Drug Abuse and the Menace of Juvenile Delinquency among Youths in Ethiope- West Local Government Area Delta State, Nigeria

BY

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Abstract

The study examined drug abuse and it relationship with the menace of juvenile delinquency in Nigeria society using Ethiope-West Local Government Area Delta State as a case study. The participants in this study were 300 respondents of both male and female that were purposively selected from eight communities that were selected from Ethiope West Local Government Area for the research purpose. Cross-sectional research design was adopted. Inferential and descriptive statistics were used for the analysis of data. The study utilized Labelling and Differential Association theories as its theoretical framework. The study discovered that social demographic characteristics of respondents does not correlate with drug abuse, that the social cost of drug abuse is unimaginable; it causes road accident, violent conflict, mental problems, among other. Also that, the nature of drug correlates with the pattern of consumption and that most drug addicts are recruited by people in authority to cause mayhem in society.

The study concludes that there is an association between nature of drugs and pattern of consumption, and there exist a relationship between drug abuse and violent conflict experience among youths in the study area.

The study recommends politicians to stop patronizing drug addicts as thugs during and after elections that NDLEA should be responsible in this regard to meet up with their expected duties in dynamic society.

Keyword: Drugs Abuse, Juvenile, Delinquency, Codine

INTRODUCTION

According to Sibiri (cited in Abasiekong, 2014), the history of man is a vivid description of how man engage in the journey of survival in any given environment. However but we wish to state here that man could be endangered in course of his misuse of environmental resource. Upon this fact, it could be inferred that drug abuse is an inimical reference to mans response in misappropriating the gift of nature (Nelson, 2016).During the past several years, there has been a renewed national concern about drug abuse culminating in the current war on drugs. Briefly put, though child or teenage drug use is an individual behaviour, it is embedded in socio-cultural context and manifestations (National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency N.D.L.E.A, 2016) as such exert a social burden in society.

The backdrop of this background is on psychoactive illicit substance like cigarettes, alcohol (cannabis and cocaine). We feel that it is critical to draw a distinction between use and abuse of drugs and to do so from a multi-dimensional perspective that includes aspect of the stimulus "drugs" organism "individual" response and consequences (Narconon, 2017). However this work is born out of necessity considering the wave or rate at which most teenage are into drugs and violence; a reasonable percentage of teenage indulge in drugs, some are addicted to the extent that there is no second passes without them getting involved in drugs and crime cases. It is even more worrisome, considering the patronage of most students to illicit drugs. Presently, some universities in Nigeria are now scrutinizing their students to get hold of those that are into illicit drug consumption considering its wanton implication on academics. In the same vein, World Health Organization

(WHO, 1974) identified drugs like cannabis, marijuana, cigarette, local gin to be abused by the teenagers. It is crystal clear that drugs are associated with crime and violence which degenerates into what Emile Durkheim describe as anomic state. Drugs abuse and juvenile delinquency goes together like Siamese twin (Ofuma, 2008) therefore cannot be atomised. They are the major challenging social problems in recent times; they constitute public nuisance (harmful) in our society. Nigeria has been universally acclaimed unsafe for both national and international citizens who engaged in oil and construction work and other businesses because of drugs abuse among youth that do result to kidnapping, hostage taking, militancy, banditry, armed robbery, and ritual killings (Senator& Mack, 2023).

Drugs abuse and juvenile delinquency has elicited public outcry, it is in reaction to this that the society is looking relentlessly towards introducing stiff measure that will checked it's excessiveness and ensure the reduction of its availability. Consequent upon the constant usage of drugs by teenagers, they take to violence and crime because their nerves and hormones are charged after taking these drugs, little misunderstanding activate their temper and end up committing crime and unleashing of terror on people in their immediate environment and beyond (Ofuma, 2008). It could be traced to long time deprivation neglect, lack of parental care, under-development and poverty; it is against this back drop that teenagers are susceptible to all manner of violence in the region.

National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency (N.D.L.E.A) in Akwa Ibom state has described as worrisome the increase in the number of females abusing drugs in the state. The commander of the agency in the state recently told the news agency of Nigeria that young girls between the ages of 15 to 35 were increasingly involved in drugs consumption and abuse. Some of the females consume and abuse multiple drugs especially tramadol, amplietamumie and cannabis. He called for a partnership with the state government to curtail the ugly trend in the interest of the individuals and the state. This will have devastating consequences on future of the state if adequate measures are not taken at the right time (Punch Newspaper, 2022).

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM
The major factor affecting the development of teenagers in our society in recent times is drug abuse and juvenile delinquency. Due to increase rate of drug abuse among youth NDLEA proposed drug test for students in Nigeria tertiary institutions. The agency explained that they are treating drugs abuse as public health issue and not as crime (News Express 21st Aug 2024, 5: 15am). Drug abuse is seen as the most challenging social problems in the contemporary Nigeria society particularly amongst teenagers in Niger Delta Region. However, teenagers who have parents, siblings or other family members who abuse alcohol or other substances are often the forgotten victims. Unpredictable behaviour, lack of appropriate care and no structure to a home life are often the result of substance abuse. For a child this can be scary, painful and lead to many problems in violence, abuse, neglect, financial problems and even malnourishment at a young age, if family members are addicted to drugs or alcohol (Feghabo, 2006).

Regrettably, National Drugs Law enforcement Agency (N.D.L.E.A) raised an alarm over the number of youths now hooked on various types of drugs and cough syrups. It is more worrisome that girls were now matching boys in abusing among youths, there might be no sane youths left to employ when the federal government eventually solved the problem of unemployment in Nigeria (Gbenga, 2017).Teenagers may face separation, homelessness, divorce and abandonment, their parent may be incarcerated or be dead as the result of their substance abuse problem. These issues can all have a long lasting negative effect on a child's development and future life choices. They themselves may turn to alcoholic drugs as a way to understand or cope with their feelings or they may feel that a substance abusing life is what they are destined for (News Express Aug 21st, 2024). Therefore, it must be re-emphasized that drug abuse and juvenile delinquency among teenagers is the problem which called for research by reason of the exiting social menace observed to be associated with it and which limping directly or indirectly in our society and which requires to be provided with feasible solutions. Specially, this study is directed to the teenage population with a particular reference to the Niger Delta Youth and adult. That is a study of a cross-section of young population in Ethiope- West Local Government Area of Delta state.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY
In an attempt to proffer an intellectual handle to the issue at hand, the following objectives would serve as a pointer toward achieving this academic quest- drug abuse and juvenile delinquency.
1.   To discover the causes of drug abuse among juvenile.
2.   To determine the type of drug abused by juvenile.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS
Based on the above stated objective, the following questions have been designed.
1.   What are the factors responsible for drug abuse among juvenile?
2.   What are the types of drugs used and abused by juvenile?

RESEARCH HYPOTHESES
Ha1: Drug abuse correlates with Juvenile Delinquency
Ha2: There is an association between nature of drugs and patterns of consumption

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK
HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF DRUGS ABUSE IN NIGERIA
The use of chemical agents or drugs for stimulatory effect is as old as the history of man on earth. Anthropologists report that almost every known society has some ferment; brew or portion intended to influence behaviour for health purposes, recreational purposes or often religious rituals. In the days of old, the most common drug abuse was alcohol. Alcoholism is therefore the oldest form of drug abuse. The case of lot and his two daughters clearly shows how as

far back in time, the abuse of alcohol started (Genesis 19:32-35). Lot was the man who committed incest and he did it under the influence of alcohol..

By the mid -1980s Nigeria came face to face with a new phenomenon of cocaine and heroin availability in the country as a result of arrests at the airport in Lagos. Beginning from then and throughout the 1990s Nigeria and Nigerians came to be associated with a prominent role in global drug trafficking in cocaine and heroin (Obot, 2004). Findings suggests that drug trafficking remains a thriving business and serious issues in Nigeria. Strong and concerted efforts are needed to control its trade (NDLEA, 2013).As a result of increased law enforcement efforts and great political commitment to controlling drugs in the country there seems to have been a decline in the activities of Nigerians regarding cocaine and heroin trafficking. However, the Nigeria trafficking groups based in Brazil and elsewhere in South America, remain quite active in cocaine through containerised consignments and maritime shipping, air couriering and postal shipments (UNODC, 2013) According to Jaffe (1991), drug abuse refers to the use of a drug in ways that deviate from the norms of a particular group of people or society. It is also defined as drug self-administration judged to be harmful or excessive. This pattern of use can usually be identified on the basis of the quantity taken, frequency of use, and the social situation or context in which the drug is taken. As a legal term, drug abuse refers to any use of an illicit drug (e.g. heroin, cocaine and marijuana) or the use of a licit drug e.g. alcohol by those prohibited by law (e.g. children).

Basically, the literature on drug usage and abuse in Nigeria reflects reports of works or studies embarked upon by medical/paramedical personnel's. Much of these reports show that addictive drug such as cigarettes (tobacco), alcohol, marijuana etc. are widely abused. So, the initial studies and reports on drug abuse in Nigeria are aimed basically on the use of those drugs (Lambo T.A 1964: Asuni, 1964 &Buraffka, 1966). Most of this research reports in the sixties showed that adolescent and youths constitute the high risk group prone to drug abuse in Nigeria. However, this finding is intended to show the abuse of cigarette, alcohol, marijuana, tramadol, tobacco, ketamine etc; for instance, according to Asuni (1964) 296 (6.9%) of all the 4,267 cases observed in a hospital over a period of three years abused marijuana and that 62 (21-30%) were under the age of 25 years of age. Also, according of Asuni (1964) and Boroffka (1966), whose findings were similar and related to those of Oviesu (1976), reported that secondary school students, soldiers and artisans featured prominently amongst other users. All these reports indicate that drug abuse was high among young people and this cut across social classes. Drug use and abuse is the primary reason why many youths have been incarcerated, as well as being a source of crime and health problem in our society today. The number of youths incarcerated in various prisons across the country has increased dramatically over the last few decades. As a matter of fact, majority of these youths have been arrested for drug offences or have drug abuse problem (Danladi, 2017).

CAUSES OF DRUG ABUSE

Available findings and literatures point to the fact that the following factors propel and individual to abuse drugs:

1) **Influence of Peer Groups**: Most drug abusers or addicts have been found to have been influenced by members of their peer groups. This suggests the importance of peer group pressure. Drug users tend to seek support and approval for their behaviour and because of this, they try to encourage others to join them unguarded and ill-advised children may be deceived by those already abusing drugs. They are made to believe that it is fashionable to use drugs.

   Furthermore, peer group associates with different types of people otherwise known as friends. Through the pressure from these friends a child may end up having a taste of drugs and once this is done, they continue to take and become addicted to it in the long run. (Eshiet,1999)

2) **Depression:** According to oxford advanced learner's dictionary second edition, defined depression as a medical condition in which a person feels very sad and anxious and often has physical symptoms such being unable to rest. Another primary cause of drug abuse is depression, when certain things happen to someone that is considered very sad and disheartening the person started thinking of the best way to become happy once more, hence the use of hard drugs will come in. This later on turns to habit, thus drug abuse.

3) **Unemployment:** another major cause of drug abuse is said to be the rate of unemployment among youths. For drug can be said to be abused when youths who are willing to work at the prevailing wage rate are unable to find a job.(Gbosi 1998) this situation can lead them to keep to the prescribe dosage and continuous use of the particular drug to keep themselves busy for the long period of time without doctor's approval.

4) **Alienation**: A feeling of alienation may drive individuals to irrational drug abuse. In Marx's perspective, Alienation may be described as a condition in which men are dominated by the forces of their own creation, which confront them as alien power (coser, 1971). On this note, individual may feel isolated and look for an accommodating group. This accommodation is more often than not found in a group of people who driven by a similar situation of alienation.

DRUGS ABUSED AND PATTERNS OF CONSUMPTION.

1. Cannabis: (Marijuana) was first brought into Nigeria by sailors and soldiers returning from the Second World War (Asuni,1964). This is because the hemp plant (cannabis sativa) grows easily in tropical regions. Cannabis farms were found in all parts of Nigeria. This drug is widely abused in Nigeria by the youths. Most users of marijuana smoke the dried parts of the plant rolled like cigarette or in pipes. Cannabis is also taken in food and putting into alcohol etc.

2. Alcohol: This is the most common form of addiction and substance abuse in Nigeria. There is wide spread consumption cut

across all groups, ethnic groups and occupational groups. One reason for this state of affair is that alcohol is an accepted part of many social events including burials, wedding receptions etc. Alcohol is widely abused by the youths. According to Scraggy (1995) about 20% of all deaths among 15-35 years of age which is the youth bracket are caused by alcohol.

3. Narcotic: Another drug abused by the youths is heroin. Pure heroin is a white powder with bitter taste. It is derived from morphine which is one of the most effective drugs known for relief of pain. Users of heroin inject, sniff or smoke it in order to have an artificial exaggerated sense of pleasure.

4. Tobacco: also known as ciggies, fags, tabs.
According to (Seal et al., 2004) tobacco users cite many reasons for using tobacco, including pleasure, improved performance and vigilance, relief of depression, curbing hunger, and weight control. The primary addicting substance in cigarettes is nicotine. But cigarette smoke contains thousands of other chemicals that also damage health. Hazards include heart disease, lung cancer and emphysema, peptic ulcer disease, and stroke. Withdrawal symptoms of smoking include anxiety, hunger, sleep disturbances, and depression.

5. Tramadol: is a weak narcotic analgesic which is used in the treatment of mild to severe pain. Most youths today use tramadol as an aphrodisiac (that is a drug that increases libido) , making it as one of the most abused drugs today in prison.

6. Cocaine and Crack - Coke, Charlie, White, Snow, Sniff, White Lady

Cocaine is bought as a white powder. It is normally sniffed but can be prepared for injection. Crack comes in the form of 'small rocks' and can be smoked and injected.

7. Methamphetamine (also known as meth, crank, ice, speed, crystal): Methamphetamine is a powerful stimulant that increases alertness, decreases appetite, and gives a sensation of pleasure. The drug can be injected, snorted, smoked, or eaten. It shares many of the same toxic effects as cocaine -- heart attacks, dangerously high blood pressure, and stroke. Withdrawal often causes depression, abdominal cramps, and increased appetite. Other long-term effects include paranoia, hallucinations, weight loss, destruction of teeth, and heart damage.

8. Ketamine: (also called Special K, K): This is an anesthetic that can be taken orally or injected. Ketamine (Ketalar) can impair memory and attention. Higher doses can cause amnesia, paranoia and hallucinations, depression, and difficulty breathing.

9. Paracetamol: is an analgesic drug which is used in treatment of mild to moderate pain .It also has antipyretic properties (ability to reduce fever). Paracetamol is an over the counter drug (OTC) and the most commonly used analgesic. The normal adult dose of Paracetamol should not exceed 4 gram in a day and it should be taken just for 3 days. The Paracetamol overdose can cause severe liver damage

10.Heroine: Narcotic analgesics are commonly used in the treatment of moderate to severe pain especially in terminally ill patients. Narcotics are highly addictive because they change the chemistry of the brain: they decrease the perception of the pain and alter body's reaction to pain. When taken, the body creates less endorphin because the effect of narcotics is so much more intense than those of endorphins. Inmates take narcotics for the ability to reduce pain, create relaxation. Effects of heroin intoxication include drowsiness, pleasure, and slowed breathing. Withdrawal can be intense and can include vomiting, abdominal cramps, diarrhea, confusion, aches, and sweating. (Linda, Montanari, Manuela Pasinetti 2013).

11. Codeine: codeine is an alkaloid found in the opium poppy, the scientific name for plant is (papaver somniferum). Codeine belongs to the class of drugs called opioids". It is used an analgesic for the treatment of mild to moderate pain (narcotic analgesic) it can also used as a cough suppressant and an anti diarrhoea. It is better avoided in children less than 18 years of age, pregnant women and breast feeding mothers. Codeine is supposed to be a prescription only medicine. When codeine is not used according to medical prescription and in high doses or high frequencies of use causes drug abuse, it will lead to codeine addiction. It causes drowsiness and respiratory depression, its effect is not high as marijuana and others. It is illegal to buy or possess codeine without licence or prescription from registered medical practitioners. (Taiwo ogundipe, 2018)

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Delinquent act is defined as two essential elements; it is behaviour that violates basic norms of the society and when officially known, it evokes a judgement by agents of criminal justice. Furthermore, every type of deviant behaviour is not necessarily a delinquent act. Some delinquent acts identified by them include; truancy, profanity, illicit and promiscuous sex experience, drunkenness, drug addiction, rape, child-begging in the street, disorderly conduct, murder and vandalism.(Cloward & Oheim, 1960). From this identification of certain crimes as constituting delinquent acts, it then follows that we can talk of adult delinquency. Adult delinquency therefore means the commission of delinquent acts by adults. To the above list of delinquent acts that may be committed by adult. According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of current English (1995) sees delinquency as crime usually not of a serious and especially as committed by young people. This simply means that juvenile delinquency is delinquent behaviour committed by a juvenile. The question is who is a juvenile? A juvenile is the young person or a child who is not yet regarded by the society as an adult. In some countries, he may be below the age of sixteen, seventeen or eighteen years of age depending on the law of the state (Adaromola, 1996).

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK
DIFFERENTIAL ASSOCIATION THEORY.
This theory was propounded by Edwin Sutherland, the father of American sociologist. He posit that exposes to criminal association and definition favourable to criminal tendencies motivate

individuals to learned traits; depending on the process of communication patterns, frequency, duration and intensity of the learning. He further asserted that a person come to adopt criminal as against non-criminal behaviour pattern when he or she learn to violate laws and the values conducive to putting that knowledge into practice as stronger than the person anti-criminal sentiments (Olumati,2007).

Most criminal association are of an intimate group nature and whether an individual becomes a criminal depends largely on the balance and nature of his contacts, duration, priorities, frequencies, and intensity of his association with criminal and anti criminal patterns (Clinard & Abott, 1973). More specifically, a person becomes criminal by intimate association with others who present favourable definition of criminal behaviour. The content of this learning include the techniques of committing the offense, specific rationalizations and motivations. The important of criminal association and consequent learning depends on how early these contact start, and how long a period and other conditionalities.

Thus, the link between labelling theory, differential association theory and juvenile delinquency is based on the fact that constant exposure or interaction with drug addicts are likely to predispose individual to illicit use of drugs, particularly when such communication or interaction is frequent. As such the individual becomes socialised into sub-cultural group whose modu-oparandi contradict that of the dominant culture. Going by this Howard Becker (1986), asserts that sub-cultural group leads to deviant behaviour. As such youths would be mostly affected, particularly if they associate themselves with groups whom society has labelled drug-addict. That is to say that juvenile delinquency is simply the harvest of negative socialization (Nelson, 2016).

METHODOLOGY
.In this research, the cross-sectional design was adopted. In this light it would help in enriching our knowledge on the phenomenon of drug abuse and juvenile delinquency, perceived reason and problem that follows suit, with regards to the opinions of respondents. Also based on the objective of study the Co-relational design would provide the basis in determining the co-relational effect between the drug abuse and juvenile delinquency in Ethiope-West Local Government Area by taking a cross-section of population at once.

The study population consists of youths between the ages of 15-35years in Ethiope- West. In determining the population we shall make use of the report of the 2012 National Baseline Youth Survey, a record presented by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Youth Development (FMYD). According to this report, the total youth (ages 15 – 35, both sexes) population of Ethoipe- West, Local Government Area is given as **178,036.** Hence, the given figure shall constitute the population of stud

The sample size for this study is determined using the **Taro Yemeni's formula.**
To this extent the sample size is determined by

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

Where:
n = the sample size
N = population = 178,036
e= the limit of tolerance= 0.05
1= constant
Thus, our sample size becomes
n = 178,036 /1+178,036 (0.05)^2
n = 178,036 /1+178,036 (0.0025)
n =178,036/1+445.09
n =178,036/446.09
n = **399.1**Sample size approximately becomes **399**
The above analysis using the **Taro Yemani's formula** for sample size determination gives us a sample size for the study to be **399**.

Based on the nature of the study, the **purposive sampling techniques** was used for selecting eight different towns in Ethiope – West Local Government Area. The towns includes; Oghara, Jesse, Okuno, Okuogbaye, Mosogar,Okuodibo,Ugbokpa, and Ovade

The data used for this study was obtained from both primary and secondary sources. The primary data was gathered using questionnaire structured and interview schedule on the basis of the research objectives, which was presented to respondents to express their views, opinions, and observations. The secondary data were sourced from textbooks, journals, articles, earlier publications, encyclopaedia, and dictionaries.

Data were analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics. For the descriptive statistics, mean and standard deviation was adopted, while for the inferential statistics, Chi-Square, Pearson correlation and Binary Logistic Regression was used through the aid of Statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) which served as the inferential statistics used in testing the hypotheses in this study.

Analysis of Data
This section is concerned with the presentation, analysis, and interpretation of data gathered from the responses of the administered questionnaires.

Table 4.1.Analysis of Response Rate

Questionnaire	Respondent	Percent (%)
Returned	300	75%
Not returned	99	25%
Total distributed	**399**	**100**

Source: Field Survey (2024)

4.2 SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS
Respondents sex

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent

Valid	Male	170	56.7	56.7	56.7
	Female	130	43.3	43.3	100.0
	Total	300	100.0	100.0	

SOURCE: SPSS OUTPUT (2024)

The above table classifies respondents on the basis of sex, analysis shows that 170(56.7%) of respondents are male while 130(43.3%) of respondents are female. This implies that the male constitute the overwhelming majority in the study

Respondents age

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	15-18	28	9.3	9.3	9.3
	19-21	32	10.7	10.7	20.0
	22-24	42	14.0	14.0	34.0
	25-27	75	25.0	25.0	59.0
	28-30	49	16.3	16.3	75.3
	31-33	40	13.3	13.3	88.7
	34-36	34	11.3	11.3	100.0
	Total	300	100.0	100.0	

SOURCE: SPSS OUTPUT (2024)

The above table classifies respondents on the basis of age, analysis shows that 28(9.3%) of respondents fall within the age bracket of 15-18 years, 32(10.7%) of respondents fall within 19-21 years, 42 (14.0%) of respondents fall within 22-24 years, 75(25.0%) of respondents fall within 25-27 years, 49(16.3%) of respondents are within 28-30 years, 40(13.3%) of respondents fall within the age bracket of 31-33 years while 34 (11.3%) of respondents fall within 34-36 years. Based on the finding it is clear that the overwhelming majority 75(25.0%) are respondents within the age bracket of 25-27 years.

Respondents education

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	No schooling	64	21.3	21.3	21.3
	Primary	82	27.3	27.3	48.7
	Secondary	87	29.0	29.0	77.7
	Technical	18	6.0	6.0	83.7
	Tertiary	49	16.3	16.3	100.0

	Total	300	100.0	100.0	

SOURCE: SPSS OUTPUT (2024)

The above table classifies respondents on the basis of educational attainment, findings shows that 64(21.3%) of respondents had no formal education, 82(27.3%) of respondents attended primary school, 87(29.0%) of respondents attended secondary school, 18(6.0%) of respondents attained technical qualification, while 49(16.3%) of respondents attended tertiary institution. Based on the analysis it is evident that the overwhelming majority 87(29.0%) of respondents attended secondary school.

Respondents religion

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Christianity	170	56.7	56.7	56.7
	ATR	81	27.0	27.0	83.7
	Islam	49	16.3	16.3	100.0
	Total	300	100.0	100.0	

SOURCE: SPSS OUTPUT (2024)

The above table classifies respondents on the basis of religion, analysis shows that 170(56.7%) of respondents are Christians, 81(27.0%) of respondents are African Traditional worshippers, 49(16.3%) of respondents are Muslims. Based on the finding it is evident that the overwhelming majority 170(56.7%) of respondents are Christians.

Respondents occupation

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Unemployed	28	9.3	9.3	9.3
	Farming	90	30.0	30.0	39.3
	Trading	47	15.7	15.7	55.0
	Civil servant	30	10.0	10.0	65.0
	Artisan	20	6.7	6.7	71.7
	Hunting	18	6.0	6.0	77.7
	Student	31	10.3	10.3	88.0
	Lumbering	15	5.0	5.0	93.0
	Fishing	21	7.0	7.0	100.0

Total	300	100.0	100.0	

SOURCE: SPSS OUTPUT (2024)

The table above classifies respondents on the basis of occupation, analysis shows that 28(9.3%) of respondents are unemployed, 90(30.0%) of respondents are farmers, 47(15.7%) of respondents are traders, 30(10.0%) of respondents are civil servant, 20(6.7%) of respondents are artisans, 18(6.0%) of respondents are hunters, 31(10.3%) of respondents are students, 15(5.0%) of respondents engage in lumbering, 21(7.0%) of respondents practice fishing occupation. Based on the finding, it is clear that the overwhelming majority 90(30.0%) of respondents are farmers.

Respondents community

		Freque ncy	**Perce nt**	**Valid Percent**	**Cumulative Percent**
Vali d	**Oghara**	44	14.7	14.7	14.7
	Okuno	30	10.0	10.0	24.7
	Okuogba ye	39	13.0	13.0	37.7
	Jesse	40	13.3	13.3	51.0
	Ovade	41	13.7	13.7	64.7
	Okuodibo	29	9.7	9.7	74.3
	Mosogar	38	12.7	12.7	87.0
	Ugbokpa	39	13.0	13.0	100.0
	Total	300	100.0	100.0	

SOURCE: SPSS OUTPUT (2024)

The table above categorizes respondents on the basis of community, finding indicate that 44(14.7%) of respondents reside in Oghara, 30(10.0%) of respondents resides in Okuno, 39(13.0%) of respondents reside in Okuobgaye, 40(13.3%) of respondents resides in Jesse, 41(13.7%) of respondents resides in Ovade, 29(9.7%) of respondents resides in Okuodibo, 38(12.7%) of respondents resides in Mosogar, while 39(13.0%) of respondents resides in Ugbokpa. From the analysis it is evident that overwhelming majority 44(14.7%) of respondents resides in Oghara town.

MEASURING THE TYPE OF DRUGE MOSTLY ABUSED BY JOVENILE

Firstly the study seeks to measure the type of drug mostly abused by juvenile in the research locale. In doing this, the researcher deemed it necessary to know if respondents abused any form of drug, analysis shows an overwhelming majority 183(61.0%) affirmative response. Furthermore the study made attempt to determine the most commonly abused drug, analysis indicates an overwhelming majority 48(16.0%) response for alcohol, followed

by 46(15.3%) for tramadol. Again, the researcher thought it needful to ascertain the pattern of consumption; analysis shows an overwhelming majority 117(39%) response for drinking. In the same vein the study sustained gallant effort in finding out where respondent bought the drug, findings reveals an overwhelming majority 71(23.7%) response from drug baron.

Table 4.3: Showing the type of Drug Mostly Abused by Juvenile in Ethiope- West

ITEMS	RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Do you abuse any form of drug	Yes	183	61.0
	No	117	39.0
	Total	N=300	100
Which is the most commonly abused drug	Tramadol	46	15.3
	Tobacco	33	11.0
	Marijuana	29	9.7
	Alcohol	48	16.0
	Cocaine	25	8.3
	Codeine	27	9.0
	Heroine	40	13.3
	Paracetamol	32	10.7
	Others	20	6.7
	Total	N=300	100
How do they consume these drugs	Injection	54	18
	Smoking	109	36.3
	Drinking	117	39
	Inhaling	20	6.7
	Total	N=300	100
Where do you buy these drug	Drug baron	71	23.7
	Chemist	60	20.0
	Suburb	70	23.3
	Market	69	23.0
	Others	30	10.0
	Total	N=300	100

MEASURING CAUSES OF DRUG ABUSE AMONG JOVENILE IN ETHIOPE- WEST

Secondly the study seeks to measure the cause of drug abuse among juvenile in the research locale. In this light, the researcher made attempt to determine why respondents abused most form of drug, analysis shows an overwhelming majority 69(23.0%) for alienation. Again the study tried to know if environment exposes juvenile to drug abuse, analysis shows an overwhelming majority 75(25.0%) for strongly agree. Furthermore, the researcher deemed it fit to measure if people abuse drugs to boast their ego, findings show an overwhelming majority 71(23.7%) response for strongly agree. Similarly, the study tried to discover if inability to realize

social goals prompt people to drug abuse, findings indicates an overwhelming majority 122(40.7%) response for strongly disagree. Lastly, the researcher made notable effort to measure if rejection from loved ones exposes juvenile to drug abuse, analysis shows an overwhelming majority 73(24.3%) response for strongly agree.

Table 4.4: Showing Causes of Drug Abuse Among Juvenile in Ethiope- West

ITEMS	RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Why do you abuse drugs	Highness	48	16.0
	Depression	39	13.0
	Peer group pressure	61	20.3
	Unemployment	58	19.3
	Alienation	69	23.0
	Others	25	8.3
	Total	N=300	100
Environment expose people to drug abuse	Strongly agree	75	25.0
	Agree	59	19.7
	Undecided	60	20.0
	Disagree	51	17.0
	Strongly disagree	55	18.3
	Total	N=300	100
People abuse drugs to boast their ego	Strongly agree	71	23.7
	Agree	63	21.0
	Undecided	59	19.7
	Disagree	50	16.7
	Strongly disagree	57	19.0
	Total	N=300	100
Inability to realize social goals prompt drug abuse	Strongly agree	35	11.7
	Agree	50	16.7
	Undecided	44	14.7
	Disagree	49	16.3
	Strongly disagree	122	40.7
	Total	N=300	100
Rejection from loved ones cause drug abuse	Strongly agree	73	24.3
	Agree	69	23.0
	Undecided	63	21.0
	Disagree	50	16.7
	Strongly disagree	45	15.0
		N=300	100

		Total			
Most road accidents are due to drug abuse	Strongly agree	198	4.5	2.1	Accepted
	Agree	56			
	Undecided	41			
	Disagree	3			
	Strongly disagree	2			
	Total	N=300			

Variables in the Equation
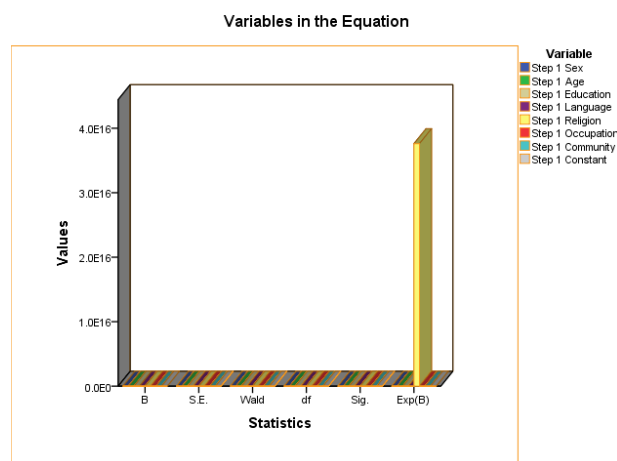
Ho2: There is no association between nature of drug and the pattern of consumption

The table below show the cross tabulation of the two variables (independent- Nature of drug; and dependent-Pattern of consumption) which we intend to test with the Chi-square to determine if there is a significant relationship. The result shows that within a count of Tramadol for nature of drug, there were 46(15.3%) in injection as pattern of consumption, making it a total count of 46(15.3%). Again within the count of Tobacco as nature of drugs, there were 8(2.7%) in injection, 25(8.3%) in smoking as pattern of consumption making it a total count of 3.3(11.0%). Meanwhile within the count of Marijuana as nature of drugs, there were 29(9.7%) in smoking as pattern of consumption. Furthermore, within the count of Alcohol as nature of drug, there were 48(16.0%) for smoking as pattern of consumption. In the same vein, within the count of Cocaine as nature of drugs, there were 7(2.30%) for smoking, 18(6.0%) for drinking as pattern of consumption making it a total count of 25(8.3%). Moreover, within the count of Codeine as in the nature of drug, there were 27(9.0%) for drinking in pattern of consumption. Thus, within the count of Heroine in nature of drugs, there were 40(13.3%) for drinking as

pattern of consumption making it a total of 40(13.3%) count. Similarly within the count of Paracetamol for nature of drug, there were 32(10.7%) for drinking as pattern of consumption. And lastly, within the count of other nature of drug, there were 20(6.7%) for

inhaling as pattern of consumption, making it an overall count of 300(100%).

				Pattern of consumption			
			Injection	Smoking	Drinking	Inhaling	Total
Nature of Drug	**Tramadol**	**Count**	46	0	0	0	46
		% of Total	15.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	15.3%
	Tobacco	**Count**	8	25	0	0	33
		% of Total	2.7%	8.3%	0.0%	0.0%	11.0%
	Marijuana	**Count**	0	29	0	0	29
		% of Total	0.0%	9.7%	0.0%	0.0%	9.7%
	Alcohol	**Count**	0	48	0	0	48
		% of Total	0.0%	16.0%	0.0%	0.0%	16.0%
	Cocaine	**Count**	0	7	18	0	25
		% of Total	0.0%	2.3%	6.0%	0.0%	8.3%
	Codeine	**Count**	0	0	27	0	27
		% of Total	0.0%	0.0%	9.0%	0.0%	9.0%
	Heroine	**Count**	0	0	40	0	40
		% of Total	0.0%	0.0%	13.3%	0.0%	13.3%
	Paracetamol	**Count**	0	0	32	0	32
		% of Total	0.0%	0.0%	10.7%	0.0%	10.7%
	Others	**Count**	0	0	0	20	20
		% of Total	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.7%	6.7%
Total		**Count**	54	109	117	20	300
		% of Total	18.0%	36.3%	39.0%	6.7%	100.0%

SOURCE: SPSS OUTPUT (2024)

Chi-Square Tests			
	Value	**Df**	**Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)**
Pearson Chi-Square	822.855[a]	24	.000
Likelihood Ratio	668.365	24	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	261.723	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	300		

Again, from the above output table the result of the chi-square test reveal that the p< value is **0.000** which mean the relationship between nature of drug and pattern of consumption is statistically significant. Since for a chi-square test the p< value threshold is **0.05** and the result of the chi-square is less than the threshold P< value, we shall reject the null hypothesis which state that nature of drug do not play a role in pattern of consumption and accept the alternative hypothesis which states that there is a link between nature of drug and pattern of consumption.
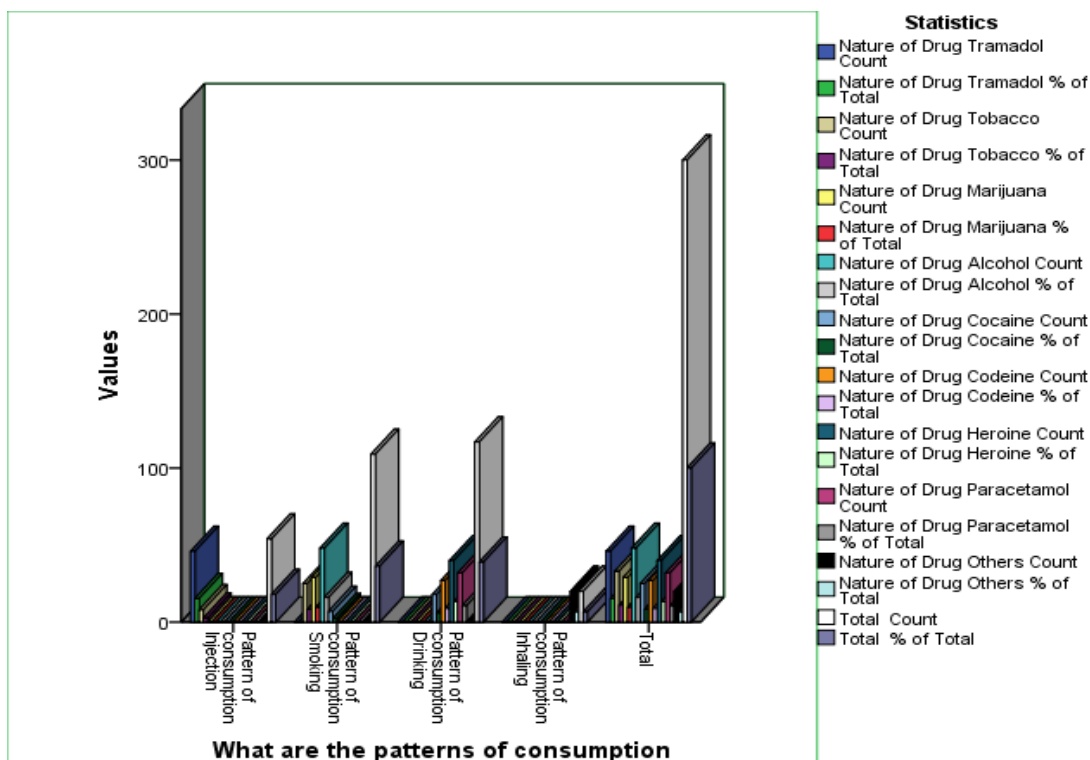
DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

This section discusses the summary of findings of the study. The study sampled total of 300 respondents within the age bracket 15-36 both sexes included. The other demographic characteristics of the population of include a total of 170 male and 130 female. This revealed that the male population is more than the female population in the study. The educational attainment of respondent reflects a least qualification for technical with a value of 18 respondents and the highest qualification of 87 respondents had obtained secondary qualification. Based on the respondent religion; Christianity measures 170, African Traditional Religion 81 and Islam 49 reflecting the lowest score. In view of respondents occupation; unemployed measures 28, farming 90 reflecting the highest score, trading 47, civil servant 30, artisan 20, hunting 18, students 31, lumbering 15, and fishing for 21 respondents. With regards to respondents community, the study shows that majority of the population reside in Oghara reflecting a figure of 44 respondents, with about 30 respondents from Okuno, 39 Okuogbaye, 40 Jesse, 41 Ovade, 29 Okuodibo, 38 Mosogar, while 39 respondents reside in Ugbokpa.

Secondly the study also sought to measure the type of drug mostly abused by juvenile, outcome of the measurements revealed an overwhelming majority 183 response for drug abuse. Furthermore an overwhelming majority 48 respondents noted that alcohol was the most abused form of drug in the research locale followed by tramadol which measured about 46 respondents. Moreover, with respect to the pattern of consumption; analysis indicates an overwhelming majority 117 for drinking of prohibited drugs. Again, with regard to the source of these prohibited substances,

analysis indicates an overwhelming majority 71 response for drug baron. 1n relation to the causes of drug abuse; analysis shows an overwhelming majority 69 response for alienation as the causal factor to drug abuse. Furthermore, on the basis of the environment, analysis indicates an overwhelming majority 75 response for environment exposes people to drug abuse. Meanwhile an overwhelming majority 71 affirmed that people abuse drug to boast their ego or man-power. In the same vein with an overwhelming majority of 73 respondents, it was learnt that most people abuse drugs due to gross rejection from loved ones or family member.

Thirdly, on the basis of effect of drug abuse among juvenile in the research locale; output from analysis indicates an overwhelming majority 153 respondents affirming to the fact that drug abuse drive it victims insane. Again still on the effect of drug abuse; finding provides an overwhelming majority 111 response for drug abuse engenders skin irritation. Furthermore, analysis indicates an overwhelming result of 102 respondents affirming that most violent conflict is due to drug abuse. Finally, it was learnt that most road accidents are due to drug abuse with an overwhelming support from 198 respondents.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Firstly the study found out that socio-demographic characteristics of respondents do not correlate with drug abuse. This is so because experience gathered during the fieldwork shows that respondents who abuse drug like tramadol were either male or female, even socio-economic status was never a criterion as juveniles from rich and poor background were observed to be drug addicts. Again, the study found out that the social cost of drug abuse is unimaginable; as most road accidents and violent conflict which claim lives and

property is obstacle to development. Meanwhile it was also revealed that that the nature of drug correlates with the pattern of consumption. Experience gathered from the field shows that the pattern of consumption for drugs like tramadol is mostly by drinking and when taken, this drug is expected to boast the sexual energy of the victim as well enable him/her perform key or pivot tedious task at ease. And later on the victim is expected to have a long rest or sleep to calm the effect of these drugs.

Furthermore, the study measured government response to drug abuse and discovered that most drug addicts are usually recruited with pay to inflict or cause mayhem on political opponent during general election. It was revealed that these prohibited drugs enable its victim to act like a machine; victims who are under the influence of drug can trek long distance, carry out action without fear of intimidation and even set a building ablaze without minding the soul that would be lost. It is on this wise that government response to drug abuse measured very poor in course of the study.

CONCLUSION

This study in its findings first of all concluded that socio-demographic characteristic of respondents do not correlate with drug abuse.

Secondly, the study also concluded that there is an association between nature of drugs and pattern of consumption. And drugs mostly abuse include alcohol and tramadol.

Thirdly, the study also concluded that there is a relationship between drug abuse and violent conflict experienced in the research locale. Also that people abused drugs to boast their ego or man-power, and due to rejection from loved ones and family members.

Recommendations

In corroboration with the above stated conclusion, the following recommendation would be applauded.
- ➢ That the government should stop patronizing drug addict as thugs during or after general election; they should allow the Department of State Security Service (DSSS) to perform their constitutional obligation.
- ➢ That the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) should be repositioned to meet the new challenge thrown up by a dynamic society like Nigeria.
- ➢ That the customs and immigration service should double effort in blocking every loopholes across the national boundary in other to frustrate possible efforts made by drugs lords in smuggling toxic substance from neighbouring states.
- ➢ Considering the culture of drugs abuse; the ministry of information and culture should initiates seminars and rehabilitation forum for the teeming youthful population nationwide who are cut in the web of drug abuse.

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