



## ABSTRACT

Amid the government's efforts for a drug-free Philippines, it has been reported that more than 2,000 Filipinos were killed in the first six months after the "war on drugs" campaign was launched. Adolescent drug users have been subject to rehabilitation in compliance with the treatment and recovery plan imposed by the government. This descriptive-comparative and correlational research study determine the extent of drug dependence of adolescent substance abusers. Likewise, it also measures the difference in the extent of drug dependence and the relationship between personality tendencies and the extent of drug dependence. Furthermore, it measures the relationship between family dynamics, spiritual connectedness, and drug dependence of adolescent substance abusers. Researcher-made questionnaire and a standardized instrument were utilized among 42 adolescent substance abusers in the province of Iloilo. The findings indicate a moderate extent of drug dependence among the respondents. Moreover, there is no significant difference in drug dependence and no significant relationship between family dynamics, spiritual connectedness, and the extent of drug dependence. Lastly, a relationship between personality tendencies and the extent of drug dependence was established. Thus, adolescent substance abusers are more likely to manifest anxiety and low self-concept and depend on a particular substance.

**Keywords:** *Personality Tendencies, Family Dynamics, Spiritual Connectedness, Drug Dependence*

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## INTRODUCTION

"Change is coming" was the campaign slogan of the then-presidential candidate, Rodrigo Roa Duterte. This was a call for national transformation. Filipinos throughout the country and abroad adopted the slogan and rallied behind him and gave him a landslide victory last May 2016 national election. Having this slogan as a constant reminder of President Duterte's promise, the present administration focuses on addressing the country's prevalent drug addiction and criminality. According to President Duterte, drug abuse is the root cause of criminality and corruption since roughly four million Filipinos are using illegal drugs. In the 2015 survey conducted by the Dangerous Drugs Board, it was reported that there were 1.76 million current drug users in the Philippines, mostly from 10 to 69 years old. Meanwhile, the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) data showed that 11,132 out of the 42,036 barangays nationwide were drug-affected as of December 2015. With these figures, the government, spearheaded by the President, launched a nationwide "War on Drugs" campaign.

Amid the efforts of the government for a drug-free Philippines, the Philippine National Police (PNP) reported that there had been more than 2,000 Filipinos killed in the first six months since the campaign was launched.

"Project Double Barrel" is the PNP's flagship project in the administration's war against drugs. It is a two-level approach comprised of Oplan High-Value Target, which goes after big-time drug dealers, and Oplan TokHang, which aims for the surrender of small-time users and sellers.

"TokHang" is a Cebuano language meaning Toktok Hangyo. This started in Davao City and has since gone national. It is a scheme implemented by police authorities to knock on the doors of suspected drug users and ask them to surrender. The government assisted surrenderers in rehabilitation through programs such as LIFT or Life After TokHang. LIFT is a PNP-initiated, community-based recovery and wellness program that seeks to assist and facilitate recovery from drug abuse and dependence.

Western Visayas comprises six provinces: Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Guimaras, Iloilo, and Negros Occidental. It is the second most populous region in the Visayas. As of May 2017, PDEA reported that 4,051 total barangays were affected by drugs. A viable solution was presented to address the problem of drugs and respond to the President's marching order on his war against illegal drugs. The Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) Regulation No. 3 series of 2017 created a Barangay Drug Clearing Program and Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council. DDB mandated the local government units to create Community-Based Drug Rehabilitation Centers in the different provinces, cities, and municipalities.

In Iloilo City, the Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council (BADAC) was created, an initiative for a massive anti-drug campaign in the barangays in the city (Kauswagan Magazine, 2016). As recorded by BADAC, there have been more than 2,000 surrenderers in Iloilo City; of this total number, 420 drug dependents were rehabilitated and enrolled in the "Crossroads treatment program." This program is a holistic approach that includes the provision of vitamins B complex and C for physical fitness, daily counseling on the spiritual and psycho-social aspects, and weekly periodic random drug tests.

The Philippine National Police, in their accomplishment reports from January 2017 to September 2017, revealed that approximately 28.6 million pesos worth of illegal drugs were seized. This was a decrease of 76% in shabu supply in the region compared to the previous year. The task of rehabilitating people who are victims of drugs is a great challenge. The diagnostic Statistical Manual for Mental Health (DSM 5) considers the victims as persons with substance use disorder (PSUD). In contrast, the Department of Health considers them Persons Who Use Drugs (PWUD).

In establishing Community- Based Rehabilitation Centers, the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) provides clear guidelines and specific procedures for conducting the program, dealing with persons who voluntarily surrendered to the authorities, and assessing them as drug users or dependents. As stated in the guidelines, a faith-based structured program was included as an intervention. This program has implicit and explicit spiritual content, which may or may not include traditional psycho-social intervention approaches. This could be implemented by the secular service provider who makes neither explicit reference to God nor any ultimate being. It could be affiliated providers who use standard non-religious techniques and approaches without religious content and exclusive faith-based providers who rely on religious content and technologies to the exclusion of traditional non-religious approaches, or the holistic provider who combines religious and non-religious content and approaches.

## **METHODOLOGY**

**Research Design.** This study utilized a quantitative descriptive-comparative and correlational research design. The descriptive-comparative research was used to measure the difference in the extent of drug dependence among adolescent substance abusers and their demographics. Moreover, descriptive-correlational research was used to measure the relationship between the extent of drug dependence, personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritually connected adolescent substance abusers.

**Participants/Respondents.** The respondents of this study involved 42 adolescent drug surrenderers aged 21 years old and below who are enrolled in the Community-Based Drug Rehabilitation Program in the selected municipalities of Barotac Nuevo, Banate, Dumangas, Mina, and Pototan in the province of Iloilo. This study used purposive sampling.

**Data Collection Procedure.** Having identified and selected the municipalities of Barotac Nuevo, Banate, Dumangas, Mina, and Pototan to have existing Community-Based Drug Rehabilitation Programs, the researcher sought approval from the Municipal Anti-Drug Abuse Council (MADAC) and the Municipal Health Officer (who are the lead authorities in the Community-Based Drug Rehabilitation Program) of the selected municipalities to conduct the study. Upon approval, the researcher worked with the MADAC (Municipal Anti-Drug Abuse Council) and the Municipal Health Officers to identify the study participants. The identified participants were of legal age and were asked to sign the Informed Consent Form (English or Hiligaynon version) if they consented to participate in the study after reading and understanding the said form. Those who are minors were asked to sign the ASSENT Form (English or Hiligaynon version) and their legally acceptable representative (LAR) (English or Hiligaynon version) after having read and understood the said forms.

Having secured the participant's and their parent's consent, the researcher set the venue and schedule for administering the questionnaire checklist (Family Dynamics and Spiritual Connection), which the researcher administered. In as much as most of the participants' educational attainment is only elementary and high school levels, the Draw a Person Test was a Projective Personality Test administered under the supervision of a registered guidance counselor. It is a licensed psychometrician with experience in giving an individually administered test. The test was administered to assess the personality tendencies of the participants, specifically on aggression, anxiety, and low self-concept. Interpretation of these personality tendencies was based on the Human Figure personality tendencies, a standardized personality test. The venue of the test administration was the community-based drug rehabilitation center of the respective chosen municipalities, where there is appropriate ventilation and lighting and is free from noise, and the place is conducive for testing.

When participants were gathered at the venue and the schedule of the conduct of the survey, the researcher introduced herself. Then the researcher reiterated the nature and purpose of the study and the possibility of their participation in the second phase (qualitative phase) of the data gathering, after which the instructions were given in English and Hiligaynon.

On the family dynamics and spiritual connection survey, the participants were made to select the English or Hiligaynon version of the questionnaire checklist to answer. The researcher herself administered these questionnaires. When the participants were done answering the questionnaires, the researcher gathered the questionnaires and placed them inside sealed envelopes to ensure their

confidentiality. The participants were given a twenty minutes break. After the break, the projective personality test was administered by the researcher, a licensed guidance counselor, as prescribed in the manual of administration of the projective personality test (HFDT). The accomplished test projective personality test was taken care of by the psychometrician for scoring and interpretation.

**Data Analysis Procedure.** The study's data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics for the quantitative data. From the focused group discussion and interviews, thematic analysis was used. The researcher used frequency count, percentage, mean, and standard deviation for descriptive statistics. Descriptive statistics are a brief description of the data set representing the entire population or a sample.

Inferential statistics utilized was the Mann-Whitney U test. It used a non-parametric test to assess for significant differences in a continuous dependent variable by a categorical independent variable with two groups. Spearman Rho is a non-parametric used to test the relationship between variables. Inferential statistics have determined the possible relationship and differences among variables, and the significance level is set at .05. Statistical software package was used to encode, process, and analyze the data. The study findings were the basis for developing a psycho-spiritual intervention program in the Community Based- Rehabilitation Center in the areas of personality tendencies, specific factors in family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The researcher made questionnaires on family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness developed and validated by experts in Psychology and Guidance, Family Counselor, and Theology. The family dynamics questionnaire has two parts. Part one consists of the personal information of the participants. Part two was composed of questions about love and security, acceptance and belongingness, support and growth, communication patterns, and clear boundaries. Spiritual connection questionnaires measure the participants' spiritual connectedness to themselves, others, and God. Draw a Person, a projective personality test, was used to determine the participants' tendencies on aggression, anxiety, and low self-concept. Their tendencies could be more likely or less likely to develop aggression, anxiety, and low self-concept. ASSIST (Alcohol Smoking and Substance Involvement Screening Test) results from the Department of Health were utilized to determine the extent of drug dependency on smoking, alcohol, cannabis, and amphetamine.

### *The extent of drug dependency of adolescent drug users is taken as an entire group and classified according to personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.*

Table 1 shows the extent of drug dependency on tobacco of adolescent drug users taken as a whole and classified according to personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.

The personality tendencies and extent of dependency of the participants as a whole is moderate, as shown in the following: more likely to manifest aggression ( $Mean=14.29$ ;  $SD=6.52$ ) less likely to manifest aggression ( $Mean=13.57$ ;  $SD=7.86$ ); on anxiety with those who are more likely to manifest anxiety ( $Mean=14.23$ ;  $SD=6.74$ ) less likely to manifest anxiety ( $Mean=14.41$ ;  $SD=8.44$ ); on self-concept with those who are more likely to manifest low self-concept ( $Mean=16.00$ ;  $SD=7.71$ ) less likely to manifest low self-concept ( $Mean=12.00$ ;  $SD=5.79$ ).

On the other hand, family dynamics and extent of dependency of the participants is moderate, classified as functional or dysfunctional, composed of five categories as follows; Love and Security-Functional family ( $Mean=14.55$ ;  $SD=6.99$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=11.75$ ;  $SD=9.39$ ); Acceptance and Belongingness; Functional family ( $Mean=14.25$ ;  $SD=6.90$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=14.50$ ;  $SD=9.33$ ); Support for Growth; Functional family ( $Mean=14.44$ ;  $SD=6.79$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=13.33$ ;  $SD=9.79$ ); Communication Patterns; Functional ( $Mean=14.41$ ;  $SD=7.11$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=13.75$ ;  $SD=7.83$ ); Clear Boundaries; Functional family ( $Mean=13.95$ ;  $SD=7.14$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=21.00$ ;  $SD=13.95$ ).

Furthermore, spiritual connectedness and extent of dependency of the participants are moderately shown as follows: Connection to Self; Connected ( $Mean=14.12$ ;  $SD=7.17$ ); Not Connected ( $Mean=21.00$ ;  $SD=0.00$ ); Connection to Others; Connected ( $Mean=13.82$ ;  $SD=7.07$ ); Not Connected ( $Mean=18.75$ ;  $SD=7.27$ ); Connected to God; Connected ( $Mean=13.47$ ;  $SD=7.06$ ); Not Connected ( $Mean=22.00$ ;  $SD=1.41$ ).

The data showed that participants might likely manifest aggression, anxiety, and low self-concept. They may belong to functional or dysfunctional families, connected or not connected to themselves, to others, or God. Generally, based on the data, participants have a moderate extent of drug dependency

( $M=14.29$ ,  $SD=7.16$ ) on tobacco. This means the participants can be accommodated in the Community Based Drug Rehabilitation Center.

The result is consistent with the World Health Organization survey in 2005 stating that there are 1.1 billion people who smoke worldwide. This is because nicotine is the most highly addictive stimulant in tobacco products. Men and women were addicted to it worldwide. Aside from these, cigarette smoking is socially acceptable and accessible. Smoking is indeed a gateway to drugs (Hersch & Viscusi, 1998). Adolescents are prone because they are curious and want to experiment with new things. An estimated 440,000 Americans die yearly from smoking-related illnesses (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2000).

**Table 1. The extent of drug dependency (Tobacco) among adolescent drug users taken as an entire group and when classified according to their personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.**

CATEGORY	SD	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
<b>A. Entire Group</b>	7.16	14.29	Moderate
<b>B. Personality</b>			
<i>Aggression</i>			
<i>less likely to manifest</i>	7.86	13.57	Moderate
<i>more likely to manifest</i>	6.50	14.29	Moderate
<i>Anxiety</i>			
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	8.44	14.41	Moderate
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	6.74	14.23	Moderate
<i>Low Self- Concept</i>			
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	5.79	12.00	Moderate
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	7.71	16.00	Moderate
<b>C. Family Dynamics</b>			
<i>Love and Security</i>			
Functional	6.99	14.55	Moderate
Dysfunctional	9.39	11.75	Moderate
<i>Acceptance and Belongingness</i>			
Functional	6.90	14.25	Moderate
Dysfunctional	9.33	14.50	Moderate
<i>Support for Growth</i>			
Functional	6.79	14.44	Moderate
Dysfunctional	9.79	13.33	Moderate
<i>Communication Patterns</i>			
Functional	7.11	14.41	Moderate
Dysfunctional	7.83	13.75	Moderate
<i>Clear Boundaries</i>			
Functional	7.14	13.95	Moderate
Dysfunctional	13.95	21.00	Moderate
<b>D. Spiritual Connectedness</b>			
<i>Connected to Self</i>			
Connected	7.17	14.00	Moderate
Not Connected	0.00	21.00	Moderate
<i>Connected to Others</i>			
Connected	7.07	13.81	Moderate
Not Connected	7.27	18.75	Moderate
<i>Connected to God</i>			
Connected	7.06	13.47	Moderate
Not Connected	1.41	22.00	Moderate

Smoking is rampant in the Philippines due to many factors. One of these is that the country suffered because of the reputation of political corruption, where tobacco business people flourished despite the passing of anti-smoking laws and policies. They exchange business protection for political donations for favorable economic policies (Chapman, 2004). Laws in the country do not prohibit cigarette smoking. It is just for regulation. That is why cigarettes are readily available in groceries and local stores. A study on tobacco use further revealed that female students smoke more than male students in Baguio City, Philippines (Cheruiyot et al., 2013). This may be due to the cold weather all year round.

Baguio has been considered the summer capital of the Philippines. Smoking can be a defense against cold weather. They smoke in order to feel warm.

On the contrary, a global survey conducted by World Health Organization and Global Youth Tobacco Survey in 2000-2003 show a substantial decline which contradicts this finding.

Recently, the findings have been realized in the Philippines. There is a significant decline in cigarette smoking. Through the Department of Health, the government started a campaign against cigarette smoking. The Sin Tax of 2012, or RA 10351, was approved. For the first three years of implementation, the Philippine government generated \$3.9 billion (Walsh & Hallegatte, 2020).

Table 2 shows the extent of drug dependency (alcohol) among adolescent drug users taken as an entire group and when classified according to their personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.

The table shows that the personality tendencies of the participants and dependency, when taken as a whole, are moderate, as revealed in the following: more likely to manifest aggression ( $Mean = 12.86$ ;  $SD=13.12$ ), less likely to manifest aggression ( $Mean=13.38$ ;  $SD=7.19$ ); on anxiety with more likely to manifest anxiety ( $Mean=11.00$ ;  $SD=6.73$ ) less likely to manifest anxiety ( $Mean = 16.33$ ;  $SD= 4.89$ ); on the low self- concept with more likely to manifest low self-concept ( $Mean=13.92$ ;  $SD= 6.73$ ) less likely to manifest low self -concept ( $Mean=12.06$ ;  $SD6.29$ ).

Family dynamics of the participants are classified as functional or dysfunctional and composed of five categories as follows; Love and Security- Functional family ( $Mean=12.66$ ;  $SD=6.47$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean =17.50$ ;  $SD= 6.25$ ); Acceptance and Belongingness; Functional family ( $Mean=12.55$ ;  $SD=6.04$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=6.50$ ;  $SD=8.87$ ); Support for Growth; Functional family ( $Mean=12.53$ ;  $SD=6.57$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=16.67$ ;  $SD=5.50$ ); Communication Patterns; Functional ( $Mean=12.53$ ;  $SD=6.51$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=15.63$ ;  $SD6.44$ ); Clear Boundaries; Functional family ( $Mean=12.86$ ;  $SD=11.31$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=18.00$ ;  $SD=6.34$ ) are all moderate.

The spiritual connectedness of the participants revealed as to Connection to Self the participants were Connected ( $Mean =12.93$ ;  $SD=6.49$ ); and Not Connected ( $Mean= 21.00$ ;  $SD=.00$ ); Connection to Others; Connected ( $Mean =12.74$ ;  $SD=6.40$ ); and Not Connected ( $Mean=16.75$ ;  $SD=7.68$ ); Connection to God; Connected ( $Mean=12.53$ ;  $SD= 6.42$ ); Not Connected ( $Mean=18.75$ ;  $SD=5.32$ ). Generally, the extent of dependency on alcohol is moderate ( $Mean=13.12$ ;  $SD= 6.53$ ). This is shown by the mean score obtained and in the ASSIST scale in table 3.

This is consistent with the result of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism survey that there are around eighty thousand (80,000) people who die from alcohol and alcohol-related death each year in the United States. Binge drinking is dangerous and sometimes fatal practice (Bell, 2018). The study also shows a significant association between alcohol marketing exposure and increased alcohol use and drunkenness among youth in the Philippines (Swahn et al., 2013). Alcohol advertisements may be found on billboards, television, in newspapers, and in magazines.

**Table 2. The extent of drug dependency (Alcohol) among adolescent drug users taken as an entire group and when classified according to their personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness**

CATEGORY	MEAN	SD	INTERPRETATION
<b>A. Entire Group</b>	13.12	6.53	Moderate
<b>B. Personality</b>			
<i>Aggression</i>			
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	13.38	7.19	Moderate
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	12.86	13.12	Moderate
<i>Anxiety</i>			
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	16.33	4.89	Moderate
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	11.00	6.73	Moderate
<i>Low Self- Concept</i>			
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	12.06	6.29	Moderate
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	13.92	6.73	Moderate
<b>C. Family Dynamics</b>			
<i>Love and Security</i>			
Functional	12.66	6.47	Moderate
Dysfunctional	17.50	6.25	Moderate
<i>Acceptance and Belongingness</i>			
Functional	12.56	6.04	Moderate
Dysfunctional	16.50	8.87	Moderate
<i>Support for Growth</i>			
Functional	12.53	6.57	Moderate
Dysfunctional	16.67	5.50	Moderate
<i>Communication Patterns</i>			
Functional	12.53	6.51	Moderate
Dysfunctional	15.63	6.44	Moderate
<i>Clear Boundaries</i>			
Functional	18.00	6.34	Moderate
Dysfunctional	12.86	11.31	Moderate
<b>D. Spiritual Connectedness</b>			
<i>Connected to Self</i>			
Connected	12.93	6.49	Moderate
Not Connected	21.00	0.00	Moderate
<i>Connected to Others</i>			
Connected	12.74	6.40	Moderate
Not Connected	16.75	7.68	Moderate
<i>Connected to God</i>			
Connected	12.53	6.42	Moderate
Not Connected	18.75	5.32	Moderate

Table 3 shows the extent of drug dependency (Cannabis) among adolescent drug users taken as an entire group and when classified according to their personality, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.

The Personality tendencies and extent of drug dependency of participants in cannabis when taken as a whole group are mild, as shown in the following: with less likely to manifest aggression ( $Mean=2.43$ ;  $SD=1.54$ ) and more likely to manifest aggression ( $Mean=2.76$ ;  $SD=1.64$ ); on anxiety with less likely to manifest anxiety ( $Mean=2.43$ ;  $SD=1.48$ ) more likely to manifest anxiety ( $Mean=3.00$ ;  $SD=1.81$ ); on low self-concept with less likely to manifest low self-concept ( $Mean=2.54$ ;  $SD=1.47$ ) more likely to manifest low self-concept ( $Mean=2.67$ ;  $SD=1.75$ ).

Family dynamics and dependency of the participants is mild which is classified as functional or dysfunctional and composed of five categories as follows; Love and Security- Functional family ( $Mean=2.47$ ;  $SD=1.55$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=3.75$ ;  $SD=1.50$ ); Acceptance and Belongingness; Functional family ( $Mean=2.52$ ;  $SD=1.54$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean= 3.00$ ;  $SD=1.90$ ); Support for Growth; Functional family ( $Mean=2.61$ ;  $SD=1.64$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=2.50$ ;  $SD=1.22$ ); Communication Patterns; Functional ( $Mean=2.59$ ;  $SD=1.69$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=2.62$ ;  $SD=1.06$ ); Clear Boundaries; Functional family ( $Mean=2.57$ ;  $SD=1.62$ ); Dysfunctional family ( $Mean=3.00$ ;  $SD=0.00$ ).

The spiritual Connectedness of the participants revealed that: Connection to Self; Connected (*Mean=2.58; SD=1.60*); Not Connected (*Mean=3.00; SD=0.00*); Connection to Others; Connected (*Mean=2.47; SD=1.56*); Not Connected (*Mean=3.75; SD=1.50*); Connection to God; Connected (*Mean=2.55; SD=1.50*); Not Connected (*Mean=3.00; SD=2.45*).

The data revealed that participants might have more likely to manifest aggression and anxiety. On the other hand, they may have more likely or less likely to manifest a low self-concept. They may belong to functional or dysfunctional families, connected or not connected to themselves, to others, or God has a mild extent of drug dependency, as is also based on obtained mean scores of the entire group. Generally, they have a mild extent of drug dependency (*Mean=2.60; SD=1.57*), shown by the ASSIST scale in table 4.

**Table 3. The extent of drug dependency (Cannabis) among adolescent drug users is classified as an entire group according to their personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.**

CATEGORY	SD	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
<b>A. Entire Group</b>	1.57	2.60	Mild
<b>B. Personality</b>			
<i>Aggression</i>			
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	1.64	2.76	Mild
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	1.54	2.43	Mild
<i>Anxiety</i>			
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	1.81	3.00	Mild
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	1.48	2.43	Mild
<i>Low Self- Concept</i>			
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	1.75	2.67	Mild
<i>More Likely to manifest</i>	1.47	2.54	Mild
<b>C. Family Dynamics</b>			
<i>Love and Security</i>			
Functional	1.55	2.47	Mild
Dysfunctional	1.50	3.75	Mild
<i>Acceptance and Belongingness</i>			
Functional	1.54	2.52	Mild
Dysfunctional	1.90	3.00	Mild
<i>Support for Growth</i>			
Functional	1.64	2.61	Mild
Dysfunctional	1.22	2.50	Mild
<i>Communication Patterns</i>			
Functional	1.69	2.59	Mild
Dysfunctional	1.06	2.62	Mild
<i>Clear Boundaries</i>			
Functional	1.62	2.57	Mild
Dysfunctional	0.00	3.00	Mild
<b>D. Spiritual Connectedness</b>			
<i>Connected to Self</i>			
Connected	1.60	2.58	Mild
Not Connected	0.00	3.00	Mild
<i>Connected to Others</i>			
Connected	1.56	2.47	Mild
Not Connected	1.50	3.75	Mild
<i>Connected to God</i>			
Connected	1.50	2.55	Mild
Not Connected	2.45	3.00	Mild

Research findings on the use of cannabis show the adverse effect, which is the impairment of brain connectivity associated with exposure to marijuana in adolescence, are consistent with preclinical findings indicating that the cannabinoid system plays a prominent role in synapse formation during brain development (Volkow et al., 2014). That is why cannabis users experience euphoria, enhancement of taste, touch, and smell, relaxation, and increased appetite (Osborne & Fogel, 2008).

Furthermore, overdose results in panic reactions. For those with pre-existing mental disorders,

high doses may exacerbate such as delusions, hallucinations, disorientation, and depersonalization (Johns, 2001).

Table 4 shows the extent of drug dependency (Amphetamine) among adolescent drug users taken as an entire group and when classified according to their personality, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.

**Table 4. The extent of drug dependency (Amphetamine) among adolescent drug users is taken as an entire group and when classified according to their personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.**

CATEGORY	SD	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
<b>A. Entire Group</b>	0.78	2.78	Mild
<b>B. Personality</b>			
<i>Aggression</i>			
Less likely to manifest	0.00	3.00	Mild
More likely to manifest	1.07	2.57	Mild
<i>Anxiety</i>			
Less likely to manifest	0.00	3.00	Mild
More likely to manifest	0.92	2.70	Mild
<i>Low Self- Concept</i>			
Less likely to manifest	0.97	2.67	Mild
More likely to manifest	0.61	2.88	Mild
<b>C. Family Dynamics</b>			
<i>Love and Security</i>			
Functional	0.82	2.47	Mild
Dysfunctional	0.00	3.75	Mild
<i>Acceptance and Belongingness</i>			
Functional	0.84	2.52	Mild
Dysfunctional	0.00	3.00	Mild
<i>Support for Growth</i>			
Functional	0.70	2.61	Mild
Dysfunctional	1.22	2.50	Mild
<i>Communication Patterns</i>			
Functional	0.86	2.59	Mild
Dysfunctional	0.00	2.62	Mild
<i>Clear Boundaries</i>			
Functional	0.00	2.57	Mild
Dysfunctional	0.80	3.00	Mild
<b>D. Spiritual Connectedness</b>			
<i>Connected to Self</i>			
Connected	0.79	2.58	Mild
Not Connected	0.00	3.00	Mild
<i>Connected to Others</i>			
Connected	0.82	2.47	Mild
Not Connected	0.00	3.75	Mild
<i>Connected to God</i>			
Connected	0.68	2.55	Mild
Not Connected	1.50	3.00	Mild

The Personality tendencies and extent of dependency of the participants, when taken as a whole, is mild as shown: more likely to manifest aggression which means (Mean=2.57; SD=1.07), while less likely to manifest aggression (Mean=3.00; SD=0.00). On more likely to manifest anxiety (Mean=2.70; SD=0.92) while less likely to manifest anxiety (Mean=3.00; SD=0.00). Moreover, they are more likely to manifest low self-concept (Mean =2.88; SD=0.61) while less likely to manifest low self-concept (Mean=2.67; SD=0.97). The figure shows the personality tendencies and extent of drug dependency; the study participants revealed mild dependency levels.

Family dynamics of the participants are classified as functional or dysfunctional and composed of five categories as follows; Love and Security- Functional family (Mean =2.47; SD=0.82);



Dysfunctional family (Mean=3.00; SD= 0.00); Acceptance and Belongingness; Functional family (Mean =2.52; SD=0.84); Dysfunctional family (Mean = 3.00; SD=0.00); Support for Growth;

Functional family (Mean= 2.61;SD=0.70); Dysfunctional family ( Mean= 3.00;SD=1.22); Communication Patterns; Functional (Mean 2.59;SD=0.86); Dysfunctional family (Mean=2.62;SD=0.00); Clear Boundaries; Functional family (Mean= 2.57;SD=0.00); Dysfunctional family (M=3.00;SD=0.80)

The spiritual Connectedness of the participants revealed that: Connection to Self; Connected (Mean=2.58; SD= 0.79); Not Connected (Mean=3.00; SD=0.00); Connection to Others; Connected ( Mean=2.47; SD=0.82); Not Connected (Mean=3.75; SD=0.00); Connection to God; Connected (Mean=2.55; SD=0.68); Not Connected (Mean=3.00; SD=1.50).

Generally, the extent of drug dependency on amphetamine is mild (M= 2.78, SD=0.78). This means whether the participants belong to functional or dysfunctional families, connected or not connected to themselves, to others, or God, they have a mild extent of dependency. This was based on the obtained mean score of the entire group.

This is consistent with the Philippine National Police report from January 2017 to September 2017 that there is a decrease of 76% in Shabu or amphetamine. Supply, especially in region six (6).

#### ***The difference in the extent of drug dependency of adolescent drug users.***

For this study, Mann Whitney U Test was used to determine the significant difference in tobacco, alcohol, cannabis, and amphetamine classified according to personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.

Table 5 shows that there was a significant difference that existed in the extent of drug dependency on tobacco and personality tendencies (low self-concept)  $U = (137)$ ;  $Sig = (.044)$  and spiritual connectedness (Connection to God;  $U = (14.00)$ ;  $Sig (.004)$ ).

This means that participants with those who are likely to manifest low self-concept are more likely to indulge in smoking with a moderate extent of drug dependency. Rachel Rettner 2014 affirms this in her findings that personality traits have been linked with the risk of having a substance use disorder. Adolescents with low self-concepts are more likely to engage in drug use in their quest for meaning, purpose, and worth. Erik Erikson's stage of development can explain that adolescents seek their identity. Adler, on the other, believes that inferiority is a real battle for every person. Everyone is in the process of overcoming his/her inferiority. In knowing their identity and worth, drugs could serve as a crutch and give them happiness and satisfaction. The fulfillment they experience in drug use is repeated until they are hooked and addicted.

Similarly, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported that tobacco is one of the gateways that can lead to the abuse of more potent drugs. WHO further reports that in 2015, over 1.1 billion people smoked (Patton et al., 2005).

A significant difference existed in Spiritual Connectedness, specifically in their connection to God and the extent of drug dependency on tobacco. Participants who are not connected with God are more likely to have a moderate extent of dependency on tobacco. Man who is considered depraved is corrupted by sin. He lived his life in rebellion against the will of God. That is why the man was separated from God, and a spiritual virus was forever placed in humanity's DNA (Finlay, 2006). Furthermore, religious and spiritual anchor gives a sense of meaning to the youth's life (Garbarino, 1999).

The result of the present study showed that no significant difference existed in the extent of drug dependency and family dynamics with components of love and security; acceptance and belongingness; support for growth; communication patterns, and clear boundaries, whether they have functional or dysfunctional families.

This contradicts the study's finding that parents have a substantial effect on delinquency and drug abuse (Vitaro et al., 2001), and the family is an institution that resolves or eases a massive amount of joint problems (Kohli, 2007). There may be other factors that contributed to this study which may have affected the results.

**Table 5. Mann-Whitney U Test Result for the significant differences in the extent of drug dependency (Tobacco) among adolescent drug users classified according to personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness**

CATEGORY	MEAN RANK	U	SIGNIFICANCE
<b>A. Personality</b>			
<i>Aggression</i>		193	0.487
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	20.19		
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	22.81		
<i>Anxiety</i>		165	0.690
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	22.71		
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	21.02		
<i>Low Self- Concept</i>		137*	0.044
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	17.11		
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	24.79		
<b>B. Family Dynamics</b>			
<i>Love and Security</i>		59	0.494
Functional	21.95		
Dysfunctional	17.25		
<i>Acceptance and Belongingness</i>		103.5	0.875
Functional	21.38		
Dysfunctional	22.25		
<i>Support for Growth</i>		103.5	0.875
Functional	21.63		
Dysfunctional	20.75		
<i>Communication Patterns</i>		133	0.937
Functional	21.59		
Dysfunctional	21.13		
<i>Clear Boundaries</i>		15	0.167
Functional	20.88		
Dysfunctional	34.00		
<b>C. Spiritual Connectedness</b>			
<i>Connected to Self</i>			
Connected		7	0.381
Not Connected	2.58		
<i>Connected to Others</i>	3.00		
Connected		38	0.110
Not Connected	2.47		
<i>Connected to God</i>	3.75		
Connected		14**	0.004
Not Connected	2.55		
	3.00		

Table 6 Mann-Whitney U Test Result for the significant differences in the extent of drug dependency (Alcohol) among adolescent drug users classified according to personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness

The findings show that significant differences existed in the extent of drug dependency on alcohol regarding their personality tendencies, specifically on anxiety  $U = (95.9)$ ;  $Sig = (.017)$ . Mann Whitney U Test revealed a significant difference. Anxiety is a feeling of worry or dread concerning an imminent event or an event where an outcome is unknown (National Institute of Health). It makes a person susceptible to turning to drugs to cope. An addict will look for a substance to calm an anxious state. Rascanu (2005) affirms that anxiety is a personality trait predisposing to drug consumption. On the other hand, the Mann-Whitney U test shows no significant difference in other components, such as those likely to manifest aggression and low self-concept.

Concerning family dynamics classified as love and security; acceptance and belongingness; support for growth; communication patterns, and clear boundaries, no significant difference existed whether they have functional or dysfunctional families.

The Mann-Whitney U Test on spiritual connectedness revealed no significant difference in one's connection to self, connection to others, Connection to God, and extent of drug dependency on alcohol.

**Table 6. Mann-Whitney U Test Result for the significant differences in the extent of drug dependency (Alcohol) among adolescent drug users classified according to personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness**

CATEGORY	MEAN RANK	U	SIGNIFICANCE
<b>A. Personality</b>			
<i>Aggression</i>		205	0.690
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	20.19		
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	22.81		
<i>Anxiety</i>		95.9*	0.017
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	28.64		
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	18.68		
<i>Low Self- Concept</i>		186	0.436
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	19.81		
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	22.77		
<b>B. Family Dynamics</b>			
<i>Love and Security</i>		46	0.215
Functional	20.71		
Dysfunctional	29.00		
<i>Acceptance and Belongingness</i>		74.50	0.235
Functional	20.57		
Dysfunctional	27.08		
<i>Support for Growth</i>		103.5	0.149
Functional	20.36		
Dysfunctional	28.33		
<i>Communication Patterns</i>		133	0.368
Functional	20.65		
Dysfunctional	25.13		
<i>Clear Boundaries</i>		15	0.523
Functional	21.20		
Dysfunctional	27.50		
<b>C. Spiritual Connectedness</b>			
<i>Connected to Self</i>		7	
Connected	2.58		0.286
Not Connected	3.00		
<i>Connected to Others</i>		38	0.349
Connected	2.47		
Not Connected	3.75		
<i>Connected to God</i>		14	0.054
Connected	2.55		
Not Connected	3.00		

Table 7 shows the Mann-Whitney U Test Result for the significant differences in the extent of drug dependency (Cannabis) among adolescent drug users classified according to personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.

The data revealed that no significant difference existed in the extent of drug dependency on cannabis about the personality tendencies of those more likely to manifest (aggression, anxiety, and low self-concept).

There is no significant difference in family dynamics with the following components: love and security; acceptance and belongingness; support for growth; communication patterns and clear boundaries, whether they have functional or dysfunctional families, and the extent of drug dependency.

Furthermore, the Mann-Whitney U Test on spiritual connectedness revealed no significant difference in one's connection to self, Connection to others, Connection to God, and the extent of drug dependency on alcohol.

**Table 7. Mann-Whitney U Test Result for the significant differences in the extent of drug dependency (Cannabis) among adolescent drug users classified according to personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.**

CATEGORY	MEAN RANK	U	SIGNIFICANCE
<b>A. Personality</b>			
<i>Aggression</i>		193	0.487
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	22.71		
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	20.29		
<i>Anxiety</i>		154	0.483
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	23.67		
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	20.63		
<i>Low Self-Concept</i>		213	0.925
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	21.67		
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	21.38		
<b>B. Family Dynamics</b>			
<i>Love and Security</i>		49	0.268
Functional	20.79		
Dysfunctional	28.25		
<i>Acceptance and Belongingness</i>		95	0.661
Functional	21.14		
Dysfunctional	23.67		
<i>Support for Growth</i>		104	0.902
Functional	21.65		
Dysfunctional	20.83		
<i>Communication Patterns</i>		135	0.987
Functional	21.47		
Dysfunctional	21.63		
<i>Clear Boundaries</i>		35	0.794
Functional	21.38		
Dysfunctional	24.00		
<b>C. Spiritual Connectedness</b>			
<i>Connected to Self</i>		18	0.905
Connected	21.44		
Not Connected	24.00		
<i>Connected to Others</i>		49	0.268
Connected	20.79		
Not Connected	27.13		
<i>Connected to God</i>		68	0.757
Connected	21.29		
Not Connected	23.50		

Table 8 shows the Mann-Whitney U Test Result for the significant differences in the extent of drug dependency (Amphetamine) among adolescent drug users classified according to personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.

The table shows that there is no significant difference in the extent of drug dependency on cannabis regarding their personality tendencies as to those who are more likely to manifest aggression, anxiety, and low self-concept.

No significant difference existed in family dynamics with the components of love and security; acceptance and belongingness; support for growth; communication patterns, and clear boundaries, whether they have functional or dysfunctional families.

Results of the Mann-Whitney U Test in spiritual connectedness revealed no significant difference in one's connection to self, Connection to others, Connection to God, and the extent of drug dependency on amphetamine.

This result shows that personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness have no difference in terms of dependency on cannabis.

**Table 8. Mann-Whitney U Test Result for the significant differences in the extent of drug dependency (Amphetamine) among adolescent drug users classified according to personality tendencies, family dynamics, and spiritual connectedness.**

CATEGORY	MEAN RANK	U	SIGNIFICANCE
<b>A. Personality</b>			
<i>Aggression</i>		189	0.076
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	23.00		
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	20.00		
<i>Anxiety</i>		162	0.631
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	23.00		
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	20.00		
<i>Low Self- Concept</i>		201	0.393
<i>Less likely to manifest</i>	20.67		
<i>More likely to manifest</i>	22.13		
<b>B. Family Dynamics</b>			
<i>Love and Security</i>		46	0.820
Functional	21.34		
Dysfunctional	23.00		
<i>Acceptance and Belongingness</i>		74.50	0.766
Functional	21.25		
Dysfunctional	23.00		
<i>Support for Growth</i>		103.5	0.687
Functional	21.83		
Dysfunctional	19.50		
<i>Communication Patterns</i>		133	0.718
Functional	21.15		
Dysfunctional	23.00		
<i>Clear Boundaries</i>		15	0.883
Functional	21.43		
Dysfunctional	23.00		
<b>C. Spiritual Connectedness</b>			
<i>Connected to Self</i>		19	0.952
Connected	21.46		
Not Connected	23.00		
<i>Connected to Others</i>		70	0.820
Connected	21.34		
Not Connected	23.00		
<i>Connected to God</i>		61	0.548
Connected	21.89		
Not Connected	17.75		

***A significant relationship between personality tendencies and the extent of drug dependency***

Data showed that a significant relationship existed between personality tendencies and the extent of drug dependency ( $r=.315$ ;  $p=.042$ ). It further revealed that there was a low and positive correlation. This means that there is a definite but small relationship. A positive correlation is a relationship between two variables in which both variables move in tandem. It exists when one variable increases; the other variable also increases (Subong, 2005).

Based on this result person who struggles with low self-concept is likely to be dependent on smoking. The individual believes that the more he engages in smoking he feels that, the more he has a positive self-concept.

Self-concept is the individual's belief about himself or herself, including the person's attributes and who and what the self is (Baumeister, 1999). It is the quality of a trait that involves conscious awareness of one's thoughts, feelings, behavior, and traits (Cherry, 2018). A person may have a low self-concept and a positive self-concept. Success in new individual situations is affected by how they see themselves in a seemingly circular process (Marsh, 1984). This is how a person looks at him/herself. How a person looks at himself could be reinforced by what others say, his/her negative experiences, and what a person does in life.

However, no significant relationship existed between those who were more likely to manifest aggression and anxiety and the extent of drug dependency.

**Table 9. Spearman Rho test result for the significant relationship between personality and extent of drug dependency on Tobacco, Alcohol, Cannabis, and Amphetamine among adolescent drug users. Categories**

Categories	Tobacco		Alcohol		Cannabis		Amphetamine	
	r	sig	r	sig	r	sig	r	sig
Personality								
Aggression	.109	.494	-.061	.700	-.123	.437	1.00	.075
Anxiety	-.063	.690	-.369*	.016	-.139	.380	.000	.267
Low								
Self- Concept	.315		.042	.122	.44	-.015	.927	-.289 .400

Spearman Rho Test result further revealed a significant relationship between personality tendencies ( $r=-.369$ ;  $p=.016$ ) and the extent of drug use on alcohol. Personality tendencies have a small but definite relationship with the extent of drug dependency on alcohol. The data further revealed a negative correlation. This means that when one variable goes higher, the other variable goes down or vice versa. Based on this finding, those who are more likely to manifest anxiety personality tendencies have an increase in the intake of alcohol. There is a belief that the more alcohol intake, the level of anxiety decreases. It could also mean that if there is less alcohol intake, the higher anxiety. In other words, alcohol intake affects a person's anxiety level.

A study revealed that alcohol is the most widely used substance in high schools and college campuses (Lisha & Sussman, 2010). Like tobacco, alcohol is a gateway to drug use (Kandel, 1989). Children and adolescents use drugs to cope with daily tensions, depression, and boredom. They may use it because they are imitating peers or rebelling against their parents (Jarvis, 2004; Oman et al., 2002).

Nur Fahiman et al. (2009) study on the relationship between personality types found a correlation between drug use and addiction. Drug users may be classified into psychotics, psychopaths, immature personalities, and personalities who adjust to group pressures (Baciu, 2018). Personality traits emerged to have relationships to various substance-use behaviors, which include cigarettes, alcohol, and illicit drugs (Bogg & Robert, 2004; Hampson & Friedman, 2008). Zahra Habibi et al., 2013 further uphold a positive relationship between personality type and drug use.

#### ***The significant relationship between family dynamics and the extent of drug dependency***

Spearman Rho test results shown in table 10 revealed that no significant relationships existed between family dynamics and the extent of drug dependency on tobacco, alcohol, cannabis, and amphetamine. Family dynamics included love and security, acceptance and belongingness, support and growth, communication patterns, and clear boundaries.

Furthermore, the table revealed no significant relationship between family dynamics, even though it was classified as love and security, acceptance and belongingness, support and growth, communication patterns, and clear boundaries. This means that the dynamics in the family in this has no relationship to drug use and abuse.

**Table 10. Spearman Rho test result for the significant relationship between family dynamics and the extent of drug dependency on Tobacco, Alcohol, Cannabis, and Amphetamine among adolescent drug users.**

Categories	Tobacco		Alcohol		Extent of Dependency					
	r	sig	r	sig	Cannabis r	sig	Amphetamine r	sig		
Family Dynamics										
• Love and Security	-.081	.611			-.034	.832	-.278	.075	-.107	.498
• Acceptance and Belongingness	-.087	.583			-.165	.925	.016	.921	-.027	.866
• Support and Growth	-.092	.562			-.139	.380	-.074	.640	.245	.118
• Communication Patterns	-.186	.239			-.015	.924	-.031	.843	.123	.439
• Clear Boundaries	-.158	.319			.058	.714	-.078	.623	.100	.527

***The significant relationship between spiritual connectedness and the extent of drug dependency***

The Spearman Rho test shown in table 11 revealed a significant relationship between spiritual connectedness, specifically on connection to God ( $r=-.324$ ;  $p=.036$ ), and the extent of drug dependency. A negative correlation exists between spiritual connectedness and the extent of drug dependency on tobacco. This means that the less connected a person to God, the more is the extent of drug dependency on tobacco. It could also mean that the more connected a person to God, the less the extent of drug dependency.

This finding is consistent with the findings that spirituality is a significant independent relationship to recovery (Avants et al., 2001). A higher level of religiosity and spirituality has been associated with greater physical and mental health. However, no significant relationship existed between spiritual connectedness and dependency on alcohol, cannabis, and amphetamine.

Moreover, the figure revealed that a negative correlation existed between the connection to God and the extent of dependency on tobacco.

This means that when one variable increases, the other decreases or vice versa (Subong, 2005). When an individual increases tobacco intake, they have less connectedness to God. On the other hand, when individuals decrease their tobacco intake, they are more connected to God.

Spirituality has a significant independent relationship to recovery (Avants et al., 2001). Recovering addicts undergo intense spiritual awakenings (Green et al., 1998). Length of Sobriety has been positively associated with spirituality. However, no significant relationship was found connected to self and others.

**Table 11. Spearman Rho test result for the significant relationship between spiritual connectedness and extent of drug dependency on Tobacco, Alcohol, Cannabis, and Amphetamine among adolescent drug users.**

Categories	Tobacco		Alcohol		Extent of Dependency					
	<i>r</i>	sig	<i>r</i>	sig	Cannabis <i>r</i>	sig	Amphetamine <i>r</i>	sig		
Spiritual Connectedness										
<i>Connected to self</i>	-.165	.296			-.061	.700	.064	.689	.138	.138
<i>Connected to Others</i>	-.197	.211			-.197	.845	.040	.804	.004	.981
<i>Connected to God</i>	-.324*	.036			-.324	.149	.054	.733	.214	.174

## CONCLUSION

From the findings of the study, the following conclusions were drawn:

Adolescence is one of the most rapid phases of human development. It is a stage in one's life that is full of vigor and strength. A typical adolescent loves to explore and experiment with new things. This attitude could be brought about by curiosity as they find the true essence of their life. They are continually in search of their identity and meaning in life. At times they face crises that challenge their capabilities. There are times that they can overcome, yet there are times that they falter and fall. Many times they wallow in self-pity and helplessness. These experiences may lead to confusion and doubt of their ability, and so they become hopeless and, at times, desperate. In the process, they look for something or someone to lean on and get back on track. Their vulnerability may lead them to experiment on drugs and, in the long run, develop addictive behaviors, which can lead to more severe problems. Their characteristics as individuals and their environment influence the changes that are taking place during this stage. Adolescents may be particularly vulnerable because their capacities are still developing, and they are beginning to move outside the confines of their families, spending more time with friends and less time with the family. They tend to assert their right and independence to the extent of challenging authority. Support of families in this stage is crucial as these youth develop their competence and identity.

Strong parental and societal influences are needed to guide them and tread the right path. They need good examples to follow and anchor when they are in distress. As in the words of Dr. Jose Rizal, our national hero, "youth are the hope of our nation." If neglected, they can become the cause of problems and be considered a burden to their family, communities, and the nation. The reality tells that the youth live in a society where drinking alcoholic beverages and smoking is socially acceptable. Media has reinforced this practice through promotion in advertisements by good personalities. Multi-national companies of cigarettes and alcohol sponsor events and gatherings. They even, at times, spearheaded national sports activities. They do these as their marketing strategies whose targets are the youth.

Another critical factor is the influence of drinking and smoking role-modeling adults in the family. Children have been exposed to parents and relatives who are drinking and smoking. As they grow, the practice has been unconsciously inculcated in their minds to be correct and acceptable. Aside from this, tobacco and alcohol are readily available and accessible in grocery stores and sari-sari stores. Some men even consider drinking and smoking as an initiation to manhood. Smoking and drinking



have been part of Filipino culture and are legally and socially acceptable. Every time there is a gathering or special occasion in the family or Community, there is drinking and smoking. On top of these, they are affordable. On the other hand, cannabis and amphetamine are illegal. Due to the government's campaign on the all-out war on drugs, there seems to be a scarcity in the supply, making these very expensive. Generally, the youth who came from troubled homes were the ones who easily led astray and hooked into drug addiction. Troubled homes have been brought about by children born out of wedlock, failed marriages, poverty, poor parenting practices, and the influx of overseas Filipino workers. Children are left alone to live alone, with their fathers, grandparents, and relatives or, at times, abandoned in the streets. The absence of strong parental guidance in the children affected their holistic development. Unresolved conflicts and difficulties marred the innocence of these children.

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