Tom Greenfield, PhD, is Scientific Director of the Public Health Institute’s Alcohol Research Group, in Emeryville California, which involves 15 multi-disciplinary research scientists bringing a broad range of expertise to bear on alcohol, other drug and mental health problems. Since 1995 Greenfield led and now co-leads the bi-decadal National Alcohol Surveys (NASs) conducted by the NIAAA-funded National Alcohol Research Center that he directed from 1999 to 2015 (P50 AA005595, Years 20-35). Over time, the NAS has incorporated measures that he helped refine, and examined interview modality effects in a series of methodological studies. Coming to America to study astronomy (Caltech BS; MIT SM), Greenfield later trained as a clinical psychologist (University of Michigan PhD), afterwards adding epidemiological and health services expertise through postdoctoral years at the UCSF Department of Psychiatry. He has authored or coauthored over 250 peer-reviewed articles, chapters, edited books and monographs. Many are on health effects of alcohol and alcohol policy, often in collaboration with colleagues, including early career scientists and postdoctoral fellows he has mentored. In addition to participating in many national and international projects, Dr. Greenfield has led numerous R-mechanism US National Institutes of Health projects on such topics as alcohol policy evaluation, health disparities and alcohol-related mortality, alcohol intake measurement, and comparative cross-national studies. He has recently co-led two team-based Alcohol’s Harms to Others R01 grants funded by NIAAA. One, just completed, examined among US adults ways that secondhand drinking can victimize partners, families, children, coworkers, and communities, using metrics such as damage to mental health, health quality of life, and a family’s finances. A similar current grant is a multinational collaboration involving standardized questionnaires in over 30 countries that surveyed victims and perpetrators of alcohol’s harms, also involving multiple PIs as well as 15 international co-investigators. Both grants are examining in depth state and national policies, contextual, and protective influences, and ways to best reduce the toll of alcohol’s harms to communities.

Selected recent publications:


Wilsnack, S.C., Greenfield, T.K., Bloomfield, K.A., (in press). The GENAHTO Project (Gender and Alcohol’s Harm to Others): design and methods for a multinational study of alcohol’s harm to persons other than the drinker. International Journal of Alcohol & Drug Research 7:37-47. PMCID: PMC6366670


