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Effects Of Drug Abuse On Cognitive And Social Behaviours: A Potential Problem Among Youth In Tanzania

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ABSTRACT

His article provides definitions of drug and drug abuse. It also provides sources of drugs in global and local contexts. It further discusses the example of drug trafficking in Tanzania. Theoretical issues underlying drug abuse are discussed in detail. The paper indicates that the youth gets involved in drugs due to peer pressure, curiosity, wanting to be different, rioting from the system and also due to escape behaviour, i.e., running away from problems. Characteristics of drug abusers are provided. Most drug abusers are said to have glue with them, possess large paper bags, handkerchiefs, and hypodermic syringes. The effects in terms of problems and/or dangers of drug abuse are highlighted as brain damage, behavioural disorders, inability to reason, low academic performance, etc. To conclude, the paper offers a summary and outlines recommendations for action against drug abuse. It also recommends that attempts be made through the Ministry of Education and Culture, and the Ministry of Labour and Youth to see if there are ways and means of alleviating the drug abuse problems are sought. Parents and community at large should be involved in the anti-drug programme’s.

KEYWORDS: Effects Of Drug Abuse, Cognitive And Social Behaviours