Determinants of Drug Abuse Among Colleges of Education Students
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Abstract

Drug use and abuse is the primary reason why many youths are incarcerated, as well as a source of crime and health problem in our society today. It has become an unprecedented problem in Nigeria that the number of youth 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, and/or have a drug abuse problem. Some of the factors contributing to this arrest are the public awareness of the danger in drug abuse and the “war on Drugs” declared by the Federal Government using various agencies like the NDLEA, NAFDAC etc. This study was meant to investigate the determinants of drug abuse among Colleges of Education Students in South-West Nigeria.

The descriptive survey design was used in this study of which 500 respondents were sampled using random sampling technique. A close-ended, four-point modified likert scale self-structured questionnaire was used as instrument for data collection. The reliability of the instrument was determined using the person product moment correlation coefficient (r) statistical instrument of percentages and chi-square was used for the analysis of data collected at 0.05 alpha level of significance. The entire hypotheses tested were rejected since all the calculated chi-square values were greater than the critical values. Hence, it was concluded that parental influence, peer group pressure, advertisement influence and desire to experiment with drugs determine the abuse of drugs among college students. These results suggested that drug education should be introduced into the curriculum of all Tertiary Institution in Nigeria without delay particularly at Colleges of Education.

Key Words: Drugs, Drug abuse, psychoactive drugs and Dose regimen.