

Socialization Trait and Antisocial Behavior: A Comparative Study between Drug Addicts and Normal Adolescents in Sindh Pakistan

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Abstract

Drug addiction is a Psycho-social problem in Pakistan and all over the world which cause not only self-destructive activities in its users but also has raised antisocial activities in the society. Present study was designed to study the socialization trait and antisocial behavior between drug addicts and normal adolescents in Sindh Pakistan. A sample of 100 participants comprising of (N-50) drug addicts and (N-50) normal adolescents was administered Urdu Version of So (Socialization) Scale of CPI ((Ahmed, 1986). Data was collected from "Umeed Goth" Drug habilitation center in District Sanghar (Sindh, Pakistan). A sample of drug addicts was taken using purposive non-probability sampling technique and an independent sample of adolescents was taken using simple random sampling technique. Their ages ranged between (14-18). It was hypothesized that Drug addicts would score less on So (Socialization) Scale of CPI than normal adolescents. The mean differences indicated that drug addicts have scored ($X = 10.28$) less than normal adolescents ($X = 31.4$). Hence mean differences of the study have supported the hypothesis of the study.

Introduction

Drug addiction has raised criminal activities in the society. A large number of crimes have their roots in drug addiction. Crime associated with drugs, much of it violent makes misery of many lives. (World Drug Report, 1997). Use of drugs have not only destroyed the lives of human beings but also paralyzed the mental and physical efforts of the people. Drugs have intensified the rate of crime in society. (Peerzada, N., 2001).

Another problem associated with crime is violence and other illegal activities. On account of financial constraints an addict may not be in a position to afford the drugs with his limited income. He may start

indulging in malpractices and may also go to the extent of committing serious crimes. (Sen., & Ahmed, 1999 2001). At present according to recent survey we have about 3.5 million drug addicts of different kinds growing on an annual rate of 7 percent. (Narcotics Control Division, Anti Narcotics Force "Drug Abuse Assessment Study of Pakistan 2000-2003).

The term drug related crime is used to cover an extremely broad and complex range of offences. The first and most direct relationship is that category of drugs law violations. A second category consists of offences committed as a direct result of the pharmacological effects of drugs. A third group covers acquisitive or predatory

crimes such as theft and property offences committed by consumers in support of their drug habit. A fourth connection between crime and drugs is the range of other criminal activities which may be linked to drug trafficking such as corruption, intimidation, murder, terrorism and illegal traffic in arms and explosives. (World Drug Report, 1997). Speckart and Anglin (1985) found that heroin addicts were charged with higher number of property crimes than non-addict criminals. A large number of researches have supported the relationship between drug addiction and crime. Jarvis and Parker (1989) found that many heroin addicts reported financing their habits largely through acquisitive crime. Quantitative research has systematically documented relationship between use of different drugs and serious crimes. (Huizinga, et al, 1981). Substance abuse is related to violence primarily because these agents disinherit the cortical control centers of the brain that inhibit violence and interfere with reasoning, values and judgment. The side effects of these drugs and withdrawal process in some substance abusers only compounds the problem and enhances the risk for violent outbursts and antisocial activities results in end. (Flannery, 1999). Researchers have found strong association between property crimes and heroin addiction. (Inciardi, 1981). There is strong association between crime and illegal drug use. (Hall et al, 1993). When addiction is to illegal substance, there is added burden of cost and risk. Addiction readily leads to secretiveness and criminality, which has damaging effects on the whole family, and the children as well as the adults, may become involved in criminality supporting the habit. (Valsiner and Connolly, 2005).

Method

Sample (N= 100) comprising of drug addicts (n= 50) and normal adolescents participated in this research investigation. Age of the participants ranged from 14-20 years. They belonged to Upper, middle and Lower social-economic class. The groups of drug addicts and normal adolescents were carefully matched on the variables of age, education, and residential area and profession. A sample of fifty drug addicts was selected through purposive sampling technique from "Ummed Goth" drug habilitation center, Sanghar District of Sindh. An independent sample of fifty normal adolescents was selected through simple random sampling technique.

Instruments

Socialization scale (Adapted from CPI, Amhed, I, 1986) was administered on the participants. Instrument was used in Urdu version (Ahmed, 1986). Low scores on the scale indicates antisocial and deviant personality, whereas high scores indicates law-abiding and trust-worthy individuals (Gough, 1960). A personal information questionnaire was also used.

Scale consists of 45 items, having dichotomous response category I-e Yes / No. The scale was administered individually by reading out each item. In order to avoid biased response several items on the scale are keyed in opposite direction and reverse scored. Urdu version is sufficiently similar to the English version. The KR-20 indices of the reliability of the scale range from 0.44 to 0.93 with a medium value of 0.68, which is fairly satisfactory. Gough (1960) claimed that those scoring low on the scale would tend to be antisocial and deviant, whereas well — socialized (Scoring high

on the scale), would tend to be, Law-abiding trust worthy individuals of the society occupying positions of repute.

Procedure

At first an interview with each drug addict was conducted to develop rapport with them and to get information about their drug addiction behavior, their experience with drugs and initial involvement in different crimes, specially acquisitive / predatory crime. The (Socialization) scale of California personality inventory was administered individually and question were read out to the participants. Their responses were recorded. Same Scale was administered on matched —independent sample of normal adolescents (n=50), they filled in questionnaire by themselves.

Results

Table No: 1

Mean Standardization and t-value of the Drug Addicts and Non-Drug addicts score on Urdu version of So (Socialization), scale of CPI.

Population	Number	Mean	S.D	T-Value
Drug Addicts	50	10.28	2.68	2.091
Normal adolescence	50	31.4	3.68	

t =2.09, df =98, p< .05

The findings as shown in table 1 (t=2.09, df=98, p<. 05) indicate a significant difference between the scores of drug addicts and normal adolescents. Results have revealed that the drug addicts' scores

on the socialization scale of CPI are less than the scores of the normal sample of adolescents.

Tables

Discussion

Finding as shown in table 1, (t=2.09, df= 98, P<. 05) indicated a significant difference between the obtained scores of the Drug addicts and normal adolescents on Urdu Version of So (Socialization) Scale (Ahmed, 1986). Mean values of drug addicts Table 1 (X= 10.28), show their malsocialization, which indicates that drug addicts possess greater tendency to involve in antisocial and criminal activities as compares to the mean scores of normal sample of adolescents, Table 1 (X= 31.4). Results are consistent with the study of Gough, (1960), which indicated that those who score low on socialization scale would tend to be antisocial and deviant whereas well socialized (Scoring high on the Scale) would tend to be law abiding and trustworthy individuals, occupying positions of repute. Similar results were found in several other researches (Godstein, 1974). When 69 male samples (Gough) were arrayed in order of their mean scores socialized samples had means above this figure. Anchoring the low end of the distribution were delinquents convicted of violent offences, multiple offenders and imprisoned heroin addicts. These research studies strongly support the hypothesis of the present investigation, that drug addicts will score less on So Socialization) scale of CPI, than normal adolescents In order to support their habit drug addicts commit crimes , especially acquisitive or predatory crimes . Researchers have supported positive relationship between drug

addiction and crime. The connection between drug addiction and crime is hardly surprising; anything that weakens self-control and reduces foresight is likely to increase law-breaking activities. Large number of social, economic problems is directly linked with drug addiction. Chronic intoxication impairs school, job performance and makes victimless able to delay gratification and damage relationships with friends and family. All of these tend to increase criminality. (Boyum, D & Kleiman, M.A, 2003). During interview of the participants, the researcher also come to know the fact that drug addiction lead one to engage in criminal activities, but there are some Socio-psychological factors which work as a catalyst and reinforce the relationship

between drug addiction and crime one of which is parental Attitude. Those addicts who had warm and healthy parental relations with both parents, they scored more on parental So (Socialization) scale of CPI than those who were not having warm relations and close ties with their parents. Some of the researches in Pakistan ((Ahmed, F.Z., & Shafi, K., 1990), have also confirmed this relationship.

These aspects of the relationship among drug addicts and crime invites for further careful research investigation in this field and it would be of immense help to understand the true nature of relationship between drug addiction and crime.

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