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AN ANALYSIS OF PREVENTION OF DRUG ABUSE AND ROLE OF COMMUNITY IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Drug abuse is one of the pinnacle issues confronting the nation nowadays, particularly some of the young people and Children. As far as we have seen, in the last few years, alcohol consumption and drug abuse has increased in the society. Although this has been happening for a long time, but now the number of such people is increasing very rapidly and that is why crimes have also increased. This issue is no longer limited to the government only. Therefore, the participation of all of us has become necessary to eradicate this evil from the society. It's miles critical to eliminate this hassle. In each country are being efforts on manage of drug abuse within the world. Government is making an attempt to smash this evil. The role of education can be distinct to govern and prevention of drug abuse. Social training as an intervention can go a long way to enlighten youths at the dangers of abusing drugs, and the need to put off it. In this paper the researcher has tried to give an explanation for the role of education to control drug abuse in the society.

Introduction

At present, drug abuse is spreading at a very fast pace in countries like India. Be it social or educational institutions. Drug abuse refers to the dangerous use of psychoactive substances such as illegal drugs and alcohol. Moreover, drug addiction is a complex health disorder. Drug abuse and dependence is harmful to both the user and their surrounding environment. It has a bad effect on individuals, families and communities. It causes physical and mental health problems. And under its influence, the individual moves towards crime. However, drug abuse is also a social act, which is linked to different social contexts: its forms vary according to time and place, such as drug policies

and laws. This research paper mainly deals with not only drug addiction and its use but also its effects, drug abuse in India and their prevention and the role of the community. The world's fastest growing illegal use of alcohol, abusing of drugs and the misuse of prescription drugs by addicts remains a major health problem for society. As far as statistics are concerned, hardly any country is spared from this problem, if not the whole world is affected by it. And that is why as a result of this increase globally, the increase in violence and crime is also increasing rapidly.

The current situation shows that, in India, most of the crimes related to the "Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985" have

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been committed by juveniles. This shows that juveniles are falling prey to it very fast. In cities, de-addiction centres have been set up for people affected by drug addiction, but there are no programmes in educational institutions for children or adolescents to avoid drug abuse, nor is awareness being spread in the society in the right way. Now you will find children or adolescents taking drugs outside schools and colleges, in streets, on the roadside, at railway stations, etc. One surprising thing is that they get these intoxicants very easily. Cough syrups, pain-relieving ointments, solutions, paints, gasoline and cleaning liquids are easily available near their residence. Now if we talk about freeing them from this addiction, then very few de-addiction centres have been set up in cities. Whereas in villages there are no health centres related to this, which can provide relief from problems like child drug abuse. In India alone, on an average 20 million children are affected by drug addiction every year and about 55,000 children are affected by drug addiction every day. Although these are government figures, the reality is much more than this. In Punjab, a state of the country, the number of drug addicts is even higher. Due to its proximity to Pakistan, about 75% of the youth here have become seriously addicted to drugs. People are getting affected rapidly in most parts of the country including big cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad etc.

Define drugs

There are many definitions for drugs

According to UNODC

The term “Drugs, it refers to any substance with the potential to prevent or cure disease or enhance

physical or mental welfare. In pharmacology, it means any chemical agent that alters the biochemical or physiological processes of tissues or organisms”.¹

According to W.H.O.

“Any substance used in the composition of medicine. It is also defined as any substance which alters a mood, perception or consciousness, and is used to the apparent detriment of the society”.²

According to Drug and cosmetic Act 1940

The term “drug “as define in the act includes a wide variety of substance, diagnostic and medical devices. “All medicine for internal and external use of human beings or animals and all substances intended to be used for or in the diagnosis, treatment mitigation or prevention of any disease or disorder in human being or animals”³

The Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954

“Drug” includes-

- (i). a medicine for the internal or external use of human beings or animals;
- (ii). any substance intended to be used for or in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease in human beings or animals;
- (iii). any article, other than food, intended to affect or influence in any way the structure or any organic function of the body of human beings or animals;
- (iv). any article intended for use as a component of any medicine, substance or article, referred to in sub-clauses (i), (ii) and (iii);”⁴

Drugs additionally known as: narcotics, it means a

plant or synthetic compounds that contain hypnotic or sedative elements, which, if used for any reason aside from that medically specified,

In such cases, drugs also have an effect on the central nervous system, breathing system and circulatory system with chronic illnesses. In general language-

“Any substance taken into the body which brings about a physiological change or substance which when taken into the body may modify one or more of its physical or mental functions”.

Classification of Drugs

Drugs can be classified based on their function in the human body and their effects on the nervous system. Some are categorized by their level of impact, while others are defined by their potential for physical or psychological dependence, rather than their type or color.

In different words, a few drugs are legally and some are illicit (unlawful). additionally, some prescribed drugs that are frequently prescription for patients with the help of doctors. The affected person misuse those prescribed drugs. The stimulant drugs enhance the body's functions and interest by generating more alertness. Including caffeine in a tea and coffee. Depressants are other type of drugs unlike stimulants, this class of drugs causes a lower in function of body with the help of lowering alertness, cause sleep or might also produce unconsciousness; for example, Diazepam, Alprazolam, Propoxyphene, Cocaine etc. Analgesics are a different type of substances. They influence the main control system of the body and they are able to Substances can be either energizing or relaxing. It may be changed the function of

mind.⁵

Drugs may include the following:

- Analgesics
- Cannabis
- Depressants
- Stimulant drugs such as cocaine.
- Hallucinogens such as LSD.
- Inhalants or Solvents such as glue, paint etc.
- Prescription medicines such as painkillers, Cough syrup.⁶

Drug Abuse

Habitual taking of illicit drugs is known as ‘drug abuse’. Addiction to drugs is the persistent use of illegal substances or the misuse of harmful prescription or over-the-counter medications. This disorder, also known as chemical abuse or substance abuse, is characterized by negative patterns of the usage of a substance that causes serious problems or suffering, regardless of what kind it is.⁷

Who is Abuser and why to take Drugs?

Teens, adolescent and youngsters are the heavily abuser of drugs within the world. They are seeking out new sensations or those who believe that drugs will improve their mental functioning or self-awareness and mind relaxation. A few of them begin using drugs A couple of them or peer pressure start utilizing drugs.⁸

Despite the fact that, some of them stopped after leaving the college, however a few young are still going on. Many young people use drugs to escape their problems and express their frustration. Because they are, some do so out of deviant behavior told not to. This takes place as a

consequence of the mental sensation of self-reliance amongst young people. Therefore, they do no longer need to be instructed what to do. To be rebellious, they are willing to disobey both their parents and the authorities. On one hand, the future of our country i.e., "youth" mostly take drugs due to unemployment or poverty. There are no job opportunities for graduates, school dropouts and others in the country. On the other hand, these same youths have made it a fashion to consume drugs in weddings and parties. The education they receive is also inadequate, It is also very important to note here that most of the people who abuse drugs in the society are youngsters or teenagers who are completely unaware of the consequences of the drug they are consuming. All this is because these youths are involved in groups of their peers where their only aim is to have fun.

The Role of Education in Combating Drug Abuse

The Indian "Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment", The government has been implementing a program to prohibit and prevent drug abuse in the country since 1985-86, which is the primary focus of their efforts to reduce drug demand.⁹

De-addiction and counselling centres are engaged in a wide range of awareness programmes in the society, including village panchayats, educational institutions and many others. Apart from this, the government is actively using various media channels, seminars, programmes and audio-visuals to educate the public about the ill effects of drug abuse.

The holistic approach is primarily based on the

need to comprehensively address the widespread lack of knowledge and awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse prevention and rehabilitation services and to create an environment of abstinence from drugs through the society. This effort will also help in drawing public attention to the harmful consequences of drug abuse and aid the campaign against them.

One of the reasons for the increase in drug abuse in society is poverty and poverty. Many people become frustrated due to unemployment and poverty. Due to which they start abusing drugs. To overcome this sorrow, they gradually become addicted to drugs. Many people get into this addiction due to lack of knowledge about the dire consequences of drug abuse. From which they are unable to get out even if they want to. Many people also abuse drugs due to deviant behavior. That is why our efforts should be focused on adult education. Because only adult education can effectively deal with the problem of drug abuse among our youth.¹⁰ Therefore, it can play a big role in saving Indian youth from the deadly evil or let's say deadly disease like drug addiction. Another thing is that, if the government tries to eradicate poverty, unemployment etc. from the society, then perhaps the misuse of drugs will also decrease. But in this, not only the participation of the government but the cooperation of all of you is also needed. Therefore, we can fight this evil through adult education.

Public Awareness

The main objective of such public awareness programmes is to eradicate ignorance and indifference from the society, to free the addicts

physically and mentally and to make their lives successful by making them aware of their duties, responsibilities and rights. In the context of social mobilization, it is important to focus on approaches aimed at increasing awareness among the youth about the evils of drug abuse and its ill-effects. As a result, they will be able to utilize their efforts in a better way and make the country's future stronger. With the help of this, the young people become a forefront for innovative changes Rather than an example of the apathy commonly seen among youth these days.

There are a few unique techniques likewise which can bring mindfulness among the general population. There are various methods through which awareness can be brought among the masses. Such as; individual and group interviews, focus group discussions, films, slide shows, lectures, conferences and awareness camps, plays or street plays, puppet shows etc.

Adult Literacy

Society can save youth by preventing drug abuse through functional literacy education. This is because it includes information related to elementary and economic activities. This program allows learners to fully participate in financial, civic, and social life.¹¹

The central and state governments, as well as non-governmental organizations, should educate adults about the dangers of drug abuse and its consequences. Additionally, efforts should concentrate on preventive education, raising awareness, identifying individuals affected, providing counseling, offering treatment and rehabilitation services, and training and

strengthening the capabilities of service providers.¹²

Social Education

The goal of social education is to enhance the social, cultural and political aspects of people's lives. Which includes initiatives focused on cultural awareness, political literacy, community development and general education. Education is the only source in society through which the youth can be saved from social awareness, lack of understanding and this evil. But for this, we all have to fulfill our responsibilities. We have to work to make the youth aware of staying away from drugs and its bad effects through education in the society. Therefore, by giving this type of education to the society, the public can play an important role in preventing drug abuse and in the development of the country.¹³

Conclusion

Drug addiction is a serious problem for the youth of the society and the government is making efforts to eradicate this evil. The government has made laws related to this, but these laws are not being implemented properly. Many state governments have added subjects like criminology, de-addiction, criminal justice and human rights in the postgraduate curriculum at the higher education level. But no subjects have been added at the school level to make people aware of their prevention and their effects. The government is making efforts to control and prevent alcohol and drug abuse, but the implementation of these laws and rules is not visible in our society. Government conducts many programmes, survey, schemes etc. Many drugs rehabilitation centres and Ngo's are working on these subjects but there is no effect of all of these in

society. These all have same cause, lack of knowledge or lack of awareness. The government cannot do control and prevention to drug abuse without the support of society. So, it is also our duty to aware the society.

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