

Substance abuse: overview

[Health & Medicine](#), [Drug Abuse](#)



This issue troubles me every time, even when I try not to think about it, and turn my mind away from it. Addiction is not what just happened, it takes time, creep in slowly without you knowing you getting addicted to it. Most times people don't know they getting addicted to something, I believe everybody is addicted to something, I sometimes call love addiction because when you love somebody you will always want to be with that person. My immediate elder brother started smoking cigarette at age 17, and start smoking marijuana at age 19, and still smoke till this day.

People always say " am not addicted to smoking or drinking", and usually follow this sentence, I only take a glass of wine before going to bed, or I only smoke to relax myself. My community is drowning from substance abuse, drugs and alcohol. " People abuse substances such as drugs, alcohol, and tobacco for varied and complicated reasons, but it is clear that our society pays a significant cost. The toll for this abuse can be seen in our hospitals and emergency departments through direct damage to health by substance abuse and its link to physical trauma.

Jails and prisons tally daily the throng connection between crime and drug dependence and abuse. Although use of some drugs such as cocaine has declined, use of other drugs such as heroin and " club drugs" has increased"(Reilly, 1989). Drugs has become a big part of our society, I was a auto-technician for a big car company that work with Bentley and Aerosols. I have to go into customers car to fix or diagnose the problem, 60% of the time I find or smell marijuana in the car. That is the rate this country is going, 1 out of 2 people smoke, at least cigarette.

Many marijuana users believe smoking pot has no negative effects, scientific research indicates that marijuana use can cause many different health problems. This always contributes to our society negatively, it makes kids act up, makes parents not function as parents, and eventually makes the society slow down. All this is happening without the drug being legalized, marijuana is always the focus point because it is the gateway drug to other substances. 2 Drugs are one of, and most epidemics in my community.

Too months ago in my building, just got home from school on a snowy, and cold day, I saw a lot of people gathered in front of the elevator, and was wondering why, I decided to ask somebody what's happening, she said Mike was shot (14 year old boy on my floor) by somebody who he sold drugs for. This is the same boy the brother served 4 years in jail, and just got home 4 months ago for possession of drugs. I see them every time, him and his friends. Age range from 12 to 16, smoking and drinking, and some of them don't go home for days, they skip school.

Their parents don't talk to them thinking they can direct their own life. I see these things in my neighborhood every time, and wish I can turn it around in a day. They said Rome wasn't built in a day, and that's true. I plan to write an anonymous letter to some of the parents and the building manager concerning drugs, and how it affects the community, kids growing up around them, and the building is safe. After doing drugs they get wild and break things, my building has so many holes on the walls from their craziness.

This is not fair to people in the building paying more expensive rent than them, they deserve clean and noise free environment. My hallway is packed

with people all day for no reason, they lay on the floor most times, and you have to walk across them. The elevator and stairways is full of graffiti, and gang sign on the wall, police is always in the building which is not good or fair to the tenants. I know it is not going to be easy, everybody reacts to the same thing differently. I plan on being polite, positive.

These are good kids, they just need somebody to care about them, it doesn't really bother me because I grew up in a neighborhood like this, am only concerned about other tenants who are not used to it. I grew up in a big family, in a rough neighborhood. Almost 20 boys in and out of my house every day, most of them thugs, and they are all gang members. There should be a program in poor neighborhoods for kids and adults to tell them about their neighborhood, and the values.

People won't respect or care for what they don't know, parents should learn to see their kids and act as their parents and not their friends or buddies. Gang members claim neighborhoods saying it's for the red or for the blue side, because they don't know the real value of the neighborhood and nobody tells them. Illegal drugs have been around since the 19th century when Americans first discovered new wonder drugs like morphine, heroin, and cocaine, our society has confronted the problem of drug abuse and addiction.

When the 20th century began, the United States--grappling with its first drug epidemic--gradually instituted effective restrictions: at home through domestic law enforcement and overseas by spearheading a world movement to limit opium and coca crops. By World War II, American drug use had become so rare; it was seen as a marginal social problem. The first epidemic

was forgotten. During the sass, drugs eke marijuana, amphetamines, and psychedelics came on the scene, and a new generation embraced drugs.

With the drugcultureexploding, our government developed new laws and agencies to address the problem. In 1973, the U. S. Drug Enforcement Administration was created to enforce federal drug laws. In the sass, cocaine reappeared. Then, a decade later, crack appeared, spreading addiction andviolenceat epidemic levels. Today, the Idea's biggest challenge is the dramatic change in organized crime. While American criminals once controlled drug trafficking on U. S. Soil, today sophisticated ND powerful criminal groups headquartered in foreign countries control the drug trade in the United States". DEAD, 13) This is the American society we life in now, the earlier we do something the better it will be for everybody. You don't want your teenage kid sneaking out to go drink, smoke or do drugs, and thinking it's cool just because she see her friends 4 or even her parent doing it. Some people say smoking or drinking is not bad but how you do it, or what you do it for. Drinking more than two times in a week is just as bad a smoking, that's what I think, because for twice a week you will want to hang-out ore with boys/girls and get some more drink.