

# Drug addiction: Causes and Consequences

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## Abstract

No country in the world is free from social problems though the advancement of science and technology has brought countries on developing tracks but on the other hand social problems hinder the overall development of a country. So far as these social problems are concerned one may find a chain of these social problems because of their interrelation and interdependence, one social problem gives birth to another one and the process of birth of new social problems goes on for example population growth may lead to shortage of resources then unemployment and poverty and unemployment may lead to theft and burglary etc. so the above sighted example makes it clear that one social problem becomes the root cause of another social problem. Not only this but the development of societies has led to the emergence of new problems like urbanization, gambling, corruption, white collar crime , beggary , alcoholism and drug addiction. Among the above social problems focus will be on drug addiction. Drug addiction is a recent social problem which has different dimensions and causes of grabbing a person. A lot of questions arise when we think of drug addiction, why people use drugs, for which purpose drugs are being manufactured? How can we curb drug addiction? How it affects the family and society? How this social menace hinders the overall development of society. These questions are really a challenge not only for policy makers(govt.) but also for civil society.

Key Words: **Drug addiction, Social Problem, Administration, Moral values.**

## INTRODUCTION

The terms drug abuse and drug addiction need to be differentiated here because some people think that these are one and the same. Drug abuse means misuse or overuse of drugs , inotherwords it can be said that misuse of drugs before developing and addiction is called drug abuse. On the other hand, drug addiction means the

compulsive seeking of a drug. When a person becomes physically and psychologically dependent on drugs it is termed as drug addiction. Drug addiction has become a main social problem in modern industrial society which has not only spread in urban areas but rural areas are also affected by it. When we compare a society with an organism individuals can be described as cells of our society. When some of these cells in the form of individuals become drug addictive the whole society gets affected which creates chaos and disorder in our society. When youth of our society become psychologically ill how can we expect a developed society? A drug addicted society severely deteriorated on moral grounds, drug addicts never care for any moral value, the devilish urge to take drugs steers them to violate all moral ethics and they fulfill their cheapest objectives crushing overall moral and human considerations. Besides the poor moral aspect, a drug-stricken society also suffers from dwindling economic conditions from two sides. Firstly, it makes the people physically and mentally ill. Secondly the drugs smugglers are spreading their business for which the weak administration is held accountable. Large production of drug material and accessibility to drugs is the main cause of drug addiction. Prior to drug usage one must rely on how drug user has access to drug? Establishment of more drug rehabilitation centers itself indicates a surge in drug addiction. Why not Policy makers NGOs and civil societies think about crushing of drug source? Why it would not be possible to ban the illegal drug cultivation like opium, ganja, bang cocaine etc? the collective efforts of govt. and civil societies can play an important role for drug addictive free society. Such efforts can make a politically, socially and economically, morally sound society.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To find out the cause of drug addiction
- To find out the remedial measures of drug addiction
- To discuss the social life and mental condition of drug addicts

## Research Methodology

In this study the observational and narrative method have been used to collect the qualitative data. Moreover, the literature related to the problem has been reviewed to understand the nature of problem. The study is based

on descriptive and analytical research design. It is descriptive in the sense that it tends to describe the nature and behavior of respondents towards drug addiction. It also attempts to study the relationship between drug addiction and social forces which enhance the drug addiction. It is analytical in the sense that it tends to analyze the factors that affect drug addiction.

### **Limitations of the Study.**

The limitation associated with study is that the respondents may not have given correct information. Sample error also appears to be another limitation because of small sample size. Moreover, the present study does not have access to bulk of literature

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

So far as the cause of drug addiction are concerned multiple causes were found. Among the all causes the major ones are access to drugs, peer group impact, anxiety due to political disturbance and lack of social control especially religious control. Among the above major causes the peer group impact was found the root cause of drug addiction. It was found that drug addiction has become a kind of fashion and people especially youth who come in contact with drug addicts take drugs feeling that as if they are matured and taste the drug as excited moment. In the sample it was found that 48% (which is Large) fall between the age group of 20-25. It was also found that 50-60% drug addicts gave up their usage after they tied the marriage. Increasing socio-economic responsibilities of the families was found the main reason why a person gave up drug usage post marriage.

Drug addicts do not bother about religious matters. The intimacy between drug addicts and other family members was found lacking. They hardly indulge in family matters like decision making process, welfare, progress and solidarity of their family. Drug addicts prefer to spend time with their peers. A close relationship between drug addiction and crime was found in the present study. The rate of crime in the form of burglary and sexual results was found very high in drug prone areas.

Coming to physical and psychological health effects of the respondents it was found that majority of the drug addicts were experiencing headache, muscle spasms, joint pains, cardiological issues. Most of the drug addicts were suffering from cancers, gastrointestinal effects, neurological effects, mental effects, and as serious as hepatitis and HIV.

In conclusion of the present study, it can be said that drug addiction as a social problem is big hindrance in overall development of the society. Weakness and corruption in administration must be addressed at its earliest. Administration in collaboration with local community can play a great role to eradicate this social menace. The individuals involved in drug trafficking should be dealt with law. Govt. must ensure efforts in involving youth in sports activities. Parents must keep a bird's eye view on the changing psychology of their wards. Religious heads, priests, preachers must play a constructive role in framing a drug addictive free society by involving youth in religious seminars etc.

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