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Drug Abuse and the Failure of the NDPS Act to Curb the Issue: A Socio-Legal Analysis

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Drug Abuse has been a serious menace in our society. Many people have been under the influence of drug abuse and are addicted to this. Even though there are a few drugs that help in medication and there are specified quantities to consume yet drugs are abused. Drug abuse is not only illegal but also leaves a harmful effect on the mind and body. Young people are easily influenced by this, thereby inviting an unending addiction. The NDPS Act lays provisions to curb drug abuse but these laws and provisions lack something and have therefore failed to do so. The object and purpose of the research study undertaken are to do a socio-legal analysis of the failure of the NDPS Act to curb drug abuse. Through this research, the researcher has aimed to answer questions such as What are the reasons for drug and substance abused? How has NDPS Act failed to curb drug abuse? What are the social and legal impacts of drug abuse? What are the ways which would be helpful in curbing the issue of drug abuse? etc.

The research methodology adopted is a combination of primary and secondary research. For the purpose of primary research, a questionnaire survey was conducted through google forms. A total of '200' people took participated in the survey. Secondary research was done by analysing books, journals, articles, reports, etc. The major emphasis was laid upon finding out the roots of the problem and finding out the failure of laws. Both the primary and secondary sources were scrutinized and after a thorough analysis, they were integrated. The emphasis laid is slightly more on the use of qualitative data than quantitative data. Legal Databases have been used in the process of research. The main limitation of this study is no use of primary data such as sample

surveys or interviews and use of secondary sources such as pre-existing research papers and reports because of the current situation in the world and restrictions on movements and gatherings so as to control the spread of Covid-19.

Keywords: *drugs, laws, provisions, measures, NDPS act.*

INTRODUCTION

What is drug abuse?

Drug Abuse is the consumption or use of drugs that are unlawful or are not sold through lawful means in ways that are not recommended or using them in quantities not prescribed. Drug Abuse also includes intentional inhaling of household chemicals as they are known to be creating mind altering effects such as producing a heightened sense of awareness.

Consumption of Alcohol and tobacco are sometimes considered as drug abuse. Substance Abuse, Chemical Abuse, and drug abuse are all same, the terms are often used interchangeably.¹

The National Institute of Cancer defines drug abuse as:

“The use of illegal drugs or the use of prescription or over the counter drugs for purposes other than those for which they are meant to be used, or in excessive amounts. Drug abuse may lead to social, physical, emotional, and job-related problems.”²

Drug abuse might also cause addiction which has negative consequences. Drug addiction although different from drug abuse is an effect of drug abuse only. Drug abuse has several other impacts on one’s health, social life, and many more things. Drug abuse also invites fatal diseases such as Hepatitis-B.³

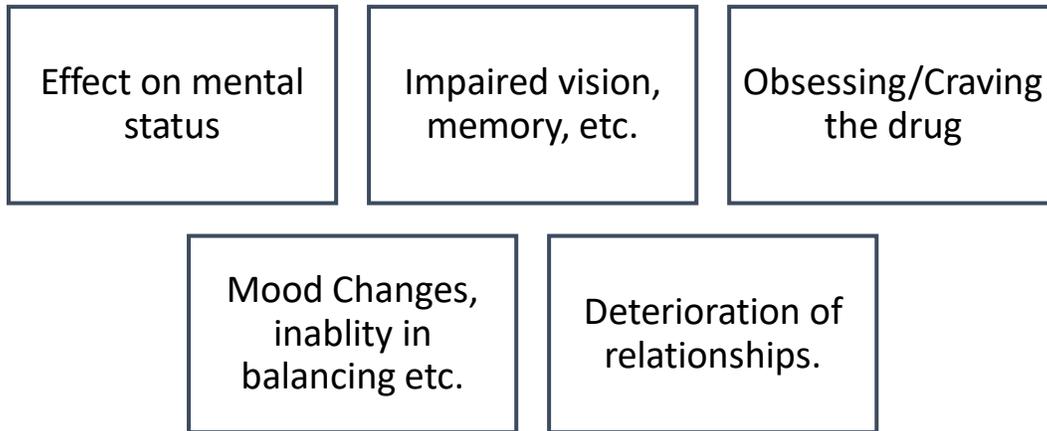
Apart from all this, Drug Abuse has various other symptoms. Few of which are:

¹ 'Drug Abuse' (healthgrades, 2020) <<https://www.healthgrades.com/right-care/substance-abuse-and-addiction/drug-abuse>> accessed 20 July 2021

² 'NCI Dictionary of Cancer Terms' (National Cancer Institute)

<<https://www.cancer.gov/publications/dictionaries/cancer-terms/def/drug-abuse>> accessed 20 July 2021

³ *Ibid*



This indicates that Drug Abuse has a serious effect on every sphere of the individual's life. These symptoms may vary from person to person depending upon the drug abuse. They may be seen in the early stages in some and later in others. Irritability, nausea, and imbalance are a few of the common symptoms of drug abuse.

Who is most likely to be prone to drug abuse?

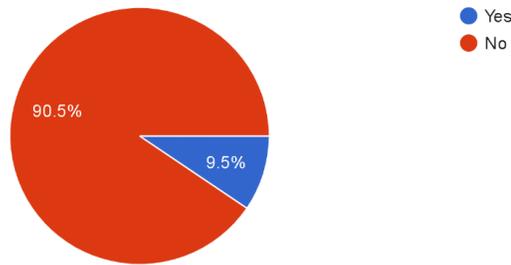
Drug Abuse is most likely to occur due to the bad influence at a young age. A report suggests that one-ninety million people in the world are drug users who are young adults below the age of thirty years.⁴ *There may be different effects of drugs on different individuals. Some might get under the influence and consume while some might consume it due to other reasons. To answer these queries, a survey through a questionnaire was conducted:*

Out of **200** people that took part in the questionnaire, it was found that **9.5%** of the people had consumed or consume drugs. Most of these candidates were between the age of 17-22.⁵

⁴ Dr Ananya Mandal, 'What is Drug Abuse?' (*News-Medical.net*, 2021) <<https://www.news-medical.net/health/What-is-Drug-Abuse.aspx>> accessed 20 July 2021

⁵ *Ibid*

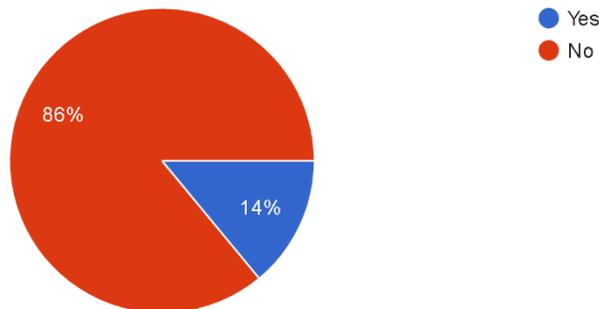
Have you ever tried Drugs?
200 responses



19 out of 200 had consumed drugs as presented by the chart. Consumption of drugs is not the only issue, temptation to consume drugs is another problem. There are people who have never consumed drugs in their life but due to various reasons have been tempted towards it.

This survey observed that *14% of 200* people have been tempted to consume drugs.⁶

Have you ever been tempted to take drugs ?
200 responses



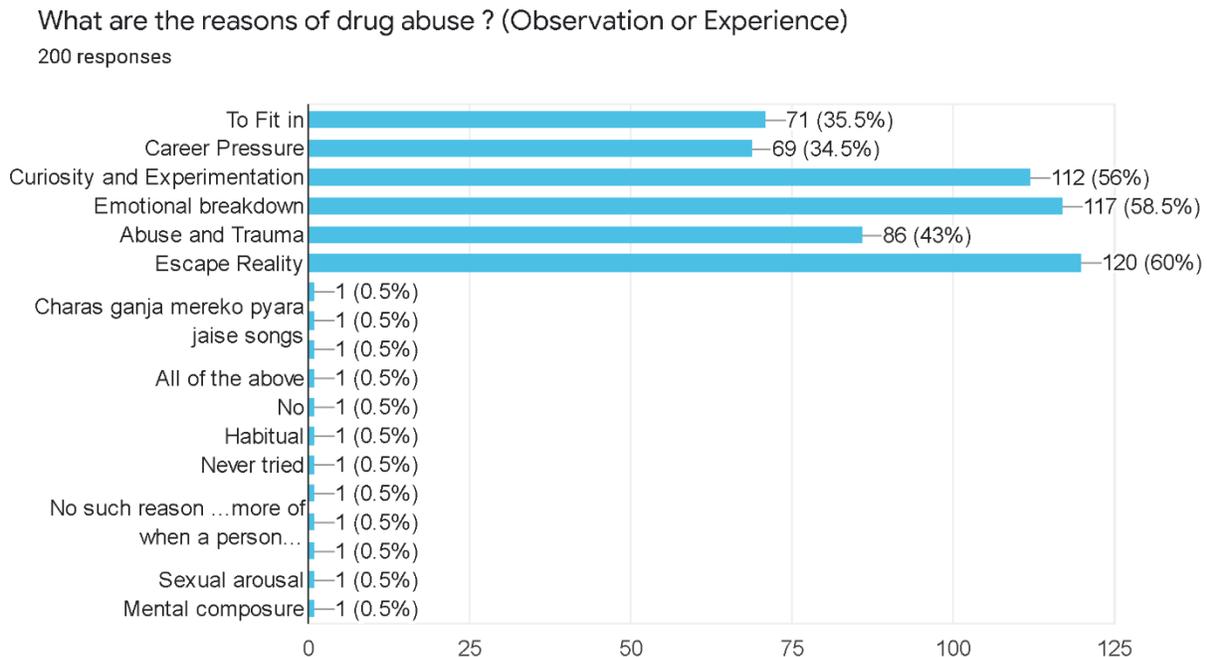
Drug Abuse when not kept in check can lead to addiction which has negative consequences. Consumption and Temptation to consume drugs are the consequence of some reasons.

⁶ *Ibid*

CAUSES OF DRUG ABUSE

Drug Abuse is a special issue that beginnings in different habits for different individuals. There are endless reasons why people begin to misuse drugs, whether or not they're illicit meds or expertly endorsed remedies. The extent of reasons why people devour drugs is basically pretty much as far reaching as the sorts of people who use them. Illegal medication use can impact anyone, of any establishment, and of any monetary status.⁷ (Journey Pure)

People participating in the survey were asked what according to them are the possible causes of drug abuse based upon experience and observation, here were the responses:



- Escape Reality:** One of the most common reasons for drug abuse is escaped reality. Drugs are supposed to create a pleasurable effect on an individual's mind which creates illusions.⁸ These illusions help individuals to escape the real scenarios which take them to a sense of

⁷ '22 Reasons People Use Drugs and Alcohol - 12 Keys' (12 Keys) <<https://www.12keysrehab.com/22-reasons-people-use-drugs-and-alcohol/>> accessed 21 July 2021

⁸ *Ibid*

enjoyment and they feel they are away from the social pressure and responsibilities. Today's busy world has shrugged shoulders with the heavy burden and people who cannot handle such responsibilities move towards an escape and therefore become drug abusers.

- **Emotional Breakdown:** Another reason that has the most responses is 'emotional breakdown'. It is observed that many of the drug abusers choose this path of drug and substance abuse because of grief and emotional breakdown. Many teens and young adults try and consume drugs after break-ups or relationship fluctuations. The grieving of the death of a loved one breaks people emotionally. The very thought of that person not being around for the rest of their lives drives them crazy. Not everyone has the strength to handle such situations calmly, the ones who cannot control their emotions and grief move towards substance abuse for the purpose of relaxation. The ending of relationships affects individuals a lot. In cases when enough emotional support is not available to them to handle those mental and emotional breakdowns may choose drug abuse as a way to offer self-support.⁹
- **Curiosity and Experimentation:** The idea of drugs has been glorified in so many ways. The people who consume drugs give out positive feedback about drugs and substances. This positive feedbacks make those hearing these curious about drugs. To try some adventure or new thing, they move towards drug abuse. They want to experience new things, know how the consumption of drugs actually feels so for this they try this experiment. These people have no other reason such as escape or breakdown. It is just curiosity to experiment with new things in life which take them towards drug abuse.
- **Abuse and Trauma:** Past or current traumas like maltreatment, mishaps, crises, and different occasions can adversely affect individuals mentally. Traumatic accidents can engrave in memory, making it hard to move past them. Indeed, even injuries that happened during adolescence can reemerge in grown-up years, raising groundbreaking musings and sentiments.¹⁰ Rather than looking for proficient assistance to address injury in a sound manner, individuals may utilize drugs as a way to assist them with forgetting

⁹ *Ibid*

¹⁰ *Ibid*

these recollections. Present injuries, like living in an oppressive climate, can likewise trigger substance use as a method for failing to remember the agony and languishing. Frequently, misuse is looked at on a customary or even everyday schedule, thus drug use can rapidly transform into a compulsion for this situation.

- **To fit in:** The fear of being left out or isolated tempts many young adults and adults towards drug abuse. When the people around them are abusing substances or drugs, they feel if they do not try these things they will be left alone. Wanting to feel important or social is human behaviour, this want is the reason that many young adults and teens pressurize themselves to consume drugs so that they may fit in.
- **Career Pressure:** It is a common thing in today's era that people need to make their career choice. To have a socially acceptable career that fetches good money is what pressurizes people. For some individuals, their profession puts a great deal of tension on them to perform, which is frequently reflected in actually being there for their own self-esteem. This sort of pressing factor can cause mental pressure. To help perform better or reduce work pressure, it's feasible to go to drugs to help adapt, fail to remember disappointments, or lift execution.
- **Other Reasons:** Apart from the common reasons for drug abuse, it is observed that other reasons also contribute to the factor of drug abuse. One of the responses is about a song: '*Charas - Ganja mereko pyara*' – This is a song which is said to be the reason for drug abuse. Charas and Ganja are drugs, In the song they are referred to as lovable substances and despite being warned. Besides this song there are other movies and other songs which show drug abuse despite the disclaimer, people find it cool to follow such trends. This shows how youth gets affected by the music and movies to do things that are not good for health but are glorified.¹¹

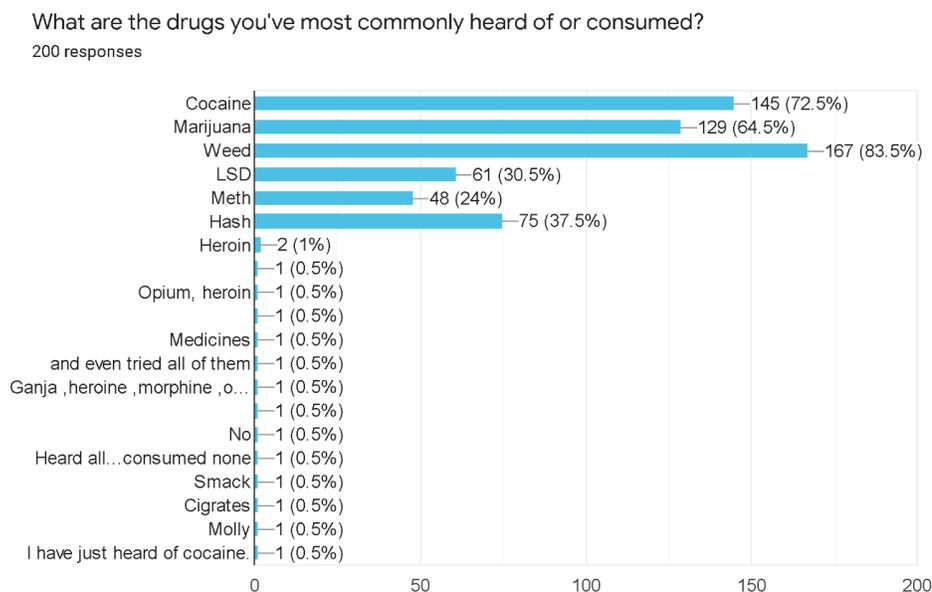
¹¹ *Ibid*



It is also observed that in some cases drug abuse is caused due to *sexual arousal, fun, addiction, etc.*

What are the drugs abused?

There are a lot of drugs and substances available, each of them has a different effect on people. Some are used for a feeling of euphoria, while others are used to escape reality. More or less, all these drugs have some effect on an individual's life in various aspects. This survey sought to observe the commonly known or used drugs.

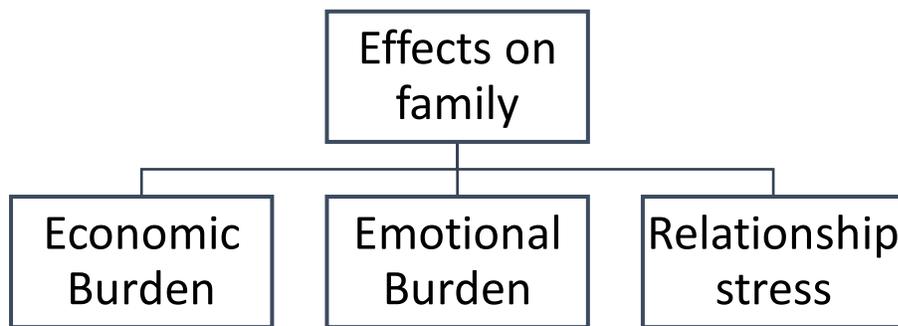


A few of the most common drugs used are Cocaine, Marijuana, Weed, LSD, Meth, Hash, Meth. Others constitute Smack, Mushrooms, Opium, Molly, Morphine, etc.

Impact of Drug Abuse on Society and Family

Drug Abuse has adverse effects on the family system which suffers due to social constraints and difficulty in understanding the behaviour and process. According to a study conducted in India, about 58 % of family members had a bad feeling, about two-fifths showed anger and annoyance, about one-fifth gave the addict to give up on drugs, and expressed negative and non-supportive attitude.¹²

There are several effects on the family such as:



Economic Burden: Drug Abuse puts a financial burden on families. In many cases, the addict or abuser starts draining financial resources in order to satisfy the cravings for drugs. There are other money related problems that arise due to the loss of jobs due to drugs. Even in the case of treatment from rehabilitation centres, a lot of finance is drained.¹³

Emotional Burden: As stated earlier, families have different reactions to drug abuse by a member. It is indeed a sad thing that causes worries, anxiety, and frustration among the family

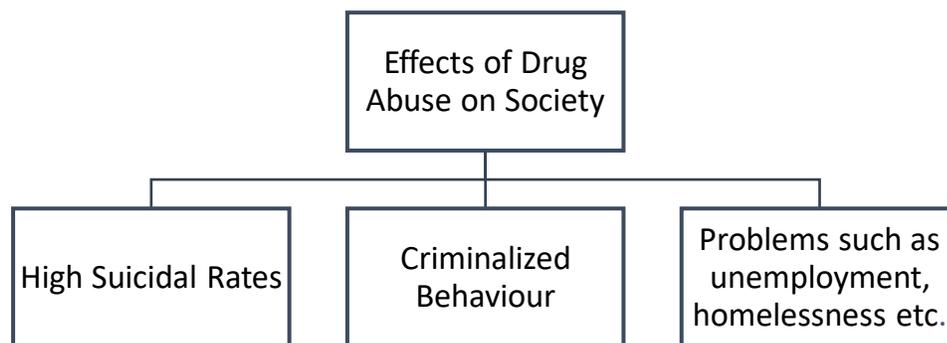
¹² Urmil Sharma, 'Social Consequences of Drug Abuse in South Asia | National Institute on Drug Abuse' (*National Institute on Drug Abuse*, 2009) <<https://www.drugabuse.gov/international/abstracts/social-consequences-drug-abuse-in-south-asia>> accessed 23 July 2021

¹³ Dennis C Daley, 'Family and Social Aspects of Substance Use Disorders and Treatment' (*ncbi*, 2013) <<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4158844/>> accessed 23 July 2021

members. Some members may feel angry, guilty, embarrassed, or terrified. All these changing emotions burden the family members.¹⁴

Relationship Stress: All these emotional and economic burdens create conflicts in families. Drug abuse causes irritability and other health disorders due to this a relationship might become bitter. Substance or drug abuse causes stress in relationships by creating various conflicts.¹⁵

Drug abuse or substance abuse often tends to impact the performance of an individual socially. Due to this, society also faces a certain burden. Society is highly impacted by drug abuse in a way that such abuses cause various medical or psychiatric conditions. Sometimes drug abuse worsens an individual's condition so much that it drives them to suicide. Higher rates of suicidal rates, diseases, deaths by substance abuse affect society.¹⁶ Moreover, there are various other social problems caused due to drug and substantial abuse which including housing instability, homelessness, criminal behaviours (victim or perpetrator) and incarceration, the transmission of HIV due to IV drug use or high-risk sexual behaviours, and unemployment or dependence on welfare. These social problems give rise to costs such as economic burden on people and government paying amounts on treatment for drug addiction, medical or other related problems.¹⁷



¹⁴ *Ibid*

¹⁵ Sharma (n 12)

¹⁶ *Ibid*

¹⁷ Daley (n 13)

Drug or Substance abuse has an adverse effect on society and family. The social balance is disturbed due to such menaces. An individual social life including family life is highly impacted. The sense of culture and civilization is seldom seen amidst drug abusers. They are too high to remain social. To remove such menaces and curb these issues, there are strict laws that have been working to curb the issue of drug abuse from society socially and legally.¹⁸

NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES ACT, 1985

About the Act

The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 also commonly known as the NDPS Act, is an act passed by the Parliament of India that prohibits persons from the production, cultivation, possession, sale, purchasing, transporting, storing, or consumption of any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance.

India is an individual from three United Nations Drug Conventions to be specific,

- (i) The 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances*
- (ii) The 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs*
- (iii) The 1988 Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.*

The particular reason for the NDPS Act is to accommodate appropriate disciplines for solid guidelines and authorization of a system that arrangements with illicit drug use and dealing and furthermore targets executing worldwide shows that aides in developing India's force and command over psychotropic substances and their unlawful vocations.¹⁹

Till date, there have been three revisions to this Act for instance in 1989, 2001, and in 2014, all upset to manage the issue of medicine managing a more effective and cautious way. This Act disallows the creation, advancement, bargain, possession, trade, purchase, use, use, and

¹⁸ *Ibid*

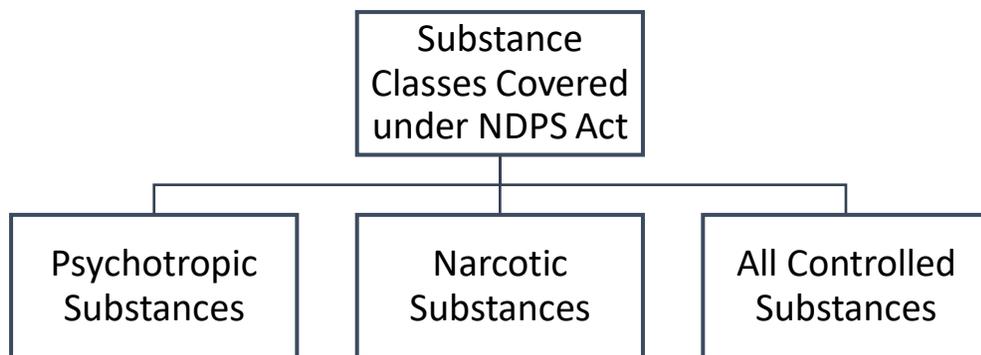
¹⁹ 'Illegal Drugs and Narcotics in India and Legal Provisions' (*HelplineLaw.com*)

<<https://www.helplineLaw.com/national-and-social/DNITI/drugs-and-narcotics-in-india-and-their-illegal-consumption.html>> accessed 25 July 2021

import or admission of psychotropic substances, for example, tranquilizers beside those which are used for coherent or remedial purposes as given under the law.²⁰

The NDPS Act covers three classes of substances:

- (i) Psychotropic Substances (1971 Convention)
- (ii) Narcotic Substances (1961 Convention)
- (iii) All Controlled Substances



- (iv) With a specific extreme goal to upgrade the NDPS Act, the Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act showed up in 1988. It contains plans relating to the preventive control of any and each person who is connected with or faulted for drug managing.²¹

Punishments Under the NDPS Act

The punishments for offences within the NDPS Act are severe and strict. The Act does not provide any sort of leniency in relation to offences associated with drugs. Such offences are considered to be very dangerous by the Act. In addition to this, the offences under this Act are non-bailable and cognizable. The sentence and fine vary with the offense. In many cases, the punishment is decided by the quantity of drugs included. The Act provides the punishment same as the offense in case of criminal conspiracy, abetment. The repetition of an offense leads

²⁰ *Ibid*

²¹ *Ibid*

to one and a half times the punishment and capital punishment in some cases. Due to the rigidity and inflexibility of the punishments under the Act, a few procedural safeguards are provided within the act.

The NDPS Act, however, doesn't keep down on its cautiousness and disciplines identified with illicit dealing and dissemination of medications through disavowal and criminalization of the creation, development, ownership, deal, use, buy, import, send out and the utilization of opiate drugs and psychotropic substances. Be that as it may, the possible time that the Act gives any tolerance is the point at which the medications are to be utilized for any clinical purposes or for logical examination, which is properly endorsed by the essential specialists already.

The NDPS Act likewise seemed to imagine requesting disciplines for drug overseeing, to loosen up implementational powers and to execute overall shows which India is associated with, and besides to put together psychotropic substances and control their utilization. This is a dominatingly reformatory objective since it prepares the standard of remedies. This objective in like way obliges the death penalty which can be allowed as a sort of discipline under the Act. The revision of 2014 further held that the choice to give up the death penalty lies at the watchfulness of the court and it rather demonstrates 30 years of constraint as a substitute for the death penalty. Other than this heap of disciplines and serious laws and rules, the issue has not yet been successfully controlled. Of course, gigantic development in drug miscreants can be seen. This powerlessness to check the issue is a significant issue for the law and society.

Loopholes within the Act

Despite the fact that the NDPS Act lays arrangements for rebuffing the individuals who overstep the laws, the medication hazard in India is as yet on a spike. This is the consequence of disappointment in the law. The NDPS Act has a few loopholes:

The Act doesn't perceive an enthusiast and a client. The definitions which have been tried so far are neither kept up with by law nor by morals. The Act unendingly utilizes terms like use, ownership, utilization truly fails to illuminate and teach about what they really mean. Further,

the non-appearance of any political activity in the setting up of gear supported to execute and administer modifying goes most likely as an obstruction as well. Likewise, the insufficiency of the related establishments liable for setting up the authentic gear, the lacking recovery work environments, and other relative segments have progressed the deficiency of the law to manage the all over drug hazard in India. Additionally, the insufficient execution of the norm and the deficiency in rehabilitative relationships in the nation has as of late added to the different weaknesses inside the Act. Further, the genuine standards and the reality of the NDPS Act are uncovered by the course of action for giving the death penalty in examples of rehashed offenses, like the gathering, creation, transportation, ownership, and import/confirmation of prescriptions. Additionally, there is an enormous need for the extent of information and pieces of information relating to determining prescription use which is not a minuscule bit at all emerges essentially from the inadequacy of substance misuse. The plans of rebuffing the utilization of remedies, reproaching the duty regarding particular use, convincing capital punishment, and other various bits of the supporting are far harsher than those predefined in the UN medication control show.

FAILURE OF NDPS ACT

Case analysis of the Act's failure

There have been many instances where NDPS Act has failed. While the NDPS Act provides for the rehabilitation of users, stigma and ineffective implementation fail those in need. Six years prior, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) assaulted a rave party in the edges of Bengaluru. Students from different universities were found possessing LSD (Lysergic Acid diethylamide) and hashish. The raids stood apart in light of the fact that it was among the exceptionally uncommon events where the NCB had busted no providers or merchants, however undergrads who were discovered utilizing at the gathering. The medication seizures were in such little amounts that they couldn't be named 'business amount' under the Indian opiates law, so the arguments recorded against the understudies were not extreme. (Ram)

The NCB thought that a raid like this would impart fear among private rave party coordinators, which keep on being held without risk of punishment across India. Be that as it may, the assault had different results. One of the students, at that point a 19-year-old seeking after style planning, was rusticated by his school regardless of the court has taken a permissive view and him having presented an authentication of recuperation from a de-fixation focus, as ordered by the court. His folks didn't need him to live under their rooftop anymore as he had "brought disgrace upon the family". "His family needed him out as he was named someone who is addicted. It took a ton of influence and guidance to accommodate them," says an NCB official, describing the story.

Cases of captured clients confronting outlandish results aren't uncommon. In May this year, the Bengaluru police captured two medication vendors. "By and large, the police will in general pursue the vendors' providers. The capture of providers prompts the capture of wholesalers. In any case, for this situation, the police recuperated the denounced' s cell phone and called up his contacts or clients." A Focal Wrongdoing Branch official said. The police captured eight clients. They were delivered before the justice and shipped off legal care. They ultimately got bail, yet every one of them lost their positions, as indicated by a researching official.²²

Throughout the most recent few months, the demise of Bollywood entertainer Sushant Singh Rajput and his girlfriend Rhea Chakraborty's supposed inclusion in a medication case has ruled features. Karnataka's Sandalwood drug case as well, with numerous equals to the Rhea case, has worked out in the media with focused energy. At the same time, the Karnataka police have been making huge cannabis seizures across the state, and huge amounts of engineered drugs are being gotten at air terminals.²³

²² Theja Ram, 'How India's Drug Laws fail those with substance use disorder' (*The News Minute*, 2020) <<https://www.thenewsminute.com/article/how-india-s-drug-laws-fail-those-substance-use-disorder-133489>> accessed 27 July 2021

²³ *Ibid*

REASONS OF FAILURE

Other than the loopholes within the act, there are several other reasons due to which NDPS Act fails:

- **Lack of Sensitivity:**

While our consistent pattern of media reporting is ruled with tales about narcotics seizures and drug use, one perspective has stuck out: the harshness towards those utilizing the substances. The expression "drug addict" is being quibbled about on TV stations, frequently reciprocally with "drug client". This isn't lawfully dangerous, as the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act condemns drug clients, and doesn't recognize a sporting client, an individual subject to a medication, or an individual with a substance use problem. Be that as it may, this absence of clearness in the law, combined with a culture of good judgment against drug victimizers, is causing more shame against drug clients, a large number of who need clinical assistance and mental directing.

"The NDPS Act is an extensive and reasonable enactment however there are a few angles which need change. Particularly, regarding how clients are seen. There should be a boundary with respect to who is a sporting client, who is a ward, and who is a junkie. There is additionally a need to cover their ways of life as the individuals who are dependent on a medication, experience the ill effects of substance use issue," says Dr. Chandrashekar, Executive of the Karnataka State Emotional wellness Authority.

- **Decriminalization of Users:**

Section 21 of the NDPS Act,²⁴ not just punishes ownership, appropriation, assembling, and offer of any opiate or psychotropic substance yet, in addition, punishes clients. Section 27 records the discipline for utilization of medications. Notwithstanding, this part likewise makes arrangements, where the appointed authority directing a case can either condemn a client to a limit of one year in jail or issue a request to send the client to a de-enslavement focus. The said

²⁴ Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act 1985, s 21

client should then create an endorsement of recuperation from the de-fixation focus. Segment 64A gives clients insusceptibility from arraignment on the off chance that they consent to be restored in a de-compulsion focus. This possibility is given just a single time. Assuming the client backslides, they would be arraigned for the two offenses and will be obligated for detainment. While this has been a help to numerous clients, there is as yet another blemish with it – not all clients are "addicts".

The NDPS Act isn't altogether uncaring. Under Section 4(2)(d), the Demonstration commands the Association government to take measures for ID, treatment, training, aftercare, recovery, and social reintegration of clients. Section 7A orders the constitution of a Public Asset for Control of Medication Misuse. "The Asset will be applied by the Focal Government to meet the consumption brought about regarding the actions taken for (a) battling illegal traffic in opiate drugs, psychotropic substances or controlled substances; (b) controlling the maltreatment of opiate drugs and psychotropic substances; (c) distinguishing treating, restoring addicts; (d) forestalling drug misuse; (e) teaching public against drug misuse; (f) providing medications to addicts where such inventory is a clinical need," the Demonstration states. Furthermore, the Association Branch of Income also has told rules under the NDPS Act, which command recovery of medication clients.

The issue lies with how individuals with substance use problems are seen. First and foremost, individuals should quit calling themselves addicts. This is a psychological well-being issue and it is called a substance use problem.²⁵

- **Lack of Awareness:**

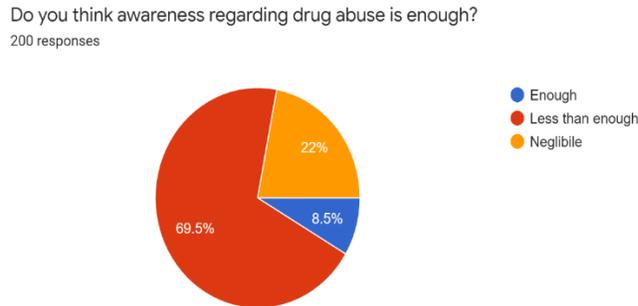
A large portion of people do not the die-effects of drug and substance abuse. What substance abuse does to people and how the ones who suffer are still unknown facts to many people.²⁶

²⁵ Ram (n 22)

²⁶ *Ibid*

Many youngsters become a victim of drug abuse thinking it to be cool. A survey has found out the major reason for drug abuse is curiosity.²⁷

People were asked their observation on availability of drug awareness and the following are the responses:



Out of 200 people, 69.5 % have voted in favour of awareness being less than enough, 22 % in favour of enough, and 8.5 % in favour of negligible awareness. Going by the numbers, we can see that awareness regarding drug abuse is not sufficient which prompts people to try drugs or psychotropic substances. This one factor is a major big failure of law and society.

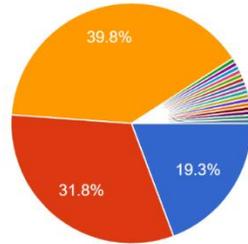
Ways to curb drug abuse

Legal ways are not the only ways to curb drug abuse. This is a social problem and so shall socio-legal ways be implemented to curb this menace.

The survey sought to collect views on curbing drug abuse. Here are the views of people to curb this issue.

²⁷ Hiya Das and Jyotisikha Roy, 'A Socio Legal Analysis of The Menace Substance Abuse and its Impact on The Society' (2018) 4 Journal on Contemporary Issues of Law 1

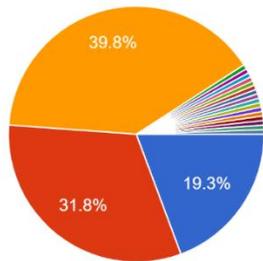
How do you think drug abuse can be curbed?
176 responses



- Through educational institutions
- Awareness Programmes
- Strict Laws
- All of the above 3 options need to wor...
- Proper Rehabilitation, open conversati...
- Implementation of strict laws.
- Put em all in jail and give em rehabilit...
- Better socialization, awareness camp...

▲ 1/3 ▼

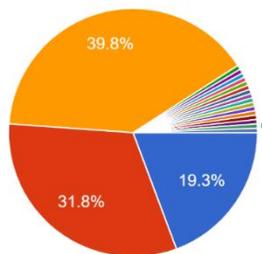
How do you think drug abuse can be curbed?
176 responses



- More coherence in families and societ...
- nope
- A mixture of three is required to curb g...
- All thee factors listed should be used
- To be honest their isn't any specific w...
- Legalize and control the supply of drugs
- Really taking action ..punishing...rehab...
- No law or no sensitization program ca...

▲ 2/3 ▼

How do you think drug abuse can be curbed?
176 responses



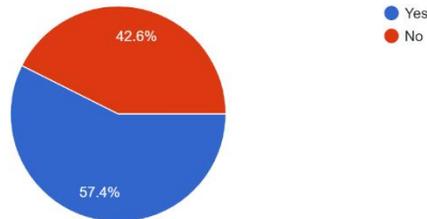
- All of the above
- I think people should be made aware of the problems of drug abuse, but only use of hard drugs should be made illegal. Drugs like weed & hash which are good for the health and are far more healthier than ciggerates or alcohol sh...
- Through mass media (movies, documentaries, short-films)

▲ 3/3 ▼

Many people voted for strict laws to be the way but this research has found out how laws fail in curbing social issues most of the time. Others are of the opinion of educational and awareness programs which according to the findings of the research are quite effective. A few responses stated that better movies and documentaries should be made explaining the

problem. The influence of mass media is one of the reasons for drug abuse, Therefore, its influence can help to solve the problem too.

Have there been attempts to curb drug abuse through movies?
176 responses



As stated earlier, Drug abuse is a social issue therefore social ways should be employed to curb the issue. On solving the issue with social tools, a few of the responses are as follows:

- No law or sensitization program can help curb the menace. This evil has to be uprooted from within the society with the help and adequate participation of the members of the family of the addict, friends, etc who can be a source of constant strength and encouragement to the young people. Instead, that pressure is exerted on the youth for performing well, they should be encouraged to give their best lest they become victims of unnecessary stress.
- I think people should be made aware of the problems of drug abuse, but only the use of hard drugs should be made illegal. Drugs like weed & hash which are good for the health and are far healthier than cigarettes or alcohol should be allowed for consumption even though awareness of their abuse should be spread.
- Through mass media (movies, documentaries, short films)
- More coherence in families and society such that one's need for belongingness is always fulfilled.

Apart from these many responses were of the view of curbing this issue with the help of better socializing campaigns as one of the causes of drug abuse is loneliness. Therefore, socio-legal ways should be employed to curb the issue.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusion

Drug Abuse may be conceptualized as a crime without a victim i.e., the addict himself is the victim who becomes the prey of its misuse. This devastating melody is eroding the roots of the social, economic, and cultural fabric of society. It gives rise to criminality and criminal behaviour which eventually leads to social disorganization. They fall in the category of public order crimes or consensual crimes. Of late drug abuse seems to have become a fashion for fun to relieve boredom, to get rid of tensions at home, and in society and to feel good and high, to revolt against the establishment, and so on. The recent developments in pharmaceuticals and medical sciences have provided scope for the production of a variety of toxic synthetic substances. This has contributed substantially to drug abuse and addiction.

There have been various efforts in order to solve the problem of drug abuse. The problem of drug abuse affects an individual in a lot of ways. The social behaviour of the person changes therefore, many other areas are affected. There are strict laws regarding this but laws alone cannot do anything until society comes up and helps to increase awareness and lend a helping hand to those wanting to recover. Apart from regulatory measures to control alcoholism and drug addiction, the system of licensing physicians to give drugs to addicts at a reasonable rate also helps in preventing their exploitation from the underworld peddlers and thus mitigating this crime. In fact, there is a need to redefine the twin problems of alcoholism and drug-addiction from a socio-medical perspective rather than considering it as a mere law enforcement problem.

Suggestions

1. There are various local area-based avoidance projects and classes that intend to teach kids and families about the damages of substance misuse. Schools started presenting substance misuse situated classes for the understudies at a youthful age would be accommodating to break early practices that could be signed drug maltreatment in future.

2. Preventive projects work at the local area level with metro, strict, law requirements also, other government associations to upgrade hostile to sedate standards and favourable to social conduct.
3. Alongside the authoritative structure to manage the issue of substance misuse different non-governmental associations should work inseparably with the public authority to control the threat of medication misuse.
4. Media particularly the amusement portion should comprehend its job and the gravity of the issue and as such the glorification of medication use ought to totally stop.