

GROWING PROBLEM OF DRUG USE AMONG ADOLESCENTS

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ABSTRACT

The study was undertaken to know the causes and effects of drug use by adolescents. A sample of 75 drug user adolescents was taken from Sirsa district of Haryana. A self prepared schedule was prepared for the purpose of data collection. Observation as a tool was also used. Socio economic status of the drug user adolescents was also kept in mind. The results of the study revealed that most of the drug user adolescents were from general castes and nuclear families. Most of them were illiterates and from agriculturists families.

INTRODUCTION

Drug use and addiction is one of the most burning problems in the world. It destroys the soul, health and wealth of human being. There are millions of people who can't understand the hard realities of life and become anxious, frustrated in everyday life. By nature, human being is pleasure seeking and has a desire to be free from frustration. To achieve the goal of happier life, he wants the help of drugs.

2. Observation of the researcher was added with respect to Identify the drug users and reason of drug use.

Statistical Techniques used: This being the qualitative as well as quantitative study, for analyzing of data, the percentages were calculated by investigator. However, while interviewing the cases the observations were added with respect to identifications of factors contributing the part of drug use.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The study was undertaken with the following objectives:

1. To find out the family environment of drug user adolescents.
2. To study the types and sources of drugs.
3. To find out the reasons for using the drugs by the adolescents.

PLAN AND PROCEDURE

Method: The study was planned to be undertaken as descriptive survey method to know the problem of drug use among adolescents. Interview technique and schedule were used to collect the required data.

Sample: The sample consisted of 75 drug user adolescents between the age groups of 14 to 21 years from different socio-economic status in rural localities in Sirsa District.

Tools Used: In the present study following tools were used to collect the required data about the drug user adolescents.

1. Schedule for drug use adolescents was prepared and used by the investigator.

MAIN FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The present study has revealed the following finding-

1. It was found that 68% cases were from the general caste 13.3% were from the other backward and rest 18.7% cases were from the scheduled castes.
2. Study revealed that 62.7% drugs users were from nuclear families and 37.3% were from joint families.
3. Out of 75 drug use adolescents, 58.7% were from 1 to 5 member families' size, 36% from 6 to 10 members of families and only 5.3% drug user adolescents were from the 11 and above member in families.
4. It was found that 60% drug use adolescents were illiterate 10.5% cases having the primary level education and 29.5% cases having secondary level education.
5. Study revealed that 73.3% drug users were unmarried and 26.7% cases were married.
6. 64% of drug user adolescents parents have the agriculture as an occupation, 8% of the

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cases having the parental occupation as business, 8% were from families whose parents were in service and 20% drug use adolescents were from labour class.

7. It was found that 20% of drug user adolescents father and 18.6% cases showed that their brother uses the drugs.
8. 20% drug users families have the monthly income about 1000 Rs./pm, 32% showed the income between 1001 to 3000 Rs./pm, 34.7% having 3001 to 5000 Rs./pm and 13.3% drugs addicts showed 5001 to above Rs./pm family income.
9. It was found that 28% cases use alcohol, 22.6% drug user adolescents use bhukki, 14% uses Bhang while Heroin is not used by any one, Opium and Tranquillizers are used 9.3% and 6.7% of drug abuser respectively. 18.7% of the total 75 cases used tobacco.
10. 29.3% of the drug user adolescents using the drug once in a day, 60% used twice in a day and 10.7% using the drugs more time in a day.
11. It was found that availability of drugs was by different sources as drug-peddler, tea stall, friends etc.
12. It was revealed that 28% cases showed their parents' source of money spent for the drug and 72% told self earning as sources of money spent on the drugs.
13. The reasons of starting drugs; 41.3% cases started drugs due to their peer pressure. For pleasure 33.3% of abusers and 1.3% cases started the drugs to remove anxiety, 18.6% of the cases used the drugs to increase work efficiency and rest of the cases started the drugs due to frustration, sexual problems and personal problems etc.

CONCLUSION

From the findings of the study, we can conclude that caste factor is not a reason for taking drugs, however most of the cases about 70%, were from the general castes. It can be concluded that in

small family size this problem is more existing than the big family size, because in small families, cases collect money from parents and use it in drugs. Drug taking problem is more in illiterate cases than in literate, because of their innocence. Most of the cases have used alcohol, bhukki, bhang, Opium and tranquillizer but none have used heroin because heroin is not area suitably. The causes of starting the drugs are peer pressure, to remove anxiety, to increase work efficiency, to remove sexual problem and due to personal problems.

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