

VOL II
ISSUE 2



SOCIUS EDGE



An E-Magazine from the Department of Sociology, NEF College, Lokhra, Guwahati

Say No to Drugs

International Day
Against Drug Abuse

June 26th, 2021



Poster by: Himangshu Medhi, BA 6th semester, political science department

EDITORIAL BOARD

- **Chief Advisor**..... Dr. Rinku Borah
- **Advisor**..... Asst. Proff. Ms. Padminnee Goswami
Asst. Proff. Ms. Deepamoni Chauhan
- **Editor** Shiny Bharadwaj
- **Sub Editors**..... Padma Sharma
Priyanka dey

Members of Editorial Committee

- Puja Kalita
- Ragini Priyadarshini Saikia

Editorial

First we would like to bestow our heart warming gratitude to all our respected teachers, Principal Sir, our Respected Director Sir and all our fellow companions who helped immensely in commissioning the 2nd Edition of our Departmental E-magazine “THE SOCIUS EDGE.

This year we opted for the theme “Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking” as our area of focus. It is extremely disheartening to take in the fact that numerous lives are at the dead end extremity of tenterhooks.

At this time of the pandemic Covid-19, where our lives have become so much vulnerable, a supplementary Gordian knot seems to occupy the senses of numerous individuals.

Drug Abuse or Substance Abuse Disorder have adversely been influencing the youth through a multitude of ways which needs a reversing leverage.



Through this E-magazine, we are trying to convey such unpropitious issues which indispensably requires mass recognition and conformation. Because, if such problems continue to circulate, the results intended would be consequential.

We have focused upon the different factors of drug abuse, its usages, effects, trafficking of human and many such relatable themes that would serve as a reminder that merely changing our situation is not enough, we definitely have to alter our circumstances for a perceptible change.

Although many NGO's, health centres have forwarded their helping hands towards assuaging the affected individuals, however, without governmental assistance not much can be achieved.

To conclude, it had been a great pleasure to work with all our beloved companions and without the guidance of our teachers this magazine would not have been fulfilled successfully. Nevertheless, we still look forward to feel the rapture of commissioning additional publication of “ THE SOCIUS EDGE” in the near future with more agenda concerning social issues.

Let's work hard and say 'NO' to drugs.

- *Shiny Bharadwaj*
- *Priyanka Dey*

CONTENTS



1 History of International Day against Drug abuse and Illicit trafficking.

Know the history regarding the celebration of the International Day against Drug Abuse

2 Substance abuse among youth in Guwahati City

The exceeding problem of drug consumption haunts Guwahati than ever before

3 The Legal Red- Light Area in Bangladesh

A culturally conservative but an extremely contradicting situation prevails in Bangladesh

4 Dark Side of Myanmar

The leading opium producing country becomes the sourcing nation for its neighbouring countries

5 Drug Abuse: A Sociological Perspective

Drug instigation is a social phenomena which needs grassroot solution

6 The Sociological Explanation of Drug Abuse in India

Drug was introduced in India much earlier than other nations.

7 A Dysfunctional Society

Drug as stimulants are a matter of curse in the society

8 Drug Abuse

Drugs might be consumed prescription wise as well as non-prescription wise

9 Effect of Drug addiction and its causes

A dark future haunts the entire nation

10 Societal Anomie: Drug as a Malefactor

Addiction might not only be a biological or psychological issue

11 Drug Abuse and Addiction

A fervent druggie may not be an addict rather its the consequence of the particular drug that makes him an addict

12 NGO and its Role in Controlling Drugs

Spadework by STAIRS is eminent in combating drugs

13 Constitutional and Legal framework for Drug Abuse in India

NDPS act 1985 is significant in controlling substance abuse

14

Drug Abuse: Effects, Prevention and Control

*Drugs constitute a
large periphery from
family, finance,
emotion etc*

15



Drug Combating Campaign

18



Art Section

16



Newspaper cutting
and Reports

17

Poems
& Stories



19

Photo
Gallery

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

NEF College, Guwahati



Date: 24, June, 2021

It gives me immense pleasure to know that the Department of Sociology, NEF College is going to publish an e-magazine during the time of Pandemic of COVID-19. The effort of the faculty members and students in this hour is indeed praiseworthy. I sincerely hope the initiative will yield the desired goal.

We at NEF aim to provide the best possible educational experience through excellence in teaching and research activities for today's students and professional for tomorrow. The e-magazine will be an academic platform where students can flourish their creativity and get exposure in academics.

Best wishes!!



(Dr. Zakir Hussain)
Chairman

DR. Zakir Hussain

Director, NEF College

Lokhra, Guwahati

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

Nef College, Guwahati



Date: 24, June, 2021

It gives me immense pleasure that the students and teachers of Sociology Department, Nef College, Lokhra intend to publish an e-magazine by commemorating International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. I do appreciate the ideas and effort for this kind of creative activities of the students, that too during the period of pandemic COVID-19. It is beyond any doubt that our students are socially conscious and accountable to common people. Because the present problem of drug abuse among the young generation is a great challenge to humanity. On the other hand, illicit trafficking demoralise the common people. Though the police administration, NGO and some conscious people tried to combat these type of problem, it is also an established fact that without Government effort it is difficult to control social problem like drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

This type of initiative will definitely contribute to the society and mankind. I do offer my heartiest best wishes for successful publication of the magazine and its wide circulation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ghath' or 'Ghath', with a horizontal line underneath it.

(Dr. Ghanashyam Nath)
Principal
Nef College
Lokhra, Guwahati

Department of Sociology

Nef College, Guwahati



Date: 24, June, 2021

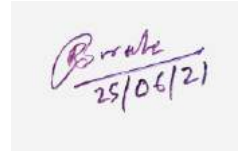
My heart brims with great joy and happiness on seeing that the students of the Department of Sociology is bringing out the second issue of the E-magazine, “SOCIUS EDGE”. This magazine is going to highlight some issues related to Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. The main objective of the second issue of the magazine is to create awareness among the youth minds to fight against substance abuse as well as the unlawful trade of drugs.

During this pandemic situation, these kinds of magazine will be great contribution to academic discourse.

I congratulate the Editors and all the students for their continuous efforts in preparing the magazine.

I hope that the magazine will showcase some of the best creative endeavours of the students and also have great role in creating awareness among the young generation regarding the evil effects of drug.

My best wishes are with all of you.



(Dr. Rinku Borah)
H.O.D
Sociology Department
Nef College, Lokhra, Guwahati

Social Issues

**DRUG AS A
SOCIETAL
FELONY**

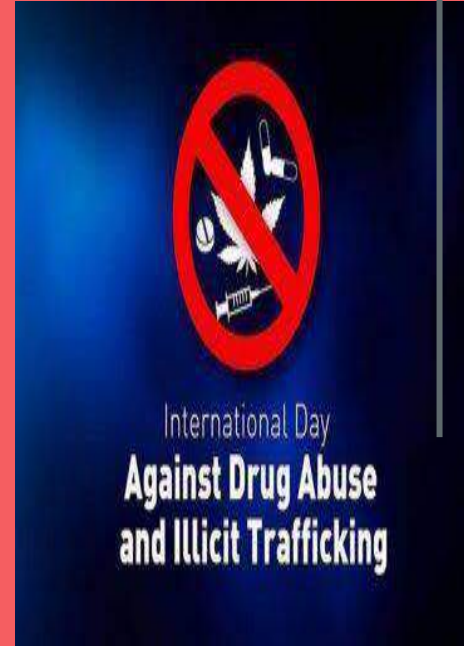


alamy stock photo

History of international day against drug abuse and illicit trafficking

1

By Resolution 42/112 of 7 December 1987, the General Assembly decided to observe 26 June as the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking as an expression of its determination to strengthen action and cooperation to achieve the goal of an international society free of drug abuse. On 26 June 1987, two important texts (comprehensive multidisciplinary outline of Future Activities in Drug abuse control & Declaration of the international conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit trafficking) were adopted at the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, which was held in Vienna during 17-26 June 1987. The Conference recommended that an annual day should be observed to mark the importance of the fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking.



Substance abuse and illicit trafficking of drugs is an evil in our society and disorientation among a majority of the youth. Drug trafficking is an industry working generally on a vicious cycle of manufactured demand and then supply. In view of the growing menace and the deterioration of the quality of life the General Assembly at the United Nations, in December 1987 designated 26th June to be celebrated with effect as the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. This resolution also recommended further action to be undertaken with regard to the report and conclusions of the 1987 International Conference of Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

The day as an event is celebrated worldwide with much conscious fervor to make people aware and emphasize the hazards of drug addiction and illegal trafficking. A problem which is a major deterrent to humanity and a poison to the well-being of the youth in particular poses greater problems to the socio-economic and political stability of a nation as also disturbing the sustainable development of a nation. Drug trafficking, once viewed largely as a social and criminal problem, has transformed in recent years into a major threat to the health and security of people and regions. The convention and the other major international drug control treaties do more than to help us fight against drug trafficking.

These measures are critical, because drug use, at its core, is a health issue. Drug dependence is a disease not a crime. The real criminals are the drug traffickers. But the supply side is only half of the equation. Governments have a responsibility to counteract both drug trafficking and drug abuse. Families, schools, civil society and religious organizations can do their part to rid their communities of drugs. Business can also help provide legitimate livelihoods. We can succeed if we reinforce our commitment to the basic principles of health and human rights, shared responsibility, a balanced approach to reducing supply and demand, and universal access to Prevention, treatment and support. This will foster communities free of drug related crime and violence, individuals free of drug dependence who can contribute to our common future and a safer world for all.

By: Priyanka Dey
2nd semester

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AMONG YOUTH In GUWAHATI CITY

2

Sources: <https://www.google.co.in/amp/s/www.sentinelassam.com/amp/editorial/substance-abuse-among-street-children-of-guwahati-519839>

Substance abuse among the youth tends to be rising at an expeditious rate .We often notice children and adolescents with glue bottles essentially stuck to their nostrils. Clarifying its detrimental health issues, significant steps have been initiated by NGO and the government in order to put a stop to such substance abuse.



It is a quite tragic scenario, not only in North East, but even globally we notice children of all ages, wandering the streets and covering their faces with either a handkerchief or cloth. These children are actually exposed to some detrimental health degenerating addiction .

One of the cheapest forms of drug addiction comprises of the inhalation of Dendrite. Dendrite is a very low cost and non-prescriptive drug which is readily available in stores. Other cheap inhalants include nail polish remover, gasoline, paint etc. sniffing of Dendrite causes alteration in the personality and behavior of the individual.

Pre-emptive drug overdose leads to mental health instability. As a results, individuals come down to take their own lives due to concussion felt by the inaccessibility of substances. Intravenous self-administration of drugs may induce high risk of HIV infection because the same needle may have been used by numerous individuals.

Substance abuse disorder may happen for a plethora of reasons .The most common ones comprises of peer pressure or satisfying one's own idiosyncrasy. Children or individuals who work and live alone without adequate necessities of daily life are the ones most vulnerable into being exposed to such addictions.

NGO's together with the government must come forward to curb this unwanted sensation so that many innocent lives could be saved from this vicious cycle of unanticipated consequences of substance abuse.

By: Kashmiri Chakravarty
2nd semester Sociology

Trafficking and Drug Abuse in Daulatdia: The Legal Red-Light Area in Bangladesh

#ShareFactsOnDrugs #SaveLives

A shanty place in Rajbari District, Daulatdia is extremely squalid, overcrowded with approximately 2000 sex workers. They resemble the life of chained prisoners who are ensnared into an inescapable state of despair, for maybe a lifetime.



Bangladesh is one of the few countries where prostitution, purchase and sale of sex work is legal. Daulatdia is one of the largest brothels in Bangladesh where approximately 2000 sex workers work on a daily basis in a very impoverished lifestyle. The distance between Dhaka and Daulatdia is 160 km and the road distance is 311.7 km.

Girls from around 12 years of age are exposed to sexual slavery in the region, either through trafficking or through abduction, which often is enabled by their own relatives or spouses.

Taking into consideration, many streaming media, it has been found that the girls or women are first drugged or lured by promises of jobs and then taken to Daulatdia.

Other shocking facts about these brothels are the frequent use of a drug which is administered to the younger girls in the name of good health. In reality, these drugs are harmful supplement which makes the girls appear fuller and fatter. As, in Bangladesh, a fuller body is more desirable.

In Daulatdia, it is common practice for under aged sex workers to be tricked into taking such supplements by their employers who administer them the pills as medicines. Such supplements are highly addictive and can cause many harmful side effects including diabetes, kidney failure and may even lead to death. These steroids help under aged girls appear older and more developed for business.

Bangladesh is culturally conservative. Sex before marriage is a taboo and drugs, alcohol and gambling in general is strictly illegal. It is a very densely populated country with widespread poverty and inequality. These are some of the perfect conditions for girls being trafficked into sex work. Most of the girls and women who live in Daulatdia are illiterate and poor. Unprotected, these girls in Daulatdia are part of a multimillion dollar industry of exploitation.

Under current legislation in Bangladesh, anyone caught trafficking a female minor into prostitution can face 10 years in jail. But in Daulatdia, there is little enforcement and convictions are rare due to many internal reasons.

For many women in the brothels, any hope of escape has disappeared owing to the fact that in Bangladesh, sex workers have no official rights or protection under the law.

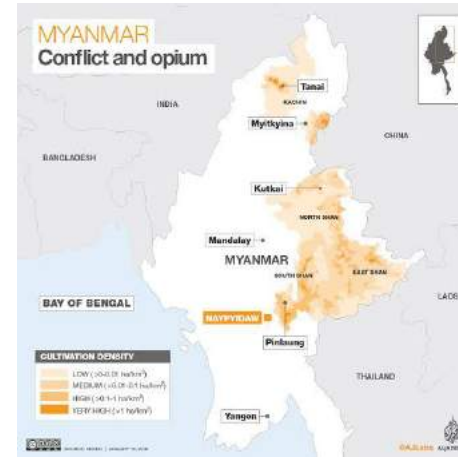
For the thousands of women in Daulatdia, harassment and abuse are part of daily life. Whether trafficked, tricked or sold into prostitution, they become trapped in Bangladesh's largest brothel, trapped into the vicious cycle of sex slavery.

***By: Shiny Bharadwaj
MA 4th semester Sociology Dept***

DRUG TRAFFICKING IN NORTHEAST: DARK SIDE OF MYANMAR

In recent years Drug trafficking has become a major threat to our society due to the abusing nature of these substances. Due to close proximity of the possible neighboring nations it has been seen that cross-border exploitation of drug trafficking is invariably increasing at a considerable rate. One of the main opium producing country Myanmar has been the main sourcing nation of drugs into its neighboring countries and many states in the Northeastern region.

Initiation taken by numerous help groups have helped many youths to change their course of addiction and even reduced the use of drugs. Excessive use of drugs, such as alcohol, pain medication or illegal drugs can had to physical, social or emotional harm and thus everyone must avoid it at any cost.



Drug Trafficking , once viewed largely as a social and criminal problem , has transformed in recent years into a major threat to the health and security of people and regions. Substance abuse and the illicit trafficking of drugs is an evil in our society and disorientation among a majority of youth. Drug trafficking is an industry where demand and supply is highly increasing.

Myanmar is considered as the world's second largest illicit drug producing country. Drug use among local youth in NORTHEAST INDIA particularly in the states closer to Myanmar took a new turn. Many local young males, and to lesser extent young females, in their mid-teens, started using drug . It is important to recognize that a wide range of structural and environmental factors including under-development and deprived from education, increased the vulnerability of local youth towards drug usage.

The illegal cultivation of drugs and its smuggling by different means are some of the perfect conditions for the illicit trafficking from Myanmar to other parts of the NORTHEAST states of India.

A substantial amount of the pure form of heroin from Myanmar enters via Moreh and its bordering town of Chandel in the eastern district of Manipur. Consignments from Tahan and Falam, two major points of origin in Myanmar are, on the other hand, sent to different parts Mizoram and then onwards to Bangladesh and to the neighboring Indian states of Tripura and Assam. Apart from the consignments coming via National Highway 39 from Imphal, Nagaland also witness an additional supply of heroin trickling into the states from across the border with Myanmar through entry points near Tuensang.

Two other Northeastern states, Assam and Meghalaya , have no border with Myanmar. Meghalaya due to the presence of many educational institutions of repute attracts students from all over the Northeast and is well connected by road to both Guwahati, the capital of Assam and Aizwal, the capital of Mizoram. With regard to heroin smuggling, it is important to recognize that no single state can be identified as a source state since drug trafficking routes do change their course in order to avoid interception by law enforcement and yet reach where demand exists.

Some of the path – breaking initiatives to reduce the burden of drug use in family have actually been achieved through self-help groups in the Northeast, some of which are spearheaded by women. The pattern of use psychotropic substances in the Northeastern states of India has changed significantly from a traditional to a non traditional usage over the last 30 years . While heroin smoking by local youths in early 1970s marked the beginning of this transition, injecting drug use in a large number of young people in early 1980s came with its additional health and social consequences, including HIV.

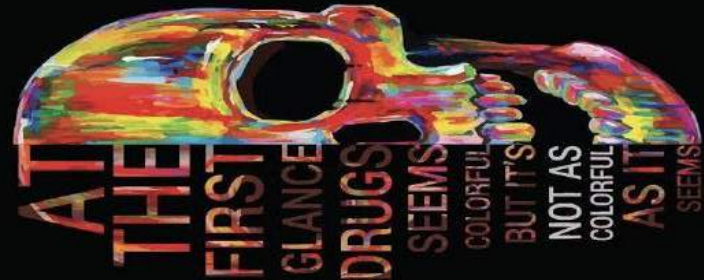
By: Ragini Priyadarshini Saikia
M.A 4th semester Sociology

Introduction

Drug abuse and addiction are important social and public health problems throughout the world, which negatively impact at both individual and social level. Psychoactive drugs are chemical substances that affect the function of the nervous system, altering perception, mood or consciousness. Drug abuse is a disorder that is characterized by a destructive pattern of using a substance that leads to significant problems or distress.

Addictive behavior represents a pattern, commonly repetitive, that increases the risk of diseases or associated personal/ social problems". It is characterized by a "loss of control" demonstrated by the continuation of the behavior despite the attempts to stop or limit it. Various conditions are covered by this definition, such as: drug addiction, drinking, smoking, eating, gambling, or compulsive sexual behavior .

ARTICLE ON DRUG ABUSE: A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE



According to the definition provided by the WHO, drug addiction is a state of periodic and chronic intoxication detrimental to the individual and to society, produced by the repeated consumption of a drug (natural or synthetic). It is characterized by certain features, such as: an overpowering desire or need (compulsion) to continue taking the drug and to obtain it by any means; a tendency to increase the dose; psychic/psychological and sometimes physical dependence on the effects of the drug." Drug addiction combines the short term rewarding effect of the drug with its long term devastating consequences.

Most of the time, drug use develops over time, starting with the consumption of alcohol drinking and smoking, to continue with marijuana and other illicit drugs, the patterns and levels being sketched by different social and psychological factors. Drug abuse and addiction hold a multifactorial etiology; socio-cultural factors usually burdens on individual factors (genetic and behavioral) that predispose to consumption of drugs, the influence of the first being variable depending on development stages. For example, peers influence is extremely important in the late stages of adolescence.

According to the cultural identity theory, the social factors that predispose and influence drug consumption, abuse and addiction can be divided in: micro-social (individual) such as: individual marginalization, ego-identity discomfort, loss of control in defining an identity; mezzo-social factors, such as: social marginalization, identification with a drug sub cultural group and macro-social factors, such as economic and educational opportunities. In this paper the authors analyze the social factors that predispose or influence drug abuse and addiction, focusing on analyzing the influence of the family, peers and living environment.

Influence of family and peer group
Family and peers are the primary groups of socialization where someone learns attitudes and behavior. As stated by the social learning theory, these are the groups in which the individual learn to use drugs through mechanisms of imitation and reinforcement. Bond strength between teenager and primary source of socialization is a major factor in determining the way that rules are transmitted. Thus, substance abuse is more likely to occur in powerful interactions, such as primary socialization groups, teenagers being likely to listen and to give priority to individuals they admire and respect.

Family influence

Family is the first social group to which individuals belong and to which the latter interact frequently and have intense connections for a long time.

Social control theory starts with the premise that “deviance is normal and conformity with social norms is the one that needs to be explained”. Thus, all the teenagers have tendencies for deviance and they will act according to their desires if no pro-social control is provided by family or school.

Family and/or school-related weak bonds increase the risks for adhering to a deviant social group and adopting a deviant behavior.

Peer group influence

In adolescence, learning social behaviors is frequently commanded by peer groups which may transmit pro-social or deviant norms, most often the latter ones. Adolescents are susceptible in acquirement the pro-drug consumption attitudes if they associate with people who use drugs and who have a pro-drug consumption attitude as well. The more interaction time is longer, the more increased the risk. Poor peer interactions (e.g. rejection by classmates) in turn, might favor the interactions with peers who have deviant behavior.

Influence of the living environment

Different studies show a positive correlation between the environment – respectively neighborhood – in which a person lives and drug consumption, establishing a high incidence of drug consumption in very poor urban neighborhoods. This correlation might be explained, on the one hand, by the necessity to cure a stressing state or by adapting to life-stressing experiences such as: victimization, death of the loved ones, separation, unemployment, which have an increased incidence in poor urban neighborhoods, and on the other hand by the social tension arising when someone is prevented or threatened to be prevented from achieving its goals .

A disadvantaged living environment exposes the individual to a greater extent to stressful life events(death of a loved one, unemployment etc.).Disadvantaged living environment exhausts, psychological and social resources of an individual.

In addition to these, there are several contributing factors for drug consumption in disadvantaged environments: higher level of exposure to drugs and drug dealers, connection with other drug users, exposure to norms and values that tolerate this deviant behavior as well as low levels of community organizing and collective efficiency.

Conclusion

Drug consumption represents a worldwide current social phenomenon. It is a multifactorial, with causes that are usually difficult to identify, this being the main reason for limited results in interventional methods. Social factors involved in the beginning of drug consumption represent a piece of multifaceted etiology of this phenomenon. Understanding the social dimension of drug consumption and addiction creates, though, premises for an adequate approach of sociological factors in multidisciplinary interventions intended to prevent and fight against drug consumption.

By: Padma Sharma
M1 2nd semester

THE SOCIOLOGICAL EXPLANATION OF DRUG ABUSE IN INDIA

There is a worldwide consensus that misuse of narcotics and psychoactive substances is on rise, and India is no exception to this. Poly drug use is now a well established pattern of drug misuse. To complement the effects of preferred drug, 'users', select a substitute from a range of drugs. In India, street heroin (commonly known as brown sugar) is mainly used by chewing or smoking.¹

Differential Diagnosis of Aberrant Drug-Taking Attitudes and Behavior

- ◆ Addiction
- ◆ Pseudo-addiction (inadequate analgesia)
- ◆ Other psychiatric diagnosis
 - Encephalopathy
 - Borderline personality disorder
 - Depression
 - Anxiety
- ◆ Criminal intent

In the psychological and sociological context, drug is a term for habit forming substance which directly affects the brain or nervous system. More precisely, it refers to "any chemical substance which affects bodily function, mood, perception or consciousness which has potential for misuse, and which may be harmful to the individual or society.

Sociological explanations emphasize the importance of certain aspects of the social environment—social structure, social bonds to family and school, social interaction, and culture—or drug use, depending on the type of drug. For drugs like heroin and crack that tend to be used mostly in large urban areas, the social structure, or be more precise, social inequality certainly seems to matter. As sociologist Elliott Currie (1994, p. 3) has observed, the use of these drugs by urban residents, most of them poor and of color, reflects the impact of poverty and racial inequality: "Serious drug use is not evenly distributed: it runs 'along the fault lines of our society.' It is concentrated among some groups and not others, and has been for at least half a century."

Social bonds to families and schools also make a difference. Adolescents with weak bonds to their families and schools, as measured by such factors as the closeness they feel to their parents and teachers, are more likely to use drugs of various types than adolescents with stronger bonds to their families and schools. Their weaker bonds prompt them to be less likely to accept conventional norms and more likely to use drugs and engage in other delinquent behavior.

Regarding social interaction, sociologists emphasize that peer influences greatly influence one's likelihood of using alcohol, tobacco, and a host of other drugs (Hanson et al., 2012). Much and probably most drug use begins during adolescence, when peer influences are especially important. When our friends during this stage of life are drinking, smoking, or using other drugs, many of us want to fit in with the crowd and thus use one of these drugs ourselves. In a related explanation, sociologists also emphasize that society's "drug culture" matters for drug use.

In India drug abuse is still considered more as an aberrant behaviour than an antisocial or non-conforming behaviour. According to Merton aberrant person violates norms without questioning their legitimacy and does not seek replacement of old norms with new norms. So the sociologists perceive drug abuse India as aberrant behaviour, and drug users and addicts as aberrant persons, who unlike non-conformists are not interested in improving social conditions or benefiting mankind.

To the extent that social inequality, social interaction, and a drug culture matter for drug use, sociologists say, it is a mistake to view most drug use as stemming from an individual's biological or psychological problems. Although these problems do play a role for some individuals' use of some drugs, drug use as a whole stems to a large degree from the social environment and must be understood as a social problem, and not just as an individual problem.


Habitual or periodical use of drug was prevalent in India much earlier than in any other parts of the world. Some type of herbal stimulants known as som-ras (essence of some' i'e' moon) has been extensively mentioned in 10 to 15,000 year old ancient Vedas of India. Opium (juice of poppy plant) was known to Sumerians, living in lower Mesopotamia (now Iraq) about 5000 B.C. Later, Babylonians spread knowledge of the poppy's medicinal properties to Persia and Egypt, Greeks and Arabs also used it for medicinal purposes. Arabs took it to China in the 9th or 10th Cent. A.D.

By: Jirbon Tokbipi
BA 4th semester

a Dysfunctional Society

Drug addiction is a matter of great concern in India and abroad. A large percentage of people are consuming drugs and taking their lives. Addiction of any kind is harmful for health as well as the society because drug addicts lose control over their mind and engages in various activities which are considered illegal for mankind. These addicts should be helped by people to quit their addiction in a gradual process.





Drug Abuse has become an International problem in the modern times. Drug means a habit forming substance which is taken for pleasure or excitement and which induces sleep and produces insensibility. Drugs changes the personality of a person.

There are many social and ethical issues concerning the use and abuse of drugs. Illegal drug is considered a taboo in a civil society and for this reason its usage gives a very conflicting image regarding the concerned individual.


Within a single society, values and opinions differ significantly which results in conflicts over various issues including Drug Abuse.

American psychologist Erich Fromm says that people are brought up to desire and value the kinds of behaviour required by their economic and social system. Whereas Max Weber used his Protestant Ethics to describe the industrialist's quest for salvation through worldly work is not good.

Drug abuse is seen among individuals regardless of age.

Opiates are among the world's oldest known drugs. Use of the opium for medical and religious purposes can be traced in 4th century BC

There are mainly four types of drugs- Stimulants, Depressants, Hallucinogens and opium related painkillers. .



Addiction to drugs is a curse, mainly for the youngsters. It damages the normal brain and destroys the vital organs of the body. A large number of young boys and girls, mostly from well-to-do families are becoming slaves to cocaine, heroin, marijuana and many such nerve-stimulating drugs apparently to overcome frustrations.

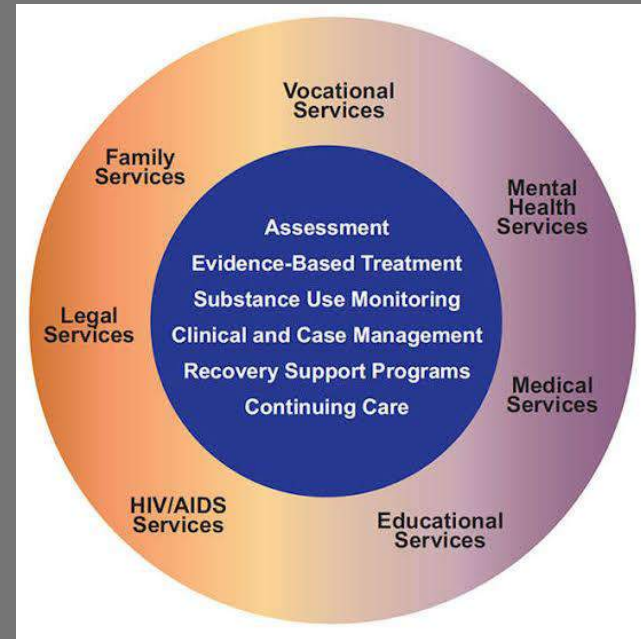
Nevertheless, Government and Social Welfare Organizations, together with the World Health Organization, are doing their best to create awareness among the people about the dangers of drug addiction.

By: Puja Kalita
MA 4th sem, Sociology Dept.

DRUG ABUSE

8

Substance abuse, also known as drug abuse, is the use of a drug in amounts or by methods which are harmful to the individual or others. It is a form of substance-related disorder. Differing definitions of drug abuse are used in public health, medical and criminal justice contexts. In some cases, criminal or anti-social behaviour occurs when the person is under the influence of a drug, and long-term personality changes in individuals may also occur. In addition to possible physical, social, and psychological harm, the use of some drugs may also lead to criminal penalties, although these vary widely depending on the local jurisdiction.



Treatment approaches for drug addiction

Drugs most often associated with this term include: alcohol, amphetamines, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, cannabis, cocaine, hallucinogens, methaqualone, and opioids. The exact cause of substance abuse is not clear, but there are two predominant theories: either a genetic disposition which is learned from others, or a habit which, if addiction develops, manifests itself as a chronic debilitating disease.

In 2010 about 5% of people (230 million) used an illicit substance.[1] Of these 27 million have high-risk drug use otherwise known as recurrent drug use causing harm to their health, psychological problems, or social problems that put them at risk of those dangers. In 2015 substance use disorders resulted in 307,400 deaths, up from 165,000 death 990. Of these, the highest numbers are from alcohol use disorders at 137,500, opioid use disorders at 122,100 deaths, amphetamine use disorders at 12,200 deaths, and cocaine use disorders at 11,100

Depending on the actual compound, drug abuse including alcohol may lead to health problems, social problems, morbidity, injuries, unprotected sex, violence, deaths, motor vehicle accidents, homicides, suicides, physical dependence or psychological addiction.

There is a high rate of suicide in alcoholics and other drug abusers. The reasons believed to cause the increased risk of suicide include the long-term abuse of alcohol and other drugs causing physiological distortion of brain chemistry as well as the social isolation. Another factor is the acute intoxicating effects of the drugs may make suicide more likely to occur. Suicide is also very common in adolescent alcohol abusers, with 1 in 4 suicides in adolescents being related to alcohol abuse. In the US, approximately 30% of suicides are related to alcohol abuse. Alcohol abuse is also associated with increased risks of committing criminal offences including child abuse, domestic violence, rapes, burglaries and assaults.

Drug abuse, including alcohol and prescription drugs, can induce symptomatology which resembles mental illness. This can occur both in the intoxicated state and also during withdrawal. In some cases, substance-induced psychiatric disorders can persist long after detoxification, such as prolonged psychosis or depression after amphetamine or cocaine abuse. A protracted withdrawal syndrome can also occur with symptoms persisting for months after cessation of use. Benzodiazepines are the most notable drug for inducing prolonged withdrawal effects with symptoms sometimes persisting for years after cessation of use. Both alcohol, barbiturate as well as benzodiazepine withdrawal can potentially be fatal. Abuse of hallucinogens can trigger delusional and other psychotic phenomena long after cessation of use.

By: Debashish Sharma

EFFECT OF DRUG ADDICTION AND ITS CAUSES.

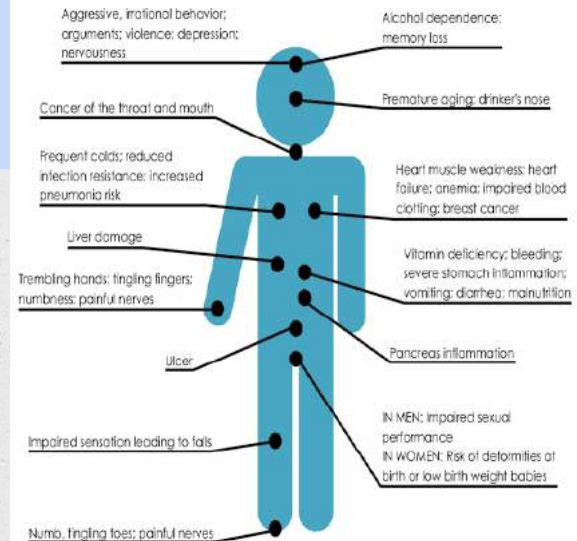
9

Magnitude of substance use in Assam is excelerating at a formidable rate. State Drug Dependence treatment centre provides us with a better understanding of the current situation of drug use in India.

Drug rehabilitation is the process of medical or psychotherapists treatment for the dependency of individuals on drugs such as alcohol, heroin, cannabis etc and its complete abstention. Some rehab centers offer age and gender specific programs.

State Institute on drug Abuse(SIDA) leads the state in bringing the power of science to bear on drug abuse and addiction. It became the addiction Research Centre in 1948. it is initiated to measure the prevalence and trends of non-medical drug use and related attitudes.

Physiological Effects of Heavy Drinking



ITS CAUSES:

1. Drugs are taken when someone feels depression.
2. Drugs are taken when someone does not have any work.
3. In lockdown, the persons have to face a lot of problems while staying at home. They do not have any work to do. So they take drugs.
4. It makes people imbalanced and insensible.

EFFECTS:

1. It affects our lungs and kidneys,
2. It affects the whole body of the parts,
3. It affects our mind and the person becomes senseless.
4. These are the reasons which affect due to drugs.

Legal measure for controlling Drugs.

Drugs producers and suppliers are arrested under Indian penal code. Addicted persons are taken into legal custody and put under medical treatment.

Scenario of present situation for Drugs.

The scenario of present situation of Drugs is very much pathetic. Young boys and girls who are the builders of future nation are going to be destroyed day by day after being addicted by Drugs.

*By: Ankit Das
BA 2nd year*

SOCIETAL ANOMIE: Drug As a Malefactor

Many sociologists are of the opinion that it is a mistake to view most drug use as stemming from an individual's biological or psychological problems. Although these problems do play a role for some individuals' use of some drugs, as a whole stems to a large degree from the social environment and must be understood as a social problem, and not just as an individual problem.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

The Facts

Theoretical perspectives	Contributions to understanding of drug use
Functionalism	<p>Drug use is functional for several parties in society. It provides drug users the various positive physiological effects that drugs have; it provides the sellers of legal or illegal drugs a source of income; and it provides jobs for the criminal justice system and the various other parties that deal with drug use. At the same time, both legal drugs and illegal drugs contribute to dysfunctions in society.</p>
Conflict theory	<p>Much drug use in poor urban areas results from the poverty, racial inequality, and other conditions affecting people in these locations. Racial and ethnic prejudice and inequality help determine why some drugs are illegal as well as the legal penalties for these drugs. The large multinational corporations that market and sell alcohol, tobacco, and other legal drugs play a powerful role in the popularity of these drugs and lobby Congress to minimize regulation of these drugs.</p>
Symbolic interactionism	<p>Drug use arises from an individual's interaction with people who engage in drug use. From this type of social interaction, an individual learns how to use a drug and also learns various attitudes that justify drug use and define the effects of a drug as effects that are enjoyable.</p>

Social Patterning of Drug Use

It is a sociological truism that our socio demographic backgrounds—gender, race and ethnicity, social class, and so forth—influence many of our behaviours and attitudes.

- **Gender**

In the study of crime and deviance, gender is an important predictor: Males are more likely than females to commit the more serious forms of crime and deviance. A common thread underlines gender differences in criminal behaviour and in drug use of various kinds, and that is masculinity. Compared to girls, boys are raised to be more active, assertive, and daring, and to be less concerned about the effects of their behaviour on others.

- **Race and Ethnicity**

Racial and ethnic differences in drug use of various types exist to some extent but are less clear-cut than the gender differences we just examined. For alcohol use, whites have the highest rate of drinking, and Native Americans, despite the popular image that they have alcohol problems, have the lowest rate. For tobacco use, Native Americans have the highest rate of use, and Asians have the lowest rate. For illegal drugs, Native Americans again have the highest rate of use, and Hispanics have the lowest rate. Note that African Americans have roughly the same illegal drug use rate as whites, and have lower rates of alcohol and tobacco use than whites do. Although many people believe that African Americans are more likely than whites to use drugs. The illegal drugs category includes many types of drugs.

Studying drugs and alcohol from a sociological perspective means looking at the relationship between individuals, groups of individuals and psychoactive substances in the context of the social, economic and cultural conditions that inform this relationship.

Conclusion

Overall, a general decreasing trend can be observed in cigarette use and alcohol use among adolescents. However, despite rather strict regulations on tobacco in most countries and on alcohol in some countries, adolescents still report relatively easy access to tobacco and alcohol. Moreover, trends over the past two decades indicate a closing of the gender gap in the use of tobacco and alcohol.

In the following years, **ESPAD (European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs)** will not only monitor substance use behaviour but will also assess future developments in internet use as well as online gaming and gambling, and strive to increase its contribution to the protection of children and adolescents from the negative consequences of substance use and

By: Pratiksha Goswami
BA 4th semester

Drug abuse and addiction:


People from all walks of life can experience problems with their drug use, regardless of age, race, background or the reason they started using drugs in the first place. Some people experience with recreational drugs out of curiosity, to have a good time, because friends are doing it, or to ease problem such as stress, anxiety or depression.



However, it's not just illegal drugs, such as cocaine or heroin, that can lead to abuse and addiction. Prescription medications such as painkillers, sleeping pills and tranquilizers can cause similar problems. Infact, next to marijuana, prescription painkillers are the most abused drugs in the U.S and more people die from overdosing powerful opioid painkillers each day than from traffic accidents and gun deaths combined. Addiction to opioid painkillers can be so powerful it has become the major risk factor for heroin abuse,

Ofcourse, drug use either illegal or prescribed doesn't automatically lead to abuse. Some people are able to use recreational or prescribed drugs without experiencing negative effects while others find that substance use takes a serious toll on their health and well-being. Similarly, there is no specific point at which drug use moves from casual to problematic.





▶ Drug abuse and addiction is less about the type or amount of the substance consumed or the frequency of your drug use, and more about the consequences of that drug use. If your drug use is causing problems in your life- at work, school, home, or in your relationships- you likely have a drug addiction problem.

If you are worried about your own or a loved one's drug use, learning how drug abuse and addiction develops and why it can have such a powerful hold will give you a better understanding of how to best deal with the problem and regain control of your life. Recognizing that you have a problem is the first step on the road to recovery, one that takes tremendous courage and strength. Facing your problem without minimizing the issue or making excuses can feel frightening and overwhelming, but recovery is within reach. If you are ready to seek help, you can overcome your addiction and build a satisfying, drug-free life for yourself.



Name: Shriti Daimari
Semester: B.A 2nd sem

NGO AND ITS ROLE IN CONTROLLING DRUGS



Stairs is an NGO working for controlling drugs in India. They basically work in the field of development of underprivileged youth through channelization of their energies in sports and education. It eventually improves their personality and shapes their character. They are located in Gagan Vihar of New Delhi.



There are more than 500 de-addiction centres across India trying to nurse addicts back into healthy productive lifestyles. But the scourge of drug addiction is spreading. To make matters worse, Indians are increasingly using more synthetic drugs such as cocaine, heroin, metha. phetamine and mandrax than natural ones such as cannabis and hashish. These are far more addictive and injurious to health. Stairs uses sports to keep the young away from drugs and help them canalise their energies for personal and economic growth.

75% of Indian homes have at least one drug user, sometimes as young as 13. Their programmes wean users away from drugs 13% of the people involved in drug and substance abuse in India are aged below 20 years. Stairs uses sports as a tool to educate youngsters about dangers of drug abuse. 35% of children have a history of substance abuse, especially kids on street, working and trafficked. They soldier on in war on drugs, on and off the sports field.

Stairs have observed that children and youth who are out of school or have no extra-curricular activities are especially prone to being enticed by drug dealers. As the first step they shortlist areas where the problem exists or can arise. Then ,they visit the areas and connect with the youth. They form teams from among the locals and hold tournaments to break ice.

A report by the government of India states that drug addiction is increasingly becoming an area of concern as traditional moorings, social taboos, self-restraint and control-discipline of the joint family and community are gradually disappearing with urbanisation. Alcohol and drug abuse has emerged as a serious socio-economic problem in India. Located between two of the world's largest illicit drug producing regions, India has been a transit country for long, making it highly vulnerable to the problem of smuggling of drugs into and out of the country and drug abuse.



Drug abuse is a result of two factors- the availability of drugs and the psycho-social conditions which result in their abuse. Both traditional and semi-synthetic and synthetic drugs are abused. Intravenous drug use and HIV/AIDS driven by such use have added a new dimension to the problem. The United Nations General Assembly, in its 20th Special Session in 1998, has accepted demand reduction as an indispensable pillar of drug control strategies. Hence, equal emphasis is placed on supply and demand reduction. Demand reduction also has two components- treating the drug addicts and educating and enabling the society to prevent addiction and to rehabilitate addicts after they have been treated. Thus, drug abuse is a psycho-socio medical problem, which needs both medical intervention and community based interventions. Hence, the central government has a three-pronged strategy for demand reduction consisting of:

1. Building awareness and educating people about ill effects of drug abuse.
2. Dealing with the addicts through programme of motivational counselling, treatment, follow-up and social-reintegration of recovered addicts.
3. To impart drug abuse prevention/rehabilitation training to volunteers with a view to build up an educated cadre of service providers.

Of the above, treatment is the component which directly targets drug addiction. India has a two-pronged strategy towards it- (a) running deaddiction centres in Government hospitals; and (b) supporting NGOs involved in this endeavour. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Government of India runs a number of drug-de-addiction centres in various Government hospitals across the country. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has been implementing a Scheme for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention since the year 1985-86. The approach of this Scheme is to provide the whole range of services including awareness generation, identification, counselling, treatment and rehabilitation of addicts through voluntary and other organizations. In order to reduce the demand for and consumption of alcohol and dependence producing substances, the thrust would be on preventive education programmes and Whole Person Recovery of the addicts. At present, under this Scheme, the Government supports Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) running Deaddiction-cum-Rehabilitation Centres, De-addiction Camps, and Counselling and Awareness Centres. The Government bears the major portion of the cost of services provided at these Centres.

In conclusion we can say that NGOs have an immense role in controlling drugs in India. More or less it depends on smuggling of drugs and also depends on families. Lack of adequate attention by the parents on their children (most of the drug addicts in India are youngsters). Psychological factors also play an important role. Therefore, the home environment should be joyous one. Parents should spend more time with their children and try to understand their problems and also try to fulfill their needs and guide them eventually.

By: Jennifer Rahman

Constitutional and legal framework for drugs abuse in India.

Introduction

The International day against Drugs Abuse and Illicit trafficking is observed annually on 26th June . The decision to mark the day was taken on December 7th 1987 through a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly in order to strengthen the global action and corporation to achieve its aims of making the International society free of drugs abuse.

Objectives

- Cause and effects of drug abuse
- Signs and symptoms of a drug abuser
- Government campaigns to prevent drug abuse
- Laws on how to stop drug addiction

Constitutional and legal framework for drugs abuse In Indian context.

Constitution of India With the adoption of the Indian Constitution in 1950, all laws became subordinate to constitutional provisions, in particular, fundamental rights. There were some challenges to drug laws on the grounds that they were discriminatory and contravened farmers' freedom of trade and occupation. The cases, however, were unsuccessful. Courts relied, among other things, on India's international drug control commitments to justify the restrictions on cultivation, use and trade.

The prohibitionist sentiment became further entrenched by way of Article 47 of the Constitution which states: "The State shall endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption except for medicinal purposes of intoxicating drinks and of drugs which are injurious to health". Although these Directive Principles of State Policy are non-enforceable, this provision is frequently invoked to justify punitive drug policies. The Constitution also earmarked subjects on which Parliament or state Legislatures could make law either exclusively or concurrently.

India is signatory to three UN Conventions regarding drugs.

1. Convention on Narcotic Drugs 1961.
2. Convention on Psychotropic Substance 1971.
3. Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance 1988.

The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Act. (NDPS)

The NDPS Act prohibits a person from the production/manufacturing/cultivation, possession, sale, purchasing, transport, storage, and/or consumption of any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance.

Narcotics Control Bureau

The Narcotics Control Bureau's national headquarters is located in Delhi. It is came under the Ministry of Home Affairs, which was made responsible for administering the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.

The NCB is a responding agency that is responsible for coordination with various ministries, other offices & State/Central enforcement agencies with regard to drug law enforcement and also in respect of Matters relating to drug abuse.

According to this act, Narcotic Control Bureau is a nodal duty and responsible agency for drugs controlling in india. As per the study which was conducted by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment ' 2019 report has said that 14.6% of the population use alcohol.

By: Satyajit Ray, Education Dept.

“Drugs take you to hell, disguised as heaven”.

This statement defines the meaning of drugs accurately in one single line. You might think that not everyone takes drugs, But surprisingly this has become a lifestyle of some people you might believe that this happens only in movies or with movies stars, But that is just far-fetched reality Drugs are very much a part of people who were normal once upon a time, due to many different reason.

Drugs Abuse not only affect the person who is a victim of it , but also destroy their family and love life and sheds tears, people who are victims of drugs Abuse also suffer from financial Loss as they do not have the ability to do any kind of work and thus it's lead to unemployment and more and more family issue. Put It out, before it puts you out.



There are many reasons behind drug abuse ,let's focus on the things that promote drug abuse now a days many parents do not focus on their children because they are too busy to earn their livelihood, However, children feel Ignorant and thus begin to use the drugs at an increase level. which makes them addiction to it and eventually leads them to take drugs.

After this there is a lack of communication the teenager and their parents are unable to talk to each other.on some issues due to the age different and thus the teenager seek advice from other people who refuse them to take drug overdose. Therefore it is High time that parents become friends of their children and listen to their problems patiently.

Addiction is a disease that makes you too selfish to see the havoc you created or care about the people whose lives you have shattered.

Some of the l'll effects of drugs of drug abuse include drug addiction , accidents, mental illness, heart problems and more. Therefore a person suffering from the consequence of drug abuse should undertake versatile treatment which proves to be effective and helps them to come out of this fatal condition.

Addiction destroy everything in its paths getting out of the way it the most loving from detachment you can practice.

By: Kabir Mughal

Drug Combating



Campaign



NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS AND REPORT



By: Pratiksha Goswami, Rajoshree Dey and Priyanka Dey

SAY NO TO DRUGS NORTHEAST(a report on drugs)

The hard struggle of the Northeastern region against drugs dates back to an exceptionally early epoch. Northeast is jammed between the chemical supplying country and drug producing Golden triangle, assuming it as a potential hub, for all the drugs gets accumulated into the region before it proceeds to other states. As a part of new Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma's war on drugs, the Assam police, in the past weeks , has aggressively started its campaign to free the state from this peril. They have arrested several drug dealers and seized huge quantities of illegal products over the past several weeks.

- Diganta pegu was apprehended by police in Lakhimpur with 34.18 gms of suspected heroin
- Assam police caused a massive strike to the drug cartel operation by busting various cartels and arresting numerous traffickers and dealers
- Diganta Nath ,who later confessed that he was regularly purchasing Jehirul Islam hails from Nagaon.
- Nahin Police operations at the office of a courier service at Fauzadary Patty which led by ASP Dhruvajyoti Bora, a massive quantity of drugs worth Rs 45 lakhs was seized.

- PRIYANKA DEY (MA 2nd sem)

The Miami Herald

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1996

VIEWPOINT

The rise of teen drug use

Prevention should be at heart of U.S. policy

BY MATTHEA FALCO

The '96 election campaign brought federal anti-drug policy into sharp focus after four years of virtual silence from both parties. Republicans and Democrats blamed each other for the recent jump in teen drug use and promised to try harder to combat drug abuse after the elections. But neither party has produced a blueprint for success, a strategy that will survive the partisan attacks of the campaign season. Any lasting program will depend on a sustained commitment by the new Congress and the administration to put to work what we have learned about reducing drug abuse in the past two decades.

Since 1991, illegal drug use among high school students has doubled. Teens don't think drugs are as harmful as they did and they are more tolerant of drug use. Why? In the past five years, while a new generation of children grew into teenagers, we have been largely silent about the dangers of drugs. In part, this silence reflected relief that the worst of the 1980s drug epidemic was over. After the publicity surrounding the 1986 cocaine overdose death of sports star Len Bias, cocaine use dropped by half and marijuana use by one-third. Our leaders—and the news media—turned their attention to other concerns, and the strong anti-drug messages that influence individual behavior were no longer heard.

Moreover, many children have not received prevention education in their schools or their communities because programs are not available. Yet many of those who have participated unfortunately have not learned how to resist drugs, alcohol and tobacco in real-life situations. Fewer than one-fifth of the most widely used classroom prevention programs have been rigorously evaluated, and only a handful have been found to reduce new drug and alcohol use among teenagers. Although researchers have made real progress in determining what program elements are essential for prevention, little of this knowledge is being used in the nation's classrooms.

Both the public and police officials believe prevention should be a top priority in combating drug abuse and drug crime, according to recent surveys by Peter Hart Research Associates. Police chiefs rank drug abuse as the top problem in their communities, far more serious than either violent or property crime. More than half say that law enforcement has been unsuccessful in reducing the drug problem and believe that new approaches are needed.

This widespread support for prevention, however, appears to have little political impact: Republicans and Democrats alike have consistently made prevention the lowest priority of national drug policy. Under Presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton, prevention received an average 12 percent of the annual federal drug budget, which will exceed \$15 billion this year.

The emerging epidemic of teen drug use should compel greater national attention to prevention this year. Parents, teachers, police officials and community leaders can make a powerful case that our children can and must be protected against the dangers of drugs. For our elected officials in Washington, the choice can no longer be between silence about drugs or finger-pointing as to who's to blame. It is time to act on what the American public has long believed and to make prevention the heart of our national drug strategy.



Matthea Falco is president of Drug Strategies, a nonprofit research institute in Washington, which has just released *Making the Grade: A Guide to School Drug Prevention Programs*. She wrote this article for *The Herald*.



40 • TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1996 • USA TODAY

HEALTH AND EDUCATION

PLUS REPORTS ON THE SCIENCES AND ENVIRONMENT

A lesser grade in drug prevention

Guide gives 'C' to most programs

By Mike Madden
USA TODAY

Only a handful of the country's hundreds of drug prevention education programs get excellent ratings in a guide published today, despite the millions of dollars that Americans spend each year on school-based drug education.

Prevention programs have attracted a growing following among educators since the early 1980s, says Bridget Ryan, director of the Best Foundation, which funds a prevention program called Project Alert.

The programs try to keep children from using drugs, alcohol or tobacco through classroom lessons. Prevention companies contract with schools and school districts to supply curriculum materials.

Drug Strategies, a Washington, D.C., organization that promotes prevention-oriented education, reviewed the most widely available programs. Its guide rates programs in more than 10 categories, from ease of administration to coverage of issues such as resisting peer and advertising pressures.

But only six of the 47 programs reviewed earned an A in "program quality," the key rating. Most got C's.

Drug Strategies president Matthea Falco says the group considers C grades satisfactory because the guide's standards are "extremely high." The Guide's purpose, she says, is only to direct educators toward programs that might meet their needs.

"It gives teachers the tools to begin to judge what kinds of programs they need for their prevention teaching," she

says. "We really didn't want to be the ultimate arbiter."

Besides, even the best lesson plans cannot solve the drug problem on their own, says Bill Modzeleski of the Education Department's Safe and Drug Free Schools program. Without skilled teachers to implement curriculum materials, students don't benefit from prevention education, he says. And some teachers don't stick to the written curriculum, which also renders good programs moot.

Modzeleski says successful programs make a comprehensive effort to keep students away from drugs. School policies on drugs and alcohol, community and parent involvement, and extensive teacher training—in addition to classroom programs—are much more effective than curriculum programs on their own.

The programs that rose A's are Michigan Model, run by the state Department of Public Health; the University of Michigan's Alcohol Misuse Prevention Program; Life Skills Training, based in Princeton, N.J.; Project Alert; Los Angeles; the University of Minnesota's Project Northland; and the University of Illinois' STAR program.

The guide is available from Drug Strategies at 202-663-6000 for \$12.95.



Matthea Falco is president of Drug Strategies, a nonprofit research institute in Washington, which has just released *Making the Grade: A Guide to School Drug Prevention Programs*. She wrote this article for *The Herald*.

Abuse Of Drug Here Is Termed 'Epidemic'

Jan. 3, 1973 p. 23
By William B. Trembl

(News Police Reporter)

A state official has warned that the abuse of a newly-marketed drug has reached "epidemic" proportions in Ann Arbor.

C. Patrick Babcock, director of the Michigan Office of Drug Abuse and Alcoholism, has notified local courts and law enforcement officials that Ann Arbor has been listed as a critical area where methaqualone is in extensive use.

Methaqualone is a depressant which acts on the central nervous system and like alcohol and barbiturates "puts the brain to sleep," Babcock points out. The new drug is physically addicting, he says.

The state director has asked District Court Judge S.J. Elden and other local officials to watch for evidences of the abuse of this drug and take the initiative to expose its use to the community.

Judge Elden, who has been active in alcoholism treatment programs through his court, says he is handling an increasing number of cases in which drugs are taken with alcohol. Babcock pointed out that methaqualone can be lethal when it is taken with alcohol.

Methaqualone is manufactured and distributed by six major pharmaceutical

companies. It is also made by drug pushers and peddled on the street, Babcock warned.

Each drug firm manufacturing methaqualone markets the tranquilizers under its own trade name. Parke-Davis uses the name "Parest," the Rober firm uses "Quaaludes," Arnar-Stone Co. has "Sopars" for its name while the Wallace firm uses "Optimil." The Smith, Miller and Patch Co. markets "Somnafac" and "Somnafac-Forte" and the Strassenburgh firm sells "Biphetimine-T."

The capsules contain from 150 to as much as 400 milligrams of methaqualone and appear in a variety of colors. All are sold by prescription only and sale, possession and use of this drug without a prescription is punishable by up to a year in jail.

According to Babcock, methaqualone sets up a dependence if it is used on a regular basis and withdrawal from it can lead to convulsions, delirium and death. Withdrawals from the drug should be done with a physician's supervision.

Persons who "pass out" after taking methaqualone may be in danger if they cannot be awakened immediately.

SOCIAL CHANGE

Drug use on the rise among older people

Dana McCauley

Older Australians have almost doubled their illegal drug use, with increasing numbers of people aged 60 and over reaching for illicit substances such as cannabis and black-market pharmaceuticals.

An Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report released yesterday shows the proportion of people aged 60 and over

such as Valium after being prescribed these drugs by a doctor.

"Most overdose deaths are from prescription opioids and benzodiazepines, which far outweigh the number of [illicit] drug overdoses," she said, saying the problem highlighted the need for a "nationally consistent" real-time prescription monitoring system, as promised by federal Health Minister Greg Hunt.



POEMS



&

STORIES

BEUTON

*In Remembrance of a Loving
Friend*

*"It breaks my heart to see
you in heaven.*

*You were a good friend to
me and a fav of all;*

*For reasons unknown my
heart's heavy laden,*

*God's place is where you
must be in soul.*

*They say death is the next
step to peace,*

*I am not sure I can believe
that anymore.*

*Tears in and out make my
faith to cease;*

*Gosh! Despair is killing me
more.*

Silence seems to fill me,

*Though I am trying to be
strong and good.*

Prayer seems to comfort me,

*But sadness is affecting me
as it would.*

*I am reminded of the
photograph of you and me;*

strong and good.

Prayer seems to comfort me,

*But sadness is affecting me
as it would.*

*I am reminded of the
photograph of you and me;*

*And you will forever remain
with me."*

As a student of literature Beuton feels that English is a universal language that can speak in several cultural and literary spaces. Educated in an English medium school and then as a student of English Honours in literature, he feels his periphery of knowledge in the language and its literary treasure has widened.

By: Beuton Goyary, BA 6th semester, English Dept.

By: *Angsruta Sharma*
BA 4th sem, English dept



A REVIVAL

I am happy now that Life has
changed
The past version of me Died before
I did... Emotions raged in Terrifying
tears
I walked beyond the gloomy kid.
Days were hard,
I felt time flee
With no trace of glee!
All the negativities bottled up Like
air inside a balloon
About to burst
Sucked out my love and soul And
left me a breathless carcass Life
was a mirage
Sorrow had shadowed my soul And
darkened my skin
Forced me to loose
The strength of my grin. Amidst all
foes and little friend I had died
everyday

With a new death
What else could I have done But
pray and pray and pray
To let my tears stray
Why wasn't I normal enough To be
able to let my
Pain and anguish flow away?
Finally a light beamed
At the tunnel end
A lotus blossomed amidst
all mud
Life changed ever since..
Hideous childhood hid beneath Happy
faces
Peeping through windows to
Future and dreams
Life embraced me with
Hope and bliss.
A soul reborn with
Love and peace
Finally ready to take on the world None
can now make my stance swirl!

ENTANGLED

The faraway cry of an unborn

Will she make it?

Answers lost in depth of fate

Technology can make her easier to breath

But can it 'give' her breath?!

Agony of fate

I doubt...

An hour elapsed,

Hope flickered in the cold glare of technology

The doctor's desperation amidst
personal pressure and exasperation

Encompassed by repeated failures

His credibility weighted
in the heavy scales of self doubt...

The uncertainty gradually
gulped down his self-esteem
Another loss would confirm the worse!

How badly he wanted to seal those lips
speaking sceptically about his chances of success,

Once and for all!

But, playing against fate; no cake walk..

A mother lying unconscious
oblivious to the world around

Even in her subconscious state

All that she ever wished was to be woken up
by the sweet, little cry of birth

Little did she know

Her cards lay upon fate's lap,
never to be considered..

The foetus struggled to freedom
against the chains holding her back acutely..

Would fate's evil plans win against the trio??

Three struggling souls
clinging on to the fringes of fate..

An hour of tussle felt like an eternity.

A mother in her labor blacked out in pain..

A foetus fighting for life..

A doctor gravely trying to prove himself..

Life appeared unfair; destiny's design looked evil

Triad seeking 'God' blindly.. soulfully

And then..

The cry of the newborn

Ushered in fresh hope long lost in oblivion.

The lips that prayed monotonously

Slowly spread into a smile

As the foetus transformed

into an angel in her weak hands..

While, the doctor smiled in pride and glee

At his first successful delivery!

A bright, new dawn

Shone in the horizon!

--- ANGSRUTA SARMA

B.A. 4th Semester
English Honours



DRUG ABUSE

Source: [*google]

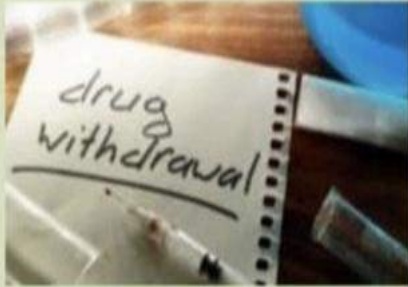
**Everyday there's a new
developed tumor,
Directly attacking my system,
Now, I'm hungry for a donor,
Which is only available for
some,
Swallowing a handful to lift
your feet,
Take a Xanax if you can't sleep,
Yes! The results are accurate,
But the true fear should be the
side effects,
The pharma industries are
losing their legal stands,
The side effects include
"shortening human lifespan"**

**Truly, this addiction has gone
too far,
Damaging the lungs, the
kidney, the heart, & your death
is ruled as an overdose,
So your life story book is
closed,**

**With your legacy sad & undone,
Drugs lead depression to
everyone,
Some smalltime pleasure,
worth our organs,
Daily problems & miseries, due
to drugs,**

Poem About Drug Withdrawal

*Time is consuming.
I struggle removing
temptation and sorrow
for a better tomorrow*



BLUE

"Stars brim...
Over the blue, Zen
Shrewd and wise he was always
Waft from a distant to heft his probity,
Stars brim!"

- Shiny Bharadwaj

By: Priyanka Dey

HOPE

Aisha, stop!” Maya puffing after her. “Huh, I didn’t realize you were following me”, Aisha turned to her classmate. “So it’s our last day in this beautiful school”, Maya expressed emotionally. “Yeah!” Aisha felt a strange bolt in her stomach. She knew it was destined that this day would arrive sooner or later. At this juncture, she was utterly dismayed over the thought of leaving school. “Maya, do you know where Dhara is?” I need to talk to her. Maya gazed at Aisha suspiciously. “If you are thinking of insulting her then you might want to hold it until the farewell party gets over.” Aisha assured Maya that nothing of the sort will happen and strode off to search for Dhara, her substantial rival and also her classmate. After strolling the school for about twenty minutes Aisha stood up to Dhara at the corridor. “Hi Dhara! How’re you doing?”

Aisha tried to be gentle. “I was great up till now” snapped Dhara. Aisha tolerated Dhara’s haughtiness for too long to even care. And moreover she did not felt like ruining the last day at school by squabbling over Dhara’s pompous nature. “Well I thought it’s better to say good-bye now”. “Huh, good-bye. Indeed it’s very pleasant! But, don’t you even know that we still have at least four hours before we never see each other’s faces again. How foolish of you to greet good-bye now” chuckled Dhara, all the way trying to humiliate Aisha.

Dhara and Aisha always had irreconcilable differences. Even when Aisha tried to resolve matters out, Dhara would never oblige. Dhara considered Aisha her competitor and envied her popularity. “I know, look can’t we just forget all the differences and wish each other luck for our future. I am not asking for friendship but at least we can avoid this hostility between us Dhara” Aisha spoke with a tear. She somehow felt emotional. “Anyways can’t wait for the party to begin!” Dhara paid no attention, exclaimed to herself and went away.

Aisha with a broken heart went to join her friend circle where she noticed her best friend Priya having a gala time with her friends. “Hi Pri!” Aisha uttered in relief. Priya seemed very pleased to see her best friend. They hugged each other and Aisha narrated the episode with Dhara. “That old pest, can’t she ever talk sensibly?!” Priya fumed angrily. “Maybe we’re never meant to be friends”, Aisha sighed. Priya sympathised with Aisha.

The friends chatted for some time when suddenly an announcement was made that the farewell party was about to begin in a few minutes. Having heard that the girls rushed to the auditorium on the first floor to take their seats. Then after sometime the farewell began and everybody enjoyed. The performances by juniors to entertain their seniors were fun to watch and everyone had a good time. Aisha felt lighter as she enjoyed with her friends. But amidst all pomp and joy, she didn’t see Dhara anywhere around. Though initially she ignored the fact but later found it strange for someone to be absent from the most awaited highlight of the day.

Moreover something that seemed to have excited Dhara so much earlier that day. Nevertheless, Aisha remained seated but after an hour couldn't resist herself from worrying about Dhara's unexpected absence. So, she quietly set out in search of Dhara. Through the empty corridors and classrooms, she kept looking for Dhara. "Where has she disappeared", Aisha wondered. Then after sometime she heard a feeble voice coming from beneath the staircase of fourth floor. To her utter bewilderment, Dhara laid there half conscious. She had a swollen ankle and strains of blood on her forehead. Aisha gasped at the sight and immediately rushed to help her. Dhara seemed dazed and upon seeing Aisha approach her, Dhara broke down. With the aid of some non-faculty staff, she supported Dhara to the medical room of the school. There the doctor did her check- up, gave her medications, asked her to call her parents and told her to rest meanwhile.

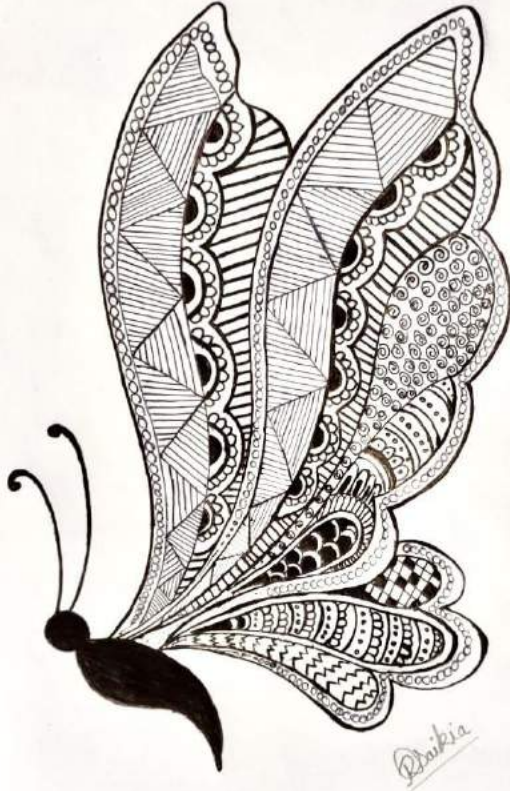
Upon the doctor's enquiry, Dhara confessed that she was in a hurry to reach the auditorium and wasn't paying enough attention to the stairs so she slipped and caused the accident. She then sobbed hard. Aisha went to the principal's office and contacted her parents to come and take Dhara home. But due to some unavoidable circumstances, it was received that they'll take at least another hour to arrive at the earliest. Aisha then took this news to Dhara and insisted on giving her company until her parents arrive. Dhara seemed speechless upon hearing Aisha. They both seemed immobile for few minutes then Aisha told Dhara to relax and rest. They both talked about medicines and the injury then both got silent. It was an eerie silence that followed and both seemed shy to continue further. It was as if they both needed a suitable medium to convey their feelings. At one time, Dhara asked Aisha to go and enjoy the party to which Aisha denied humbly.

An hour later the security guard came to the medical room to tell that Dhara's parents had finally arrived. Dhara, at once, clumsily searched in her bag and took out a piece of paper and scribbled something. Dhara hid the paper in her fist and Aisha wondered what it might possibly be. But then without asking anything, Aisha helped Dhara get inside her car. Dhara then grasped Aisha's hand, handed her the piece of paper and looked into her eyes. It felt as if Dhara had to swallow her feelings to speak. Dhara's eyes were filled but she didn't speak anything. Deep down, Aisha had a feeling that Dhara might have written something in favour of their reconciliation or the hope of keeping a future contact. As the car started, she smiled kindly and waved Dhara goodbye. Aisha kept on looking until the last glimpse of the white car. When at last she turned her way back to the auditorium, she opened the piece of paper and there in bold letters was written: "GOODBYE!"



Angsruta Sarma
B.A. 4th Semester
English Honours

1



2



(1) Mandala Art by Ragini
Priyadarshini Saikia

(2) A Warli painting and (3)
An African art by
Shiny Bharadwaj

18

ART BY

3

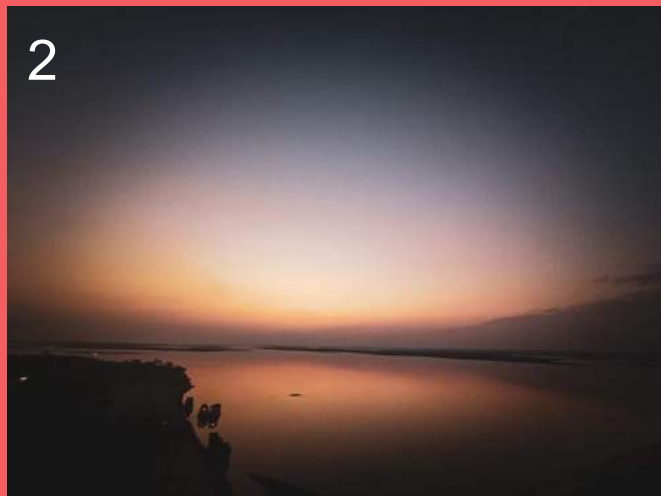
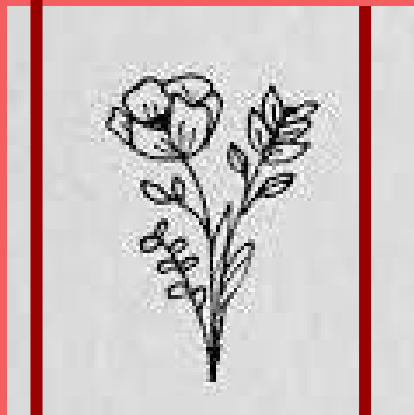
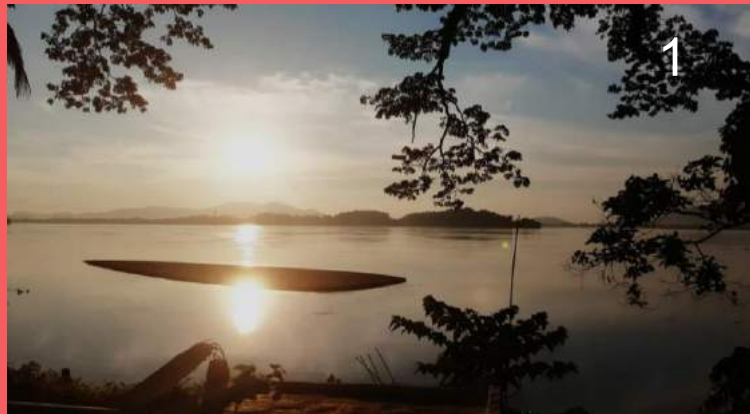


PHOTO

GALLERY



- *Photography by Pratiksha Goswami (1) and (2)*
- *Photography by Rajoshree Dey (3) and (4)*
- *Photography by Puja Kalita (5) and (6)*
- *Photography by Ragini Priyadarshini Saikia (7) and (8)*
- *Photography by Borna Tumung (9) and (10)*



5



7



6



8



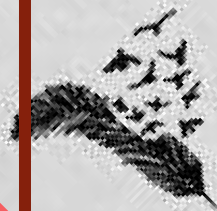
9



10



MISTY MIDNIGHT SWING



MEMORABLE MOMENTS





Centre for Writing
and Communication

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
NEF COLLEGE, GUWAHATI

IN COLLABORATION WITH
CENTRE FOR WRITING AND COMMUNICATION,
ASHOKA UNIVERSITY

PRESENTS

BRINGING THEORY TO RESEARCH: FOUNDATIONS OF ACADEMIC WRITING

Speaker:

JYOTIRMOY TALUKDAR

Senior Writing Fellow (English Language Teaching),
Centre for Writing and Communication, Ashoka University

12:30-2:30 PM

20 FEBRUARY 2021 (SATURDAY)

Zoom Meeting Link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84257614032?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84257614032?pwd=NThXRvZ3b1NlZ3Fsc1VrSWZlNTI2MUT09)
[pwd=NThXRvZ3b1NlZ3Fsc1VrSWZlNTI2MUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84257614032?pwd=NThXRvZ3b1NlZ3Fsc1VrSWZlNTI2MUT09)
Meeting ID: 842 5761 4032
Passcode: 901318

INVITATION TO MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH

We are pleased to inform you that Dr Pranjal Buragohain, Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Dibrugarh University is going to deliver a 'MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH' on 3rd December, 2020 from 1.30 P.M.
All of you are cordially invited to attend the same.
Thank you.

Date: 3/12/2020

Time: 1:30PM

From: Dr Rinku Borah, Dr Pallavi Sharma, Faculty of
Arts, NEF College, Guwahati

Venue: Platform: ZOOM

Few glimpses of online motivational speech by Dr. Pranjal Buragohain of Dibrugarh University and Senior Writing Fellow Jyotirmoy Talukdar of Ashoka University















CONCEPT AND COPYRIGHT OWNED BY- borah.rinku2@gmail.com