

Drug Abuse: A Growing Threat to Pakistan's Young Generation

Outline

I Introduction

Thesis statement: Drug abuse is a severe threat to the young generation of Pakistan, negatively impacting their role in the political, economic and social progress of the country. However, effective policy measures can protect the youth from the detrimental consequences of drug abuse.

II Explaining the key term "Drug Abuse"

III How is Drug A Growing Threat to Young Generation?

- A- Leaves behind negative impacts on physical and mental health
- B- Makes them politically unconscious of their rights
- C- Makes them economically dependent on others
- D- Tarnish the positive image of the youth in the society

E- Provides youth easy skip from their responsibilities

IV What are the Detrimental Consequences of the Drug Addicts on the Country?

A- Wastage of young minds in futile activities

B- Increase the economic burden of the country

C- Responsible for disrupting law and order

D- Portrays a negative image of the country globally

VI Why People Move towards Drug Abuse?

VII Measures to Protect the Young Generation from Drug Abuse

A- Massive crackdown on availability of addictive drugs

B- Engaging the youth in productive activities

C- Establishment of Rehabilitation centers

D- Raising awareness about ^{proper} drugs in public

VI Case Study- Saudi Arabia Response in Countering the Threat of Drug Abuse

VI- Conclusion

According to a report of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), approximately 7.5 million people are addicted to drugs. Among the addicts more than 25 percent are women. However, analysts claim the actual figure is much more than the reported figure. These horrifying statistics give birth to several questions. Why young minds are prone to drug addiction? Why has the state failed to control this threat? ~~At~~ Will the state take ~~immed~~ immediate measures to save its youths? Several evidence show that drug abuse is a growing threat to young generation as it negatively impact the physical and mental health of the youth, makes them politically unconscious of their

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rights and economically dependent on other. Additionally, it tarnishes their image in the society and makes them lesser citizens. Furthermore, drug addicts are also a burden on the country as they mostly engage in unlawful activities leaving behind detrimental consequences on the society. However, there is solution to every problem if there is will.

Certain policy measures such as crackdown on availability of drugs, establishment of rehabilitation centers and raising public awareness can help in mitigating the use of drugs. Hence, drug abuse is a severe threat to the young generation of Pakistan, negatively impacting their role in the political, economic and social progress of the country, effective policy implementation can prevent this menace to spread further.

Drug abuse ~~is~~ refers to the excessive use of drugs. According to WHO, the use of drugs above a certain threshold, exceeding the necessary dosage is called drug abuse. Hence, the unnecessary

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use of drugs for personal satisfaction is called drug abuse.

There are several threats to young generation because of drug abuse. Firstly, it negatively impacts the physical and mental of the youth. The drug addicts are mostly lazy, ineffective and weak. Their thinking skills are significantly restricted. Moreover, they their minds stop functioning effectively and they continuously need drugs to stay alert and fit. Hence, drug abuse harms their body and soul.

Secondly, the drug addicts are politically unconscious of their rights. They cannot determine what is right or wrong for them. Most of the time, they end up being easily trapped by the political elites. Furthermore, they get sold out and used in political propaganda. This practice is mostly witnessed in third world countries especially Pakistan where politicians coax drug addicts for their vested interests. Therefore, the drug addicts are politically unaware of their rights.

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Thirdly, the victims of drug abuse are financially weak and economically dependent on others. Their weak mental and physical body cannot support them to earn a decent living. They cannot carry out long labour tasks. Moreover, because of their addiction, neither the governmental nor the private firms hire them.

To conclude, they rely on others for their survival.

Fourthly, they are viewed as lesser citizens in the society. Irrespective of their age and gender, they are often harmed, punished and taunted in the society. Additionally, they are disowned by their very own family, enjoys no respect and remain mostly isolated.

Drugs take them into a state of euphoria which is irrelevant from the real world. Hence, drug addicts enjoy no social status.

Fifthly, drugs give them temporary skip from their responsibilities. They are mentally so weak that they cannot face the realities of the world with courage. In order for ~~they~~ their self-satisfaction they rely on drugs. Moreover, drugs

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make them ignorant of their tasks and duties. They are so weak that little trouble compel them to shift ~~at~~ towards drugs. To conclude, drugs offer them temporary satisfaction.

After discussing the threats of drugs on the youth, the coming paragraphs will elaborate the impacts of drug addiction on the country.

Drug addiction effects the country in many ways. Among them one of them is the engagement of the youth in futile activities. Instead of playing a constructive role for the progress of the country they leave no stone unturned to harm the country. They move towards ^{earning} easy money such as gambling, stealing and deceiving. They harm their neighbours, family and even society as a whole. Additionally, they stay away from progressive works such as social services, politics and entrepreneurship. Hence, drug addicts enjoy engaging in

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futile activities.

Moreover, they are an economic burden on the country. Their absence from the economic activities harm the economic cycle of the country. The economic progress of a country is maintained by its youth. For example, the Chinese youth played a very constructive role in uplifting Chinese economy. Hence, instead of a blessing, the addicted youths are a burden on the country.

Furthermore, drug addicts are responsible for disrupting the law and order situation in the country. Their need for money makes them easy target for recruitment in gangs and terrorists organization. For example, according to security analysts, BLA uses the tactic of drug addiction to recruit new people. Moreover, drugs addicts do all unlawful acts for money. Hence, drug addicts are responsible for disrupting law and order.

Additionally, drug abuse tarnish the image of the country globally.

According to WHO, most of the

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Students in the capital Islamabad are intoxicated. They rely on drugs to skip from academic stress. Moreover, UAE embassy shows that 26 percent of drug convicted in UAE are Pakistani citizens. Therefore, drug abuse leaves negative consequences for the country globally.

After discussing the impacts, the next paragraphs will shed light on policy measures to curb drug abuse.

First of all, the relevant authorities must do crackdown on availability of drugs. Investigative reports show that drugs are easily available on educational campuses and on streets. Their easy availability make people easy prey. Therefore, law enforcers must be tasked to control selling of drugs.

Second, the government must engage the youth in productive activities such as sports events, cultural programs and vocational

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training programs. Evidences show such constructive engagements have produced ~~to~~ satisfying results.

Thirdly, in order to treat the already addicted, state of the art model rehabilitation centers must be established across all major cities. The affected persons must be taught vocational works, engaged in sports and ~~be~~ ^{must} be given monthly stipended.

Forthly, raising awareness about drug abuse in public is the most effective way to prevent drug abuse. The ~~unaffected~~ must be ~~shown~~ ~~as~~ informed about the impacts of drugs. Seminars at district level, at educational institutions and media campaigns can significantly help in this regard. Hence, raising awareness is key to mitigating drug abuse.

Saudi Arabia can be taken as a model in studying the measure on how to engage the youth in a progressive

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activities. In the early 1980s, Saudi had a significant number of drug addicts. Drug use was very common and largely unrestricted. To ~~curb~~ control this menace, Saudi engaged the youths by providing them jobs, vocational trainings and advanced rehabilitation centers. It adopted a zero tolerance policy on drugs sellers. Pakistan must adopt a similar model to protect its youth.

To conclude, drug abuse is, without a doubt, the most significant challenge facing Pakistan. It poses several threats to the youth by hampering them to play their role in the political, social and economic sectors. Financial vulnerabilities, degradation in society, and isolation from general public are ~~a few~~ ^{the} impacts of drug abuse. Additionally, it not only ~~impact~~ ^{affects} the youth but disrupt the fabric of the country as a whole by slowing its economic

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growth and globally dishonoring
it name. Anyhow, certain measures
like investing in youth, establishing
rehabilitation centers and curbing
drug selling can help to fight
this serious menace and
protect the young generation.
