

Substance Abuse among the Students of Higher Secondary Schools of Manipur State (Imphal East and West District)

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Abstract: Substance abuse at any age can cause serious health effects, but teens who abuse drugs are at risk for negative consequences. Teenager often experiment with a variety of activities and substance. Unfortunately, this experimentation can also lead to substance abuse and addiction. Teens who abuse drugs are more likely to struggle with addiction later in life and have permanent and irreversible brain damage. Drug abuse plays a role in many major problems, such as drugged driving, violence, stress and child abuse. Hence, destructing the moral values of young generation. In our state Manipur, the problem of substance abuse is not new and almost everybody is aware of it. However, it is not known how far the people are really aware of the problem, particularly substance abuse by adolescence. Thus there is an urgent need of conducting the awareness level of students towards substance abuse.

Keywords: Substance Abuse

1. Introduction

Substance abuse refers to the harmful or hazardous use of psychoactive substance, including alcohol and illicit drugs. Substance abuse, also known as drug abuse, is a patterned use of a substance (drug) in which the user consumes the substance in about or with methods neither approved nor supervised by medical professionals. Substance abuse/ drug abuse is not limited to mood- altering or psychoactive drug. The term “substance abuse” does not exclude dependency, but is otherwise used in a similar manner in non-medical contents. Use of drugs may lead to criminal penalty in addition to possible physical, social and psychological harm, both strongly depending on local jurisdiction. There are many cases in which criminal or anti-social behavior occur when the person is under the influence of a drug. Long term personality changes in individuals may occur as well.

Substance abuse is mostly observed during the period of adolescence. Experimentation with drugs during adolescence is common. Adolescence is a time for trying new things. Unfortunately, teen agers often do not see the link between their action today and the consequences tomorrow. So they try new things or substance that are harmful to them and alter their mood. Some of the substance that can be abused for their mood altering effects that are not drugs at all inhabitants and solvents alcohol, marijuana, hallucinogens, amphetamines, barbiturates,

narcotics, etc. Use of these drugs may lead to criminal penalty in addition to possible physical, social, and psychological harm. These teenagers use drugs due to peer groups, rebelliousness, intercultural influences, curiosity, to reduce stress, future insecurity, physiological reasons, climatic condition; availability of drugs makes our nervous system effects which produce changes in mood, level of awareness or perception and sensation.

Statistic shows that drug abuse is a growing problem among teens. In addition to cocaine, Ecstasy and other club drugs, a recent monitoring the future study show that the top six most abuse drugs by teens are marijuana (31.5%), vicodin (9.7%), amphetamine (8.1%), cough medicine (6.9%), sedative & tranquilizers (6.6%) each. Without treatment, the effects of drug abuse on teens can lead to serious consequences now and well into adulthood.

2. Justification

Substance abuse at any age can cause serious health effects, but teens who abuse drugs are at particular risk for negative consequences. Teenager often experiment with a variety of activities and substance. Unfortunately, this experimentation can lead to substance abuse and addiction. Teens who abuse drugs are more likely to struggle with addiction later in life and have permanent and irreversible brain damage. Drug abuse plays a role in many major problems, such as drugged driving, violence, stress and child abuse. Drug abuse can lead homelessness, crime and missed work or problems with keeping a job. Hence, destructing the moral value of young generation, the best is to prevent drug abuse in the first place. This study cuts to the root of this criminal justification for the war on drugs, challenging what we really know and do not know our drug use among young people.

3. Statement of the problem

The statement of the problem of the study can be given as “substance abuse among the students of higher secondary schools of manipur state (imphal east and west district).”

A. Definition of the key words used

1) Substance abuse

According to DSM-IV, substance abuse is defined as maladaptive pattern of substances use leading to clinically significant impairment or distress, resulting in a failure to fulfill major role obligation at work, school or home which is physically hazardous, recurrent substances related to legal problems and the symptoms have never met the criteria for substance dependence for this class of substances.

2) Higher secondary school students

Higher secondary school students are those students in their 10+2 stages i.e. class XI and XII.

4. Objectives

1. To study the general background of substance, abuse among the higher secondary school students.
2. To study the effect of educational background of the parents and substance abuse.
3. To study the influence of economic background of the family and the substance abuse.
4. To find out the age of students and the pattern of substance use in ever, recent and current.
5. To find out the use of substance abuse by an individual in relation to tobacco, alcohol, cannabis, opiates solvent and opium.
6. To suggest the remedial measure to give the value of life among the students of high schools.

5. Hypothesis

1. There exist a significant between educational background of the parents and substance abuse.
2. There exist a significant between economic background of the family and substance abuse.
3. There exist a significant between age of students and patterns of substance use in ever, recent and current.
4. There exists a significant between an individual and substance use of tobacco, alcohol. Cannabis, opiates, solvents and opium.

6. Delimitation

1. The present study will be confined only in higher secondary school students of Imphal East and West District.
2. The present study will be delimited to the age of students of higher secondary schools.

7. Method of study

As per the requirement of the study and to fulfil the

objectives of the present study, the survey method will be applied.

A. Sample to be used

For the present study the investigator will select higher secondary schools as the field of the study. The investigator will select 160 students from eight (8) different schools out of these, 20 students each from the selected higher secondary schools will be selected. The sample will be selected by Simple Random Sampling Technique.

B. Tools for data collection

A self-developed questionnaire will be adopted for the present study.

C. Tools for data analysis

The data will be analyzed with the help of percentage. Other applicable methods can also be applied.

8. Main findings and conclusion

From the statement “educational background of the parents” It could be concluded that parents of more literate i.e. post graduate were knowledgeable about the substance abuse and take care and motivated against substance abuse of their children. They were more adjustable to their children.

1. To the statement “economic background of the parents”, It can also be stated that students from the highest income family were more prevalence in substance use and students from low income family were less prevalence in substance use.
2. To the statement “age of the students and pattern of substance use” It can be concluded that students of 16 years are more prevalent of substance use. And students of 17 years are less prevalent of substance use.

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