

Signos: a reaction paper essay



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BUSTER**

Drug abuse is the excessive, maladaptive, or addictive use of drugs for non-medicinal purposes. It is a state, emotional and often times physical behavior, characterized by a compulsion to take drugs on a constant basis in order to experience its mental effects. It gives rise to both physical and psychological dependence. Dependence which gives rise to mental, emotional, biological or physical, social and economic instability. The effects of drug abuse on an individual therefore form the basis for its cumulative effects on the society.

There are three basic characteristics that indicate that the user is dependent on a drug. First, the user continues to use the drug for an extended period of time. Second, the user finds it difficult to stop using the drug. They may drop out of school, steal, go to jail, lose their jobs, or leave their families in order to keep using. Finally, the user has withdrawal symptoms when drug use is suddenly discontinued, where they may undergo physical pain or mental distress.

Several types of drugs are susceptible to abuse by youth of today. These drugs range from most common and less expensive such as cigarettes and alcohol to expensive and more deadly such as cocaine and heroin.

1. Cigarettes - these are drugs the most easily available and accessible to youth. They are classified as drugs because they contain nicotine and it has physical and psychological effects on the body. Cigarettes are addictive and they cause lung disorders such as cancer.

2. Alcohol - Beer, wine, brandy and spirits are in the drug category mainly because of their chemical contents and potential for addiction. Alcohol has a toxic and sedative effect on the body and is available without prescription. It

is a central nervous system depressant and its consumption can cause a number of marked changes in behaviour.

3. Caffeine - This is usually abuse through the excessive chewing of cola-nut or concentrated coffee. It is the active ingredient of coffee, tea and some bottled beverages. 4. Marijuana - Also popularly called Indian hemp or "weed" as the youth likes to call it, is a drug that contains tetrahydrocannabinol, (THC) which is a hallucinogenic stimulant, and is usually produced locally.

5. Hydrocarbons - Glue, gasoline, cleaning solutions, varnish, paint thinners, nail polish remover, and lighter fluids, all distilled from petroleum and natural gas, belong to the class of hydrocarbons. They are usually inhaled or sniffed. Most of the youth that I see using this particular type of drug are the homeless children popularly known as the "rugby boys/girls". They actually use this agent for them to be able to forget their hunger and survive the gruesome fate they are facing.

6. Cocaine - Cocaine is one of the most potent stimulants of natural origin. It is extracted from the leaves of the coca plant grown in the Andean highlands of South America. Illicit cocaine is usually distributed as a white crystalline powder, often diluted by a variety of ingredients. The drug is usually administered by snorting through the nasal passages. One famous variant of cocaine is the Crack - This is a street name for a chemical derivative of cocaine in hard, crystalline lumps. It is heated and inhaled as a stimulant. Youth usually go for this because it is less expensive than cocaine.

Many of these drug users do not clearly understand the dire effects and consequences of using these drugs illicitly. The first effect of drugs abuse is that it changes our lifestyle. To start with, when we use drugs abuse, we will need a lot of money. Therefore, we always think and find the way to earn money. We will not have time for our families and take care for them. In addition, using drugs abuse can break relationship with our families. Next, our character will be changed. For example, we are a good children or a good father; when we are addicted, we will become a different person such as always do every thing what we want and do not care any members in our families. Finally, when we use drug abuse, we cannot control our emotion. We always feel nervous and moody. After we use it, we feel happy but a short time. Using drug abuse, it is the main causes to change our behavior.

The second effect of drugs abuse is that it impacts our health. To begin with, we will meet a lot of problems to your health. If we use it for a long time, we will be met heart diseases or cancer event aids. If we use drugs abuse too much, it will increase the risk of stress and depression. We cannot think clearly and do our works better unless we use it. Besides that, it is very difficult for us to give up taking drugs. Finally, when we use drug abuse, you never do exercise and seldom take care our selves. We will be lost our weight and become skinnier. If we want to have a good health, we should far a way drug abuse.

The last and most important effect of drugs abuse is that it makes increase social illness. To start with, using drug abuse, we spend lots money but you do not have enough money for it. May be, you steal many items in our families. Moreover, many drugs abuser were related with criminal activity,

such as robber, buying drugs or murderer. Next, you do not have time to teach our children. They can do anything they want. Day after day, they become bad boys or girls. This creases the vicious circle. Finally, because we need a lot of money to buy heroin, we can sell anything we have. We will be become homeless. We have to live in the parks; our children cannot go to school; our wives will divorce with us. People in society cannot accept us if we are drug abuser.

What can we do to put a stop to this social and global problem of today? Who are the ones that should take an action and start addressing these problems? To start with, I think that it is the government's responsibility to put a halt to all these unwanted practice. They are the ones in control and should control the release of these illicit drugs. The Department of Health in particular are taking its action by setting up programs and organizations setting up campaigns that aims to increase awareness of the effects of drug abuse and for dissemination of information for the youth to prevent them from engaging in the illicit use of drugs.

Next is for the community. That they should be able to help those who have already engaged in drug abuse, by mobilizing support groups to help them in their rehabilitation and help them start anew.

Lastly, is for the family. This area is the starting point of everything and takes a major part in putting a hindrance to drug abuse. Through proper guidance of family members, most especially the parents, we can prevent and hopefully stop the youth from drug abuse. We should try to be open with all family members and try to listen to their dilemmas in life. Especially the

youth, they are the most vulnerable when it comes to drug abuse because their peers can easily persuade them. We must also set a good example for them for them to be able to prevent more cases of drug abuse in the country. As many of us would say it, " Everything begins at home".