

A Review: The Reason Why Youths Are Inclined to Addiction

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Abstract: The present study will investigate the addiction and its effect on the youths and also will highlight its level (intensity) in Iran and other parts of the world. Addiction is now considered as the most ruinous social problem by which an addicted person will lose all his social status and would not be able to evade his low social status. Since this period of time (the youth) is overwhelmed with the excitement and every one is in his high spirit, the youth, especially boys, are prone to this severe problem, therefore it urges the need to prioritize all our goals to overcome the problem and nip it in the bud. This article also draws attentions to social, psychological and natural factors which pave the way for the addiction and its multifarious problems to occur. By glancing at Iran's history, we could easily see that the dominance of the colonialism and exploiter countries led to the penetration of this deadly material into the societies where they were ruling and they used this process to solidify their presence in those countries.

Key words: Addiction • youths • convicts • exploitation

INTRODUCTION

Addiction which brings about the physical and mental dependence, as has been put here, is the most disastrous problem which will bear lots of behavioral, social, economical and political effects on youths and the world. Therefore finding the related to this problem and its supporting elements and the need to fight and eliminate this problem seems emergent [1, 2].

The widespread use of the opium and addiction was turned into the most effective and easiest tool to exploit the countries resources to make them unable prosper and keep the societies under their yoke and loot the resources to make profit and bring prosperity for their societies and themselves [3, 4].

What is addiction?: On the one hand addiction has been put in this way "to get used to something or to make something as a habit" and on the other hand, being firmly and harmfully affected by opium which results in physical and social disadvantages [5].

This kind of definition which was put forward in 1950 by a committee which was specialized in finding the hard drug and narcotics, licensed by world hygienic committee

organization is as follows, Being addicted to these substances is a hypothetical toxic which is a negative point for the person and the society and is resulted as a matter of using natural or industrial substances and this status has got some characteristics which include:

the existence of the need to use the substance (drug) and try to achieve it by any means possible

2. The existence of a strong inclination to increase the amount of the drug which is somehow called overdosing.

The total physical and mental reliance and dependence on the drug will appear in a way that if the person meets the unavailability of the drug the physical and psychological effect which are due to the interruption of the drug usage will reach their peak Therefore the kind of industrial and herbal combination cause such a status after usage (based on the given definition) is called narcotics [4-6].

Addiction and youths: Youth is the period full of excitement and new experiences and the one who is at this stage will experience lots of turning points and as the characteristics of this period speaks itself, young people face lots of newly high spirited excitements which may lead them to wrongdoings and corruption.

According to the national youth center in Iran, this period for boys starts from 13 and will last up to 29 and 30. Youth is the time to set preventive program to fight hard drug (opium). many researchers find out that the younger the age of the person experiencing the usage of these drugs, the more difficult it is to stop the person using these drugs. According to Reuters report, the harshest time (age) is considered to be 12 and if addiction to these drugs starts during this time, it is highly impossible to stop the person using it [7].

O'Brien *et al.*, 1998, has studied 4300 cases of young people who were addicted at early ages. They came to conclusion that American and European kids started their drug intake from the age 11 and at 15-16 started to use hard drugs such as cocaine and crack and this period ends at 22 [8]. The findings of this study reveals the fact that the starting point in using these drugs has a highly strong relationship with attempt to stop using these drugs. They say the preventive program to fight these drug intakes (use) must be started at early ages.

According to recent survey, the usage of the opium and, generally put, drugs among the American youth has reached the highest level and this matter is increasing rapidly among the high school students. Regarding the report, the head of the strategic control organization in America stated that if the level of narcotic use continues unchanged we will face the behavioral abnormalities which results from using these drugs [9, 10].

In other research, parents were advised to assign more time to their young children and involve themselves in their activities and remarked that "it is quite for sure true that when young people eat with their families, go to church for religious ceremonies, do sport activities, the probability of ensuing and using the opium (drugs) will reduce greatly [11, 12]. Chao and Nestler worked on the first and second year high school students that a questionnaire was distributed to 141000 samples which resulted in 37% for the first and more than 50% for the second group who came clean of using the drugs. Statistics shows that the usage of these drugs is at their peak compared with that of 10 years ago [12, 13].

Considering the nuclear and extended families and the type of addiction, Kelley 2004, reported that in extended families in Iran which include the parents, grandparents, grandchildren and immediate relatives, people adopt their traditions and rituals in their living and therefore their living and relationship is firmly rooted. If the head of the family is addicted, then the rapid spread of this problem to others will not be controllable.

In these families the traditional type of the drug which is opium and its related tools are used And the reason for using these materials is for sparing time and enjoyment [12-14].

While on the other hand nuclear families which includes the parents, the addiction happens as a result of shaky families which is due to the parents divorce and separation, children of these families will seek refuge in opium and drugs. Based on the findings of the research which was conducted from 1936 to 1986 addicted people have got some economical and social characteristics which are as follows:

Almost all of them are men: the normal age ranges from 21 to 30 but this dichotomy has reduced greatly to 15-21 after 1351

Most of the addicted were illiterate but after 1354 number of literate people who started using these drugs started to increase.

In 1354 most of the addicted were married and after that the number of singles who became addicted increased due to widespread spread of the heroin.

Most of the addicted people are from low income families.

The researcher has divided the reasons into 3 major categories which are to be presented here.

- I. The social factors
 - A. The educational and training factors
 - 1. Family, 2. Schools, 3. Peer groups, 4. Media, 5. Spare time, 6. Social problem
 - B. Economical factors
 - 1. Poverty, 2. Migration, 3. Unemployment
 - C. Political factors:
 - 1. War, 2. Politics
 - D. Cultural factors:
 - 1. Illiteracy, 2. Being unaware of the social issues, 3. Lack of responsibility
- II. Mental factors:
 - A. Psychiatric factors
 - 1. Different types of depression, 2. Sexual corruption
 - B. Psychological factors
 - 1. Emotional variation, 2. anxiety and worry, 3. Lack of reliance to future,
 - 4. Inability feelings, 5. Humility, 6. lack of personal growth
- III. Natural factors:
 - 1. Diseases and self therapy, 2. to be handicap.

Addiction in Iran: Through out the history the exploiters played an important role in the distribution of the opium to reach their goals. In 17th century the British ship carried this harmful material to Iran from the Far East and gave hem as presents to the courtiers and almost all of them became addicted and gradually the number of the addicted people increased and due to the lack of the opium they tried to plant the poppy in Yazd and soon the center and south part of Iran were planting the poppy to meet the needs [15, 16].

Farmers and villagers unaware of the harmful effect of these plant and its related diseases and they were addicted to using it as a healing drug for their children and their diseases. During Ghajarieh dynasty, smoking opium was turned to be a kind of luxury and the trading activities related to opium was exclusive to the government and was a profitable business for the government. Exploiters also encouraged people to use opium the details of the contract on 25th of 1300 which was about the range of addiction of some Iranians are listed in Table 1.

To prevent the increasing amount of addicted people based on the article 2, act 18 which is part of the bill to fight drug trafficking, if a person is intended to make other people addicted or make a family, a student or army member to start using the drug will be forced to serve 10 to 20 years sentence and he could no longer work in government and his position would be discharged of him and if this action is repeated again he would be sentenced to death. Based on the act 15 the liable time for this law is 2 years.

According to act8 which is meant for the guard forces formation, passed on June 1989 fighting drug trafficking and its spread is part of their duty. The united nation convention which was passed on the September 20th 1988, a law was passed by Iran parliament in which Iran became part of an attempt to fight drug and drug trafficking and ecstasy drug [16, 17].

Addiction throughout the world: Using opium (hard drug) in the form of herbal drug was in vogue in different societies which were located in south east of Asia and equatorial regions and they were also used for medical purposes. But from 150 years ago planting poppy and producing narcotics and opium out of it was turned to become one of the serious and become one of the most effective and beneficial tools for exploiter countries to exploit and rule out the poor countries and lost their resources [18].

Table 1: The amounts of discovered opium which are delivered to Enghelab law court in recent years

Year	Opium	Heroin	Hashish	Morphine
1982	20334	1606	3770	110
1982	12546	944	2971	250
1983	20581	1792	420	-
1984	20627	2383	226	-
1985	22387	1230	1081	485
1986	27340	1664	1299	33
1987	36770	147	1983	31
1988	35361	1684	3504	455
1989	29672	1305	2540	7
1990	25340	1997	1705	2485
1991	24022	2522	2931	4187

Table 2: The statistics related to committing crime in Canada in recent years

Year	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Number	66961	60645	57093	58881	56811

Table 3: The statistics related to committing crime in France in recent years

The first of January	1990	1991	1992
Number of the convict	4211	4819	5326

Among those exploiters, England plays a crucial role in planting and spreading the poppy. This was a policy to weaken the people of the countries they occupied and was adopted by other exploiter countries and lots of other people were addicted to these drugs which turned in to be a threat to the world.

Surly to put here is the matter that some non-colonized countries were not separated from the effect of these comprehensive using of the opium and the number of addicted in western and eastern countries and America are growing gradually increasing [18, 19].

In 1912 some benign and benevolent people formed international bodies which claimed and sought the enforcement of a limitation and prevention of using these drugs and obliged countries to stop trading drug.

Based on these attempts on January 23rd 1912 in Laheh Netherlands, the convention of preventing the selling was signed by these countries which are mentioned here.

In order to implement the abovementioned convention (treaty) the most famous and biggest companies of England called East India company could not make any more profit and only a small part of the company continued its existence which years later was handed to a multinational organization called mafia.

In Canada, in 1962 the number of addicted people aged younger than 20 was 3015 and increased to 8836 in 1972.

In England, in 1964, there were 9 people who were younger than 21, were arrested by the police for using drugs but in 1966 the number reached to 205. In New York in 1969, 800 people died due to using heroine among which 244 aged lower than 19. From 1960 to 1967 80% percent to the size of the total number of addicted were added in America to those who were addicted of which nearly 50% were younger than 21.

Those who are heroine addicted in New York strike the range of 40000 and every year 7000-9000 are added to these categories (Table 1 and 2).

Based on the law concerning the drug and drug trafficking in France the statistics related to those who were sentenced to prison is as follows;

In 1970 the world economical growth index was based on the oil revenue and it was petrodollar but from 1980 it changed to Narcodollar which earn a profit of 30000 to 50000 billion dollars from drug trafficking [19, 20].

CONCLUSION

Regarding the overwhelming growth of using these drugs in the world and their trafficking problem which is increasing on daily basis we are going to face a major problem which directly affects the youths and the whole world. Therefore considering the ominous aim lying beneath the spreading of these drugs, it is required that appropriate strategies be planned to make people aware of the economical, political, cultural, mental, behavioral and legal effect of using these drugs [20].

The researches done by Canadian researchers and the organization of strategic control of America and statistics put here from France could clearly proof this threat. From my vantage point, If we consider prevention the best strategy to fight this problem, the best way could be education, training, giving advice and directing families and making them be aware of the fact.

If we could make these training prevalent among societies which could be done by expert in the field such as private and government centers and the Medias we could take step further to eliminate the addiction.

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