



E-ISSN: 2789-9500
P-ISSN: 2789-9497
IJCCSL 2022; 2(2): 14-17
© 2022 IJCCSL
www.criminallawjournal.org
Received: 07-05-2022
Accepted: 25-06-2022

Aashia Maryam Jaan
Master of Laws, University
School of Law, Guru Kashi
University, Punjab, India

Amandeep Kaur
Assistant Professor, University
School of Law, Guru Kashi
University, Punjab, India

Drug abuse and adolescents a critical analysis

Aashia Maryam Jaan and Amandeep Kaur

Abstract

The usage of drugs worldwide is more harmful than terrorism, starvation, earthquakes, and tsunamis combined. Drug cartels that operate internationally represent a severe threat to the global economy, national security, and human welfare. A lot of money is made by using sophisticated smuggling methods and many smuggling routes. When someone brings up their habit of using drugs, the person who has it most of the time tries to avoid talking and walks away. As a result, they constantly lie to their parents in order to obtain money from them and purchase drugs that are extremely dangerous for their health. They also constantly try to hide their addictions from their parents and lie to them. Teens today are frequently addicted to drugs due to the simple availability of drugs, but their environment also plays a significant influence in their lives. This includes their family environment, parenting issues, school connections, etc. Teenagers use marijuana, tobacco, and other drugs. In fact, the majority of people develop addictions when they are with a little age they use painkillers, antibiotics for energy, etc. It is challenging for someone who is addicted to using drugs to advance. Depending on the type and amount of drugs used, there are differences in the risk of addiction and the speed at which users get addicted. For instance, compared to other drugs like alcohol and opium, opioid medications have a higher risk of addiction and can lead to addiction more quickly.

Keywords: Drug addiction, nicotine, alcohol, and marijuana, critical analysis, world drug report

Introduction

Drug addiction, referred to as substance use disorder, is a condition that impairs a person's capacity to control their use of any drug or prescription, whether it is legal or illegal. Drugs include chemicals like nicotine, alcohol, and marijuana. When you become addicted to a substance, you might keep using it even though it hurts you. Drug abuse can begin with the periodic occasional drug usage that some people engage in social settings before developing a drug addiction. Others get drug addiction after being exposed to prescribed pharmaceuticals or after acquiring medications from a friend or relative who has been prescribed the medication, especially with opioids^[1].

As time goes on, a person requires higher drug doses to feel high. They need eventually require the medicine just to feel well. Addicts can't find that it gets harder to abstain as daily drug use rises. When trying to stop using drugs, you could experience strong desires and physical sickness withdrawal symptoms to overcome a drug addiction and maintain your drug-free lifestyle; a person needs assistance from doctor, family, friends, support groups, or an organised treatment programme^[2].

The accessibility of drugs in the adolescent's community, school, and neighbourhood as well as the presence of drug use among peers all has an impact on whether they use drugs. Another factor is the familial environment: An adolescent is more likely to take drugs if there is violence, physical or emotional abuse, mental illness, or drug use in the community. Finally, an adolescent's inherited genetic susceptibility; personality features like lack of self-control or a high demand for excitement; mental health disorders including depression, anxiety, and attitudes that increase adolescent drug use include those that say drugs are cool and safe. Although the majority of teenagers do not progress from drug usage to addiction or other substance use disorders, merely attempting drugs is a problem. The use of drugs may be a component in a pattern of risky conduct that also includes reckless driving and other risky, unsupervised behaviours. Additionally, if a teen does establish a pattern of recurrent usage, there may be significant social and health concerns^[3].

Drugs

The word "drug" lacks a clear definition and can be employed in a variety of ways in pharmacology, government regulation, and everyday speech.

Corresponding Author:
Aashia Maryam Jaan
Master of Laws, University
School of Law, Guru Kashi
University, Punjab, India

As a chemical molecule utilised medically in humans or animals for the diagnosis, treatment, cure, reduction, or avoidance of sickness, pain, or other aberrant conditions, the phrase may have a positive connotation. As a chemical that has an adverse effect on a person's body or psyche, it may also carry a negative connotation that suggests misuse, abuse, addiction, or unlawful usage. Some drugs are used in religious, shamanic, or spiritual contexts, while others are used to generate or enhance recreational experiences (recreational drugs), (entheogens).

Types of drugs

The various drug classifications are shown below

- Cocaine
- Opiates
- Marijuana
- Ecstasy
- Heroin
- Methadone
- Mushrooms
- Painkillers, stimulants, antianxiety pills (Prescription medication).
- Hallucinogens
- Bath Salts
- Benzodiazepines

Commonly Used Prescription Drugs:

- Opioid painkillers,
- Mood stabilizers.
- Antidepressants.
- Benzodiazepines.
- Sleeping pills.
- Painkillers, stimulants, antianxiety pills (Prescription medication) ^[4].

Drug Addiction Signs, Symptoms

- Disorientation.
- Agitation.
- Breathing difficulties.
- Restlessness.
- Bluish tint to the skin.
- Restlessness.
- Strange speech or behaviour.
- Loss of consciousness.
- Anxiety or paranoid thinking.
- Red eyes.
- Dry mouth.
- Poor performance at school or at work.
- Signs of internal bleeding
- Spending money on a medication that you can't afford
- Due to drug use, people are failing to satisfy their obligations and work responsibilities, as well as cutting back on social and leisure activities ^[5].

Drug addiction causes include

- 1) **Drug accessibility:** When drugs are readily and openly available, the poor are more likely to use them. Those who have used drugs in the past may still do so frequently, but when they become abused, they will do anything to get their hands on the drug. Smuggling of drugs occurs in a variety of societies, cultures, and nations.

Idiosyncrasy: Drugs are attractive to a lot of people. For no other reason than curiosity, they experiment with

drugs, which eventually leads to abuse and addiction. This group typically includes teenagers. The initial flavour and how it affects users typically have a big impact on whether or not they would use it again.

- 2) **Opinion climate:** Teenagers frequently use drugs to integrate in with their peers; otherwise, they risk feeling isolated. Teenagers who take drugs frequently try to persuade others and form addictions because they want their classmates to approve of their behaviour.
- 3) **Personal attributes:** Many drug users lack maturity and are unable to respond to difficulties, anxieties, and frustrations in a responsible and adult way. To temporarily escape reality and give themselves the impression that they can handle life's pressures, they begin to use narcotics.
- 4) **Familial involvement:** Children are obligated to imitate their parents, children of addicts are at a significant risk of drug usage and addiction. If the parents use drugs, the chances of their offspring doing the same are increased.
- 5) **Mind dependence:** Some medications have the power to alter or modify one's mood. It directly affects the central nervous system of the body and causes psychological drug addiction ^[6].

COVID pandemic v/s drugs

According to the 2020 World Drug Report

Global drug consumption is increasing, and COVID-19 has a significant impact on global drug markets.

Vienna, June 25, 2020 According to the most recent World Drug Report, which was released by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, there were over 269 million drug users worldwide in 2018, which is 30% higher than in 2009. Additionally, over 35 million people experience drug use problems. While the entire impacts of COVID-19 on the drug markets are still unknown, boundary and other limitations related to the pandemic have already resulted in drug shortages on the black market, raising costs and lowering quality.

The Report notes that the pandemic's rising unemployment and diminished possibilities are also anticipated to disproportionately affect the poorest, rendering them more vulnerable to drug use as well as drug trafficking and cultivation for financial gain.

The cost of the global drug problem is borne by poor and marginalised populations, young people, women, and the poor. "At a time when health and social institutions have already reached breaking point and our society are struggling to cope, the COVID-19 issue and economic depression pose a threat to exacerbate drug hazards even more, Despite the worldwide postal supply chain being interrupted by COVID-19, traffickers may have to discover other paths and strategies, leading to an upsurge in dark net trafficking and deliveries through the mail. Opioid shortages brought on by the pandemic may prompt people to seek out other easily accessible substances like alcohol, benzodiazepines, or mixing synthetic medications. Some users switching to injecting or injecting more frequently may lead to the emergence of more hazardous patterns of usage ^[7].

Use of drugs: Trend

Over the decade from 2000 to 2018, drug use increased significantly more quickly in emerging nations than in industrialised nations. The majority of drug users are

adolescents and young adults, and because they use drugs most frequently and their brains are still developing, young people are also the most susceptible to their negative effects.

Cannabis:

It is remarkable that frequent cannabis usage has increased in all jurisdictions since legalisation, even if it is still difficult to assess the effects of laws that have legalised cannabis in some areas. More powerful cannabis products are also more widely available on the market in several of these jurisdictions.

Based on data from 69 nations between 2014 and 2018, cannabis continues to be the most common drug that leads users into touch with the criminal justice system, accounting for more than half of drug law offence instances.

The accessibility of pharmaceutical opioids for medical use varies around the world

The report also highlights the severe lack of pharmaceutical opioids for pain relief and palliative care that still exists in low-income nations. In 2018, high-income nations, which made up about 12% of the world's population, consumed more than 90% of all prescription opioids accessible for medical use, compared to less than 10% consumption in low- and middle-income nations, which make up 88.6% of the world's population. Legislation, culture, healthcare systems, and prescribing habits are only a few of the variables that affect access to pharmaceutical opioids.

People who are socio economically poor are more susceptible to drug use disorders

The risk of drug use disorders is still significantly increased by poverty, low levels of education, and social marginalisation. Vulnerable and marginalised populations may additionally encounter difficulties to receiving treatment services owing to stigma and discrimination^[8].

Substance abuse and global violence

Criminal activity and drug use are closely related. Drug abusers commit crimes, which hurts society, to pay for their narcotics. In addition, a lot of criminals use narcotics as a form of intoxication. Many people are dependent on drugs, and the illicit production, distribution, import, and export of these narcotics has increased global violence. The complicated problem of drug addiction has effects on society, culture, biology, geography, history, and the economy.

Drug abuse has a harmful effect on society. As a result, crime rates have increased. Drug abusers turn to criminal activities as a means of financing their addiction. Drug use fosters criminal activity because they weaken inhibition and impair discernment. Additionally, compared to times when addiction is active, crime is significantly lower during non-addiction periods^[9].

The relationship between drugs and criminality is intricate. Illegal substance use, distribution, production, and acquisition are all crimes. For instance, prescription drug addiction has been connected to a number of crimes, including drug theft, prescription forgery, and illegal web pharmacies^[10].

Case Laws

Union of India through NCB vs. Md. Nawaz Khan^[11]

The Narcotics Control Bureau's Lucknow Zonal Unit received information about heroin/morphine trafficking in a Maruti Ritz vehicle, according to the complaint, which was filed there on September 16th, 2019. On March 27, 2019, the sample packages with the designations P1S1 and P2S1 were

forwarded to the Chief Examiner at the Central Revenues Control Laboratory in New Delhi 5. On June 27, 2019, the Seventh Additional District and Sessions Judge, Lucknow, refused the respondent's request for bail, noting that a significant amount of heroin, weighing 3.300 kg, had been found and that, given the nature and gravity of the offence, there was no basis for the grant of bail. The bail application was made On June 27, 2019, the Seventh Additional District and Sessions Judge in Lucknow rejected the respondent's request for bail, noting that a significant amount of heroin, weighing 3.300 kg, had been found and that, given the seriousness and gravity of the crime, there was no basis for the grant of bail. The High Court should have taken consideration to the gravity and seriousness of the offence, but it has not done so. It is decided to reject the respondent's bail application.

Aryan Khan drug case^[12]

Aryan Khan left his Bandra residence in Mumbai on October 2 to go to a party aboard the Empress ship for Cordelia Cruises. A Delhi-based events business had planned a two-day "musical adventure".

A team from the Mumbai division of the Narcotics Control Bureau boarded the ship in disguise after getting a tip, under the direction of zonal director Sameer Wankhede.

Authorities from the NCB started searching the ship, and that evening it was reported that they had detained 7-8 people, including the son of a Bollywood star, and recovered cocaine, Charas, and MDMA from the ship.

On October 3, a day after the operation, at roughly 2:00 p.m., Aryan Khan was formally taken into custody. Arbaaz Merchant, a friend of Aryan, and Munmun Dhamecha were also detained.

Aryan Khan was detained for "involvement in consumption, sale and acquisition" of illegal substances, according to the arrest statement.

High court of Bombay granted bail to Aryan Khan on October 28 on the basis that he doesn't commit crime he is innocent.

Conclusion and suggestion

Suggestion

Numerous research-based preventative approaches have achieved success recently. These programmes were rigorously evaluated in a wide range of situations and populations in a wide range of communities. The most rigorous methodology compares outcomes to a second group that did not get the intervention (i.e., "control group") in order to assess the program's impact on the experimental group, which is the group that receives the intervention.

1. Structure, or the way each programme is set up and put together.
2. Content the manner in which the knowledge, abilities, and tactics are delivered.
3. Delivery refers to the selection, adaptation, and implementation of the programme as well as its evaluation in a particular community.

It's crucial to keep these fundamental components when tailoring programmes to the needs of a community in order to preserve the program's most potent features. Effective research-based prevention programmes are built on the foundational components^[13].

Effective prevention programmes utilised in the family, school, and community contexts focus primarily on risk and

protective variables. Prevention initiatives are typically created to target particular groups in their natural environments, like children in classrooms or through after-school or leisure activities. However, programmes for any given target group are now more frequently seen in a range of contexts, such as presenting family-based activities in schools or churches. These initiatives aim to develop new protective factors, reinforce current ones, and reverse or lessen modifiable risk factors in young people ^[14].

Conclusion

Most people, especially in adolescence, seek acceptance. Peer rejection may be extremely painful, and someone who cannot take rejection may find it difficult to resist taking drugs and alcohol if their peers do so. As a result, it's critical to identify peers who don't use drugs or alcohol or who accept those who don't.

Family members, friends, or a therapist can help people who are feeling overwhelmed by peer pressure. If your child or teen doesn't know how to handle peer pressure, talk to a trusted adult or form friendships with non-drug or alcohol-abusing friends ^[15].

A substance use disorder intervention is a strategy aimed at reducing damage, improving safety, and promoting greater health and wellness. Interventions, on the other hand, are out of date and are not a favoured approach of assisting someone suffering from a substance abuse disorder or other forms of addiction ^[16].

References

1. Drug addiction (substance use disorder)
<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/drug-addiction/symptoms-causes/syc-20365112>
2. *ibid*
3. Principles of Adolescent substance use disorder treatment: A Research-Based guide Introduction
<https://nida.nih.gov/publications/principles-adolescent-substance-use-disorder-treatment-research-based-guide/introduction>
4. Ajay Kumar, Indu Dangi, Dr. RS Pawar. Drug addiction: A big challenge for youth and children's article January 2019 see also.
5. *Ibid*.
6. Dr. Rajeev Sharma, Dr. Yogita Bansal. Drug abuse problem, management & prevention. RD Publications ND 118, Tanda road, Jalandhar.
7. UNODC. world drug report 2020:Global drug use rising; while COVID-19 has for reaching impact on global drug markets
<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/press/releases/2020/June/media-advisory-global-launch-of-the-2020-world-drug-report.html>
8. *Ibid*.
9. Substance abuse and Crimes: Affecting the youth of the Country. <https://lordsoflaw.com/substance-abuse-and-crimes-affecting-the-youth-of-the-country/>
10. *Ibid*.
11. Criminal appeal no 1043.of 2021 Arising out of SLP (CRL) No.1771 of 2021).
12. Mumbai October 20, 2021 Updated: November 2, 2021, 18:02.
13. Preventing drug use among children and adolescents, national institute on drug abuse. A research based guide for parents, educators, and community leader's second edition.

https://nida.nih.gov/sites/default/files/preventingdruguse_2.pdf

14. *Ibid*.
15. <https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/drug-intervention>.
16. *Ibid*.