 - ▶ American Psychological Association(APA) defined alcoholism as antisocial personality psychology until 1980(Peterson, et al., 2003).



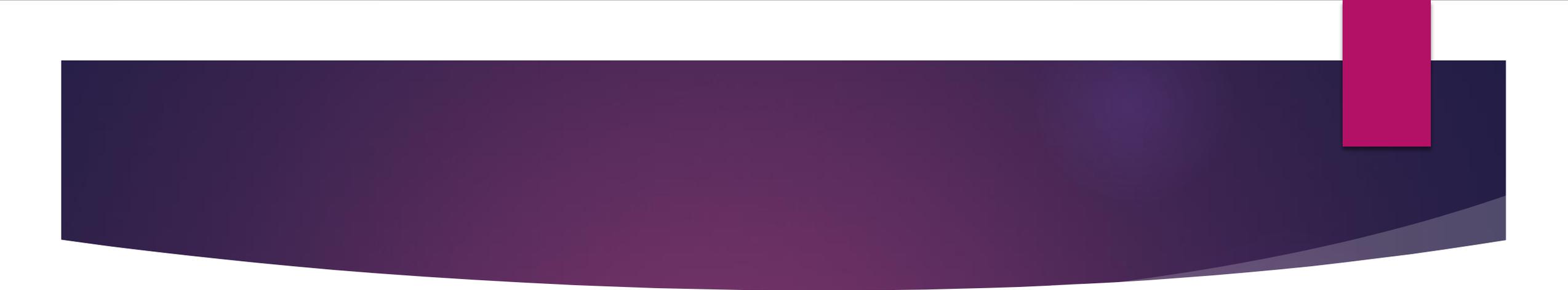
► Most of studies and researches tried to find out the relationship between alcoholic personalities and alcoholism have reported that

- alcoholics have :

very negative, passive, aggressive, antisocial, depressive, and neurotic tendencies (Nerviano and Gross, 1983; Sandal et al., 1987; Nowinski, 1995; Pattison et al., 1997; Inger, et al., 1998; Mulder, 2002; Armeli and Teenen, 2003; Heesook Kim, 2004; Tragesser, et al., 2009; Moonsun Chang et al., 2011; Alvanzo et al., 2013; Jeongwha Lee and Jeonngrak Son, 2013).

For example: negative emotion

- ▶ The negative emotion generally shown in alcoholics as a representative character could be a factor caused addicts.
- ▶ The alcoholic doesn't have capability to cope the negative emotion → using alcohol excessively to avoid that emotion (Cooper et al., 1995; Armeli, et al., 2003; Forsyth, et al., 2003).
- ◆ type of personalities appear similarly to the vast majority of alcoholics (Ludwig, 1986; Mulder, 2002).

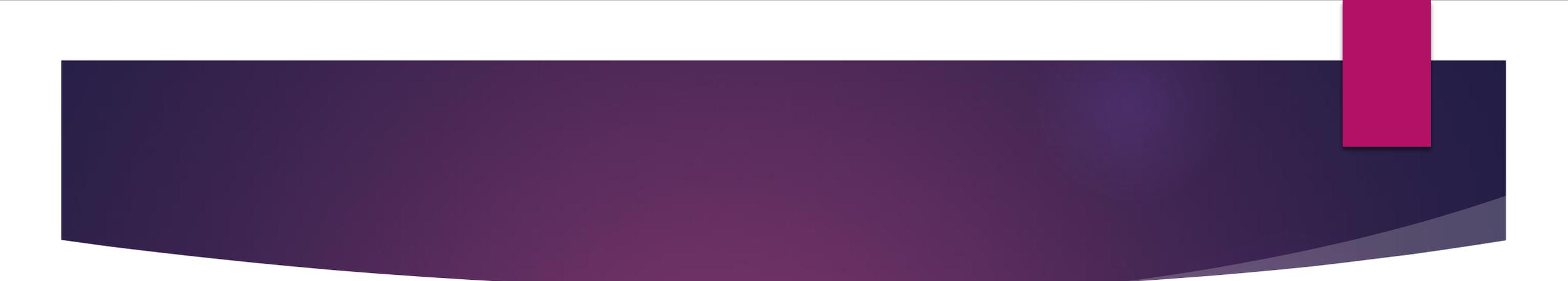


► summaries

- avoidance of reality and dependency are very unique characters over a wide range of addiction aspects.
- these characters are very close analogy with DSM-IV which is classified dependency and avoidance among 10 characters.
- findings have presented alcoholism as aspects of psychological personalities.

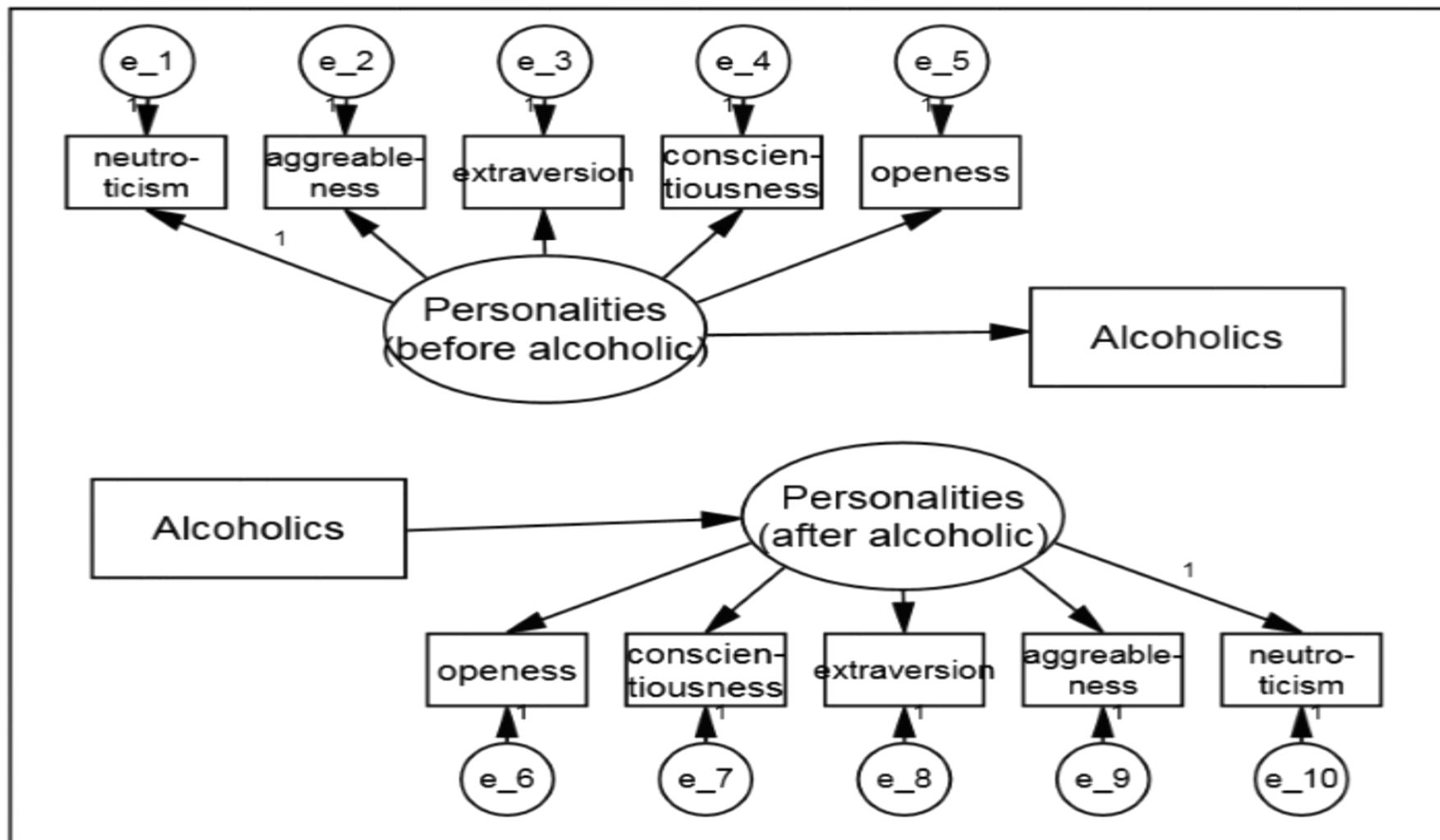
Current Study

- ▶ This research planned to examine
 - how theory of personality and/or type of personality can explain becoming alcoholic
 - to suggest more influential factors to be alcoholics other than personalities.
 - to support the research, a research model was created to verify a causal relationship of path geometry between adolescence period which were not influenced by alcohol and after exposure in alcoholism.

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- ▶ The researcher hypothesized hypotheses in order to proceed this study in three dimensions
 - 1-1. The person exposed to alcohol will be formed a certain type of personality that corresponded to the theory of personality and/or type of alcoholic personality.
 - 2-1. The specific personality in accordance with theory of personality and/or type of personality will have a significant factor becoming alcoholics.
 - 3-1. External factors rather than specific type of personality referred by the theory of personality will be served to be alcoholics.

Research Model: Big Five Personality Traits

- ▶ The Big Five Personality Traits are the best accepted and most commonly used model of personality in academic psychology
- ▶ Used neo personality inventory revised by Costa and McCrea(1992)
- ▶ The five factors are; openness, conscientiousness, extraversion, agreeableness, and neuroticism



[figure 1] Research Model

Samples and Data Collection

▶ Collected Data

- Sample number - 502
- Randomly from three addiction groups
- Turned out as alcoholics from psychiatrists or specialists
- Participating treatment programs

1) Age

- ▶ Samples' mean age - 35.77
- ▶ Consisted with 75% of male and 25% of female

2) Race

- ▶ 160 African American (31.8%), 100 Caucasian (20%), 106 Latin (21.2%), 59 Mexican American (11.8%), 24 Asian (4.7%), and 53 others (10.5%)

3) Marital Status

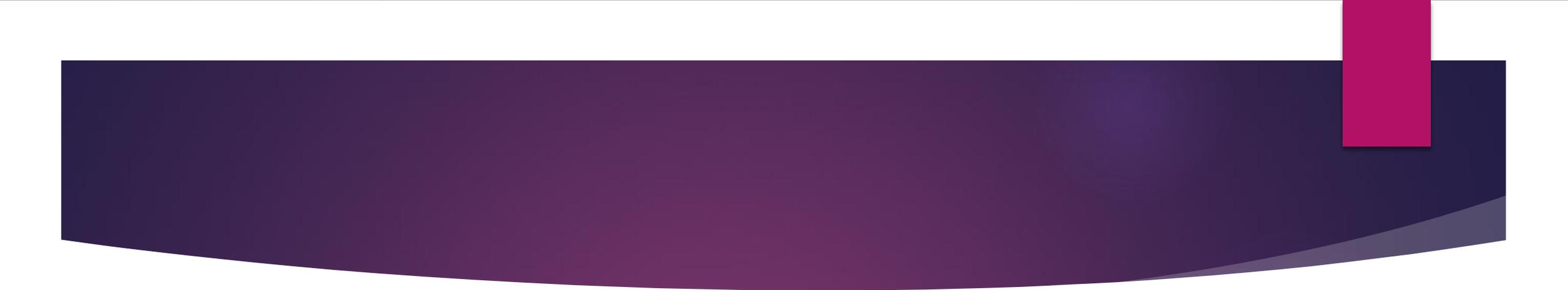
- ▶ Single (n=9, 19.2%)
- ▶ Live together (n=83, 19.2%)
- ▶ Married (n=43, 8.6%)
- ▶ Separated (n=58, 11.6%)
- ▶ Divorced (n=197, 39.2%)
- ▶ Others (n=24, 4.8%)

4) Primary caretaker

- ▶ Birth parents (n=165, 37%)
- ▶ Father (n=39, 7.7%)
- ▶ Mother (n=141, 28.1%)
- ▶ Step father + mother (n=27, 10.3%)

5) parents' alcoholic status

- ▶ Parents (n=111, 22.2%)
- ▶ Father (n=146, 29%)
- ▶ Mother (n=68 , 13.6%)
- ▶ Non-alcoholic parents (n=150, 29.9%)
- ▶ Primary caretaker (n=27, 5.3%)



6) education level

- ▶ Less than high school (n=137, 27.3%)
- ▶ High school or GED (n=193, 38.4%)
- ▶ More than high school (n=172, 34.3%)

7) Family income

- ▶ Les than \$10,000 (n=177, 35.2%)
- ▶ \$10,000-\$20,000 (n=112, 22.4%)
- ▶ \$20,000-\$30,000 (n=37, 7.3%)
- ▶ \$30,000-\$40,000 (n=55, 11%)
- ▶ \$40,000-\$50,000 (n=53, 10.5%)
- ▶ More than \$50,000 (n=68, 13.5%)

Analysis and measures

- ▶ Analysis - Structural equation model
- ▶ used SPSS 21 and AMOS 21
- ▶ Measures were selected that showed acceptable reliability
- ▶ Cronbach alpha values

Result

► Confirmatory factor analysis

1) before alcoholics: $\chi^2=517.283(265)$, $p=.000$, $RMSEA=.058$ $CFI=.808$ $TLI=.810$

- Delete unacceptable variables and analyzed it again:

$\chi^2=200.931(54)$, $p=.000$, $RMSEA=.061$, $CFI=.911$, $TLI=.917$ → acceptable

2) after alcoholics: $\chi^2=670.202(265)$, $p=.000$, $RMSEA=.073$, $CFI=.831$, $TLI=.827$

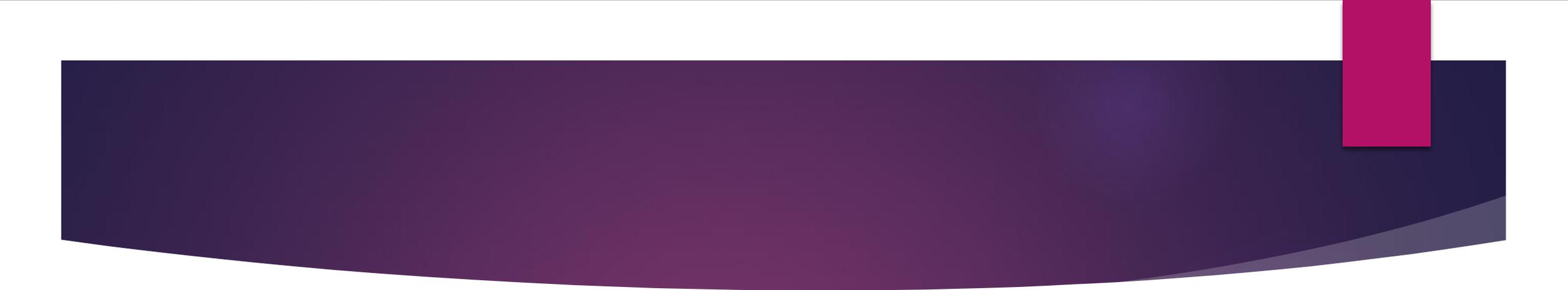
- Delete unacceptable variables and analyzed

$\chi^2=430.577(220)$, $p=.000$, $RMSEA=.058$, $CFI=.921$, $TLI=.927$ → acceptable

	Estimate	S.E.	C.R.	P
Before alcoholic--> Conscientiousness	1.000			
Before alcoholic--> agreeableness	12.050	17.131	.703	.482
Before alcoholic--> openness	7.382	10.506	.703	.482
Before alcoholic--> extraversion	7.242	10.337	.701	.484
After alcoholic--> conscientiousness	1.000			
After alcoholic--> agreeableness	.513	.252	2.041	.041
After alcoholic--> openness	1.859	.494	3.759	***
After alcoholic--> extraversion	1.386	.370	3.751	***

Discussion

- ▶ Two treatment methods for alcoholics have been applied
 - 1) Participating treatment program after alcoholics
 - 2) preventing alcoholism before alcoholics
- ▶ Currently most of alcoholism programs focus on after alcoholics (post-alcoholism)
- ▶ Suggested approaching method by the theory of personality is effective in alcoholism



► This research presented

1) theory of personality is applicable to those who become alcoholics(after alcoholic groups) as same with previous research (Armeli and Teenen, 2003; Peterson, et. at., 2003; Tragesser et. al.,2009; Alvanzo et al., 2013;

2) theory of personality is not applicable to those who will be able to alcoholics(before alcoholic groups)

Conclusion

▶ this research shows

1) we can not defined that unique personality is a main factor to be alcoholic .

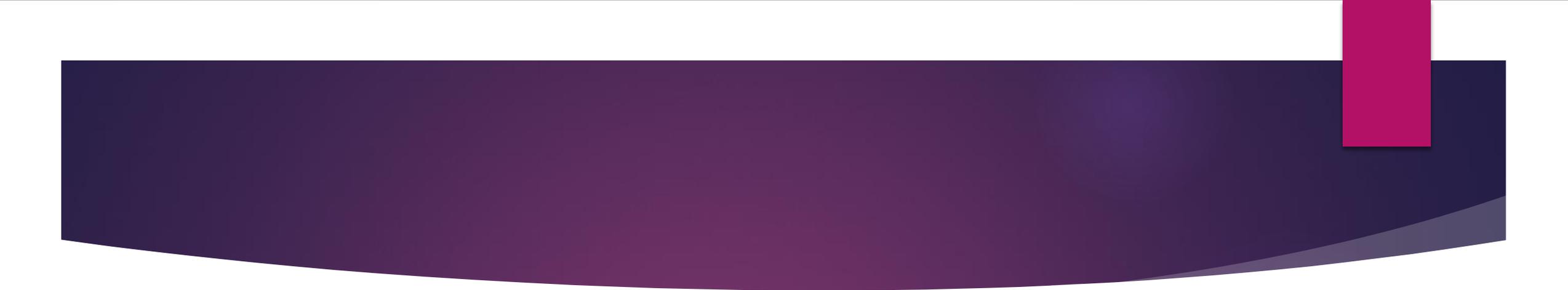
2) socio-demographic, economics, living environments, and so on can be more influential to be alcoholics than his/her personalities.

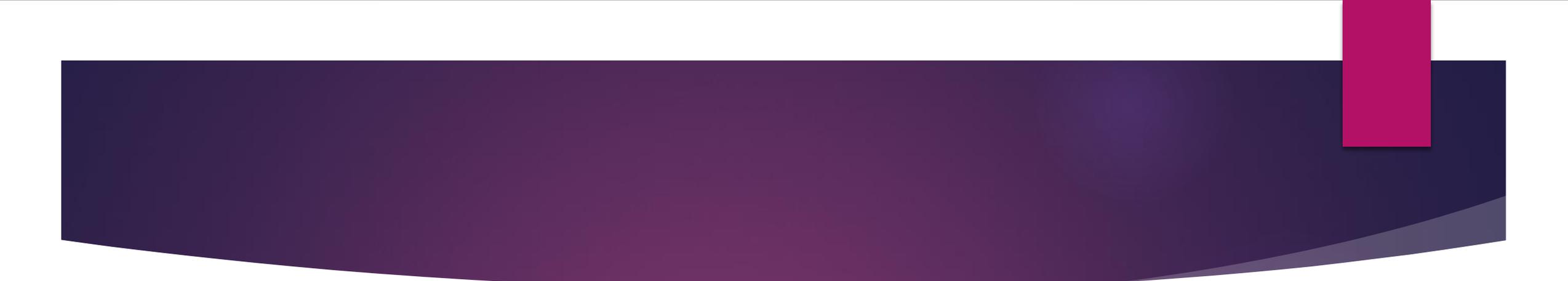
Limitations

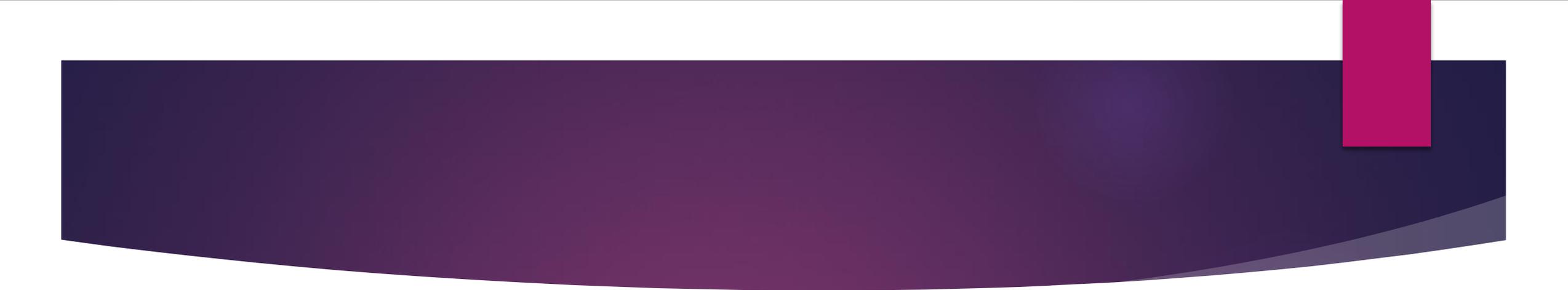
- ▶ needed wider range for collecting data – used data were collected only from three cities in California
- ▶ Needed interview with alcoholics for further research
- ▶ Needed more female sample for comparing between male alcoholics and female alcoholics

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