



DRUG ABUSE AND HIV/AIDS: NEED TO SERIOUS CONCERN TOWARDS SOCIETY

Dr.Lalchand K.Ramteke

*Assistant Professor, Dept of Sociology, Ashok Moharkar Arts and Commerce College,
Adyal, Tah-Pauni, Dist.Bhandara*

INTRODUCTION

We have been experiencing an alarming increase of drug abuse among the youngsters in recent years. Every now and then we read in the newspapers that teens are being held for consuming drugs and most of them are usually aged between 17-20. But the main question arises that why the Indian society is experiencing such a dilemma where more of the teenagers and youths are involved in unethical and unproductive activities like substance or drug abuse.

The youths are topping the charts for the wrong reasons this time around. Recently many college-going boys and girls were hauled up by the police involved in the case of drug consumption in a rave party. The alarming rate of drug abuse has always been a problem and especially the increase of drug abuse among youngsters has had detrimental effects on the society.

HIV/AIDS

Scientists identified a type of Chimpanzee in West Africa as the source of HIV infection in humans. The virus is most likely was transmitted to humans and mutated into HIV when humans hunted Chimpanzees for meat and came into contact with their infected blood. Over decades, the virus slowly spread across Africa and later into other parts of the world. In 1986, Dr Suniti Solomon diagnosed the first HIV case in the city of Chennai, in a female sex worker. HIV then spread quickly among sex worker believed that the foreign clients who frequently travelled outside the country were carriers of this disease. In March 1985, the use of food and drug administration licensed the first commercial blood test ELISA to detect antibody to virus blood bank began to screen the USA blood supply. In April, the department of health and human services (HHS) and the who hosted the first international aids conference at Atlanta Georgia.

Ryan white a teenager from Indian who acquired aids through contaminated blood products used to positive at his haemophilia was banned from school. On 2nd October the actor rock Hudson died from aids the first high profile fatality.

Causes

1. Only certain body fluids – blood, semen, pre-seminal fluid rectal fluids, vaginal fluids, and breast milk from a person having HIV transmits HIV.
2. Not taking preventive measures while having sex.
3. Sharing needles or syringes water used to prepare drugs for injection used by HIV patient.
4. Mother to child during pregnancy, birth or breast feeding

HIV does not spread through hugging, shaking hands, sharing toilets, dishes, mosquito's sticks or other blood sucking insects and through the air.

Treatment For HIV

There are many treatments now that can help people with HIV and these treatment are much better than in earlier times. Currently medicines can slow the growth of the virus or stop it from making copies of it. Although these drugs do not eliminate virus from the body they keep the amount of virus in body low.

There are several types of anti-HIV drugs. Each type attacks the virus in a specific way. It's similar to the way the military plan an attack using different strength of army, navy, fire force and marines.

People who are HIV positive need to work with their clinicians to decide when to start treatment and which drug to take. Evidence from study shows that starting treatment early after HIV infection is more effective so treatment should be started as early as possible after HIV diagnose. There is no cure for HIV infection or aids so once you start treatment you have to continue to be sure the virus doesn't multiply out of control.



Precautions

1. Sexual contact
2. Pre-exposure
3. post-exposure
4. Mother-to-child
5. Vaccination

WHAT LEADS TO DRUG ADDICTION?

Peer pressure of studies on students might be one of the few cases which results in substance abuse among the youngsters. The educational system nowadays is very competitive and lacks flexibility with lakhs of students appearing for few thousand seats. Again, there is always a parental burden which adds to the pressure of making it big academically.

Personal and family problems also leads to drug abuse among youngsters who fail to cope up with the ever-growing family and personal problems. Workplace pressure and issues with the colleagues results in workplace deviance which later results in detrimental effects on the individual.

The adolescence situation is often the cause of such unproductive activities. The friend's circle in which a young individual stays also influences his/her activities. A boy/girl who has a company of friends who are into drugs and alcohol tends to repeat the same; an attempt to be an active member of the peer group which often results in addiction of the same leading to many unproductive activities in future of the youngsters.

It might begin with experimenting. A friend or your loved one's must have tried it once out of curiosity because of friends or just to cope up with a problem. In the early stages, one might really find it helpful to erase some problems or make one's life better, which leads to more and more consumption of drugs. But as addiction reaches a step further, it becomes more of a need rather than just a problem solver.

EFFECTS

The youths are topping the charts for the wrong reasons this time around. Recently many college-going boys and girls were hauled up by the police involved in the case of drug consumption in a rave party. The alarming rate of drug abuse has always been a problem and especially the increase of drug abuse among youngsters has a serious concern

COMMON SYMPTOMS

Although there are different types of drugs but the effects and the symptoms are more or less the same, irrespective of the kind of drug consumed. Some of the common signs which indicates that an individual is engaged with the process of drug abuse.

- Neglecting responsibilities at workplace, school, colleges or at home like skipping your tuition classes, low performance academically and staying away or alone for most of the time.
- It results in indifferences in relationships of an individual such as fights with your family members or your partner, losing a good old friend etc.
- Change in behavioural attitude such as not being the same person when being with friends or family or partner.
- Losing temper easily and getting into nasty things for petty issues.
- Frequently getting into fights, accidents and illegal activities.
- Lack of motivation, feeling lethargic.
- Anxiety and Irritation.
- A Sudden Loss of appetite and weight. Loss of sleep patterns.

PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

Some of the most noticeable symptoms of drugs abuse are those that affect the body's inner working. For example- your body tolerance to a drug occurs when a drug is abused for long enough that increased quantities or strengths are required to achieve the previous effects. This desire for a more intense high achieved through these means, is extremely dangerous and can easily lead to overdose.

The diminishing effects set in after the first time and the user constantly tries to replicate the first high he or she gets from the drugs by taking increasing amounts. This is extremely dangerous and can quickly lead to overdose.

Disruption to normal brain functioning changes in personality and heart and organ can be signs of long-term drug abuse

BEHAVIORAL SYMPTOMS

Drug abuse negatively affects person behaviour and habits as he or she become more dependent on the drug. The drug itself can alter the brain ability to focus and form coherent thoughts depending on the substance.

- Increased aggression or irritability.
- Changes in attitude/personality.
- Lethargy.
- depression

CONCLUSION

The overview of taking drugs can be dangerous not only because of the physical impact they can have on your body but they can also limit your ability to set limits. Be aware of your environment and realize when you are in danger.



Addiction is defined as a chronic, relapsing brain disease that is characterized by compulsive drug seeking and use despite harmful consequences. It is considered a brain disease because drugs change the brain. Drug abuse has changed its structure and works. These brain changes can be long lasting and lead to the harmful behaviours seen in people who abuse drugs. Addiction is a lot like other diseases, such as heart disease. Both disrupt the normal, healthy functioning of the underlying organ, have serious harmful consequences, and are preventable and treatable, but if left untreated, can last a lifetime. Mind-altering drugs interact with naturally occurring chemicals in the brain that are used to send messages throughout the central nervous system, brain and body. Central nervous system depressant drugs a sedative, leaving individuals feeling relaxed and loose. All of these drugs disrupt natural brain chemistry. Most act on the brain's natural reward system and interfere with the normal production, transmission, and absorption of dopamine.

REFERENCES

1. Ahuja, Ram. *Indian Social System*, Rawat Publications, Jaipur,
2. Desai A.R., *Rural Sociology in India*, Popular Prakashan, Bombay, 1977.
3. Dhanagare D.N., *Peasant Movements in India*, OUP, New Delhi, 1988.
4. Desai Neera and M Krishnaraj, 1978, *Women and Society in India*, Delhi,
5. Haralambos, Michael, Martin Holborn and Robin Heald, 2000, *Sociology: Themes and Perspectives, Fifth Edition*, Collins, London
6. Jena D.N., and Mohapatra U.K., *Rural Sociology*, Books and Books, Cuttack, 1994.
7. Mukherjee, P.N., *Methodology in Social Research: Dilemma and Perspectives*, Sage Publications, New Delhi, 2000.
8. Thorner, Daniel and Thorner, Alice, *Land and Labour in India*, Asia Publications, Bombay,