



【38th Edition】

Publish date: September 01, 2020

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Contributions Solicitation for 2020 International Seminar on Juvenile Drug Abuse Prevention and Counseling

Dear scholars and experts:

Under the support of the Ministry of Education, Crime Research Center, National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan (NCCU) will hold the “International Seminar on Juvenile Drug Abuse Prevention and Counseling” at the NCCU International Conference Hall on October 20 and 21 (Tuesday and Wednesday), 2020.

Many domestic and foreign experts and scholars from the European Union, Japan, Australia, Singapore have been invited to release papers for the seminar. Senior officials from the ministries of the Central Government, experts and scholars from the academic community, city and county drug abuse prevention centers, supervisors of student off-campus life counseling agencies, instructors and city and county student affair and counseling officers, school security personnel and other representatives dedicated to drug problems and prevention nationwide have been invited to attend. It is expected that new research reports and practical suggestions pertaining to juvenile drug abuse-related issues can be proposed to improve the current juvenile drug abuse problems and recommendations can be proposed to serve as references for the government.

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UNODC Reports

UNODC World Drug Report 2020: Global drug use rising; while COVID-19 has far reaching impact on global drug markets

➤ **Editorial Office**

VIENNA, 25 June 2020 – Around 269 million people used drugs worldwide in 2018, which is 30 per cent more than in 2009, while over 35 million people suffer from drug use disorders, according to the latest World Drug Report, released today by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The Report also analyses the impact of COVID-19 on the drug markets, and while its effects are not yet fully known, border and other restrictions linked to the pandemic have already caused shortages of drugs on the street, leading to increased prices and reduced purity.

Rising unemployment and reduced opportunities caused by the pandemic are also likely to disproportionately affect the poorest, making them more vulnerable to drug use and also to drug trafficking and cultivation in order to earn money, the Report says.

“Vulnerable and marginalized groups, youth, women and the poor pay the price for the world drug problem. The COVID-19 crisis and economic downturn threaten to compound drug dangers further still, when our health and social systems have been brought to the brink and our societies are struggling to cope,” said UNODC Executive Director Ghada Waly. “We need all governments to show greater solidarity and provide support, to developing countries most of all, to tackle illicit drug trafficking and offer evidence-based services for drug use disorders and related diseases, so we can achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, promote justice and leave no one behind.”



Due to COVID-19, traffickers may have to find new routes and methods, and trafficking activities via the darknet and shipments by mail may increase, despite the international postal supply chain being disrupted. The pandemic has also led to opioid shortages, which in turn may result in people seeking out more readily available substances such as alcohol, benzodiazepines or mixing with synthetic drugs. More harmful patterns of use may emerge as some users switch to injecting, or more frequent injecting.

Looking at further effects of the current pandemic, the Report says that if governments react the same way as they did to the economic crisis in 2008, when they reduced drug-related budgets, then interventions such as prevention of drug use and related risk behaviours, drug treatment services, the provision of naloxone for management and reversal of opioid overdose could be hard hit. Interception operations and international cooperation may also become less of a priority, making it easier for traffickers to operate.

■ Trends in drug use

Cannabis was the most used substance worldwide in 2018, with an estimated 192 million people using it worldwide. Opioids, however, remain the most harmful, as over the past decade, the total number of deaths due to opioid use disorders went up 71 per cent, with a 92 per cent increase among women compared with 63 per cent among men. Drug use increased far more rapidly among developing countries over the 2000-2018 period than in developed countries. Adolescents and young adults account for the largest share of those using drugs, while young people are also the most vulnerable to the effects of drugs because they use the most and their brains are still developing.





■ **Cannabis trends**

While the impact of laws that have legalized cannabis in some jurisdictions is still hard to assess, it is noteworthy that frequent use of cannabis has increased in all of these jurisdictions after legalization. In some of these jurisdictions, more potent cannabis products are also more common in the market. Cannabis also remains the main drug that brings people into contact with the criminal justice system, accounting for more than half of drug law offences cases, based on data from 69 countries covering the period between 2014 and 2018.

■ **Availability of pharmaceutical opioids for medical consumption varies across the globe**

The Report also points out that low-income countries still suffer a critical shortage of pharmaceutical opioids for pain management and palliative care. More than 90 per cent of all pharmaceutical opioids available for medical consumption were in high-income countries in 2018 comprising around 12 per cent of the global population, while the low and middle-income countries comprising 88 per cent of the global population are estimated to consume less than 10 percent of pharmaceutical opioids. Access to pharmaceutical opioids depend on several factors including legislation, culture, health systems and prescribing practices.

■ **Socio-economically disadvantaged face greater risk from drug use disorders**

Poverty, limited education and social marginalization remain major factors increasing the risk of drug use disorders and vulnerable and marginalized groups may also face barriers to getting treatment services due to discrimination and stigma.

This paper is from: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/press/releases/2020/June/media-advisory---global-launch-of-the-2020-world-drug-report.html>



NIDA Reports

Parents' Marijuana Use May Increase Children's Risk of Marijuana Use and Favorable Views of Marijuana

➤ Editorial Office

This study found:

- Children's risk of marijuana and alcohol use and attitudes toward marijuana were influenced by their parents' marijuana use pattern over time.
- Children whose parents used marijuana primarily during adolescence/early adulthood and those whose parents continued to use marijuana from adolescence through adulthood were at highest risk.

When parents use drugs such as marijuana, their children may also be affected. Numerous studies have shown that current parental marijuana use increases the children's risk of substance use and other psychiatric problems. A recent NIDA-sponsored study demonstrates that the parents' history of marijuana use throughout their lifetime may also affect their children's outcomes and that some lifetime use patterns are more harmful than others.

To identify associations between parents' marijuana use over time and their children's outcomes, Dr. Marina Epstein and colleagues at the University of Washington and University of Colorado Boulder followed 426 families from 2002 to 2018. During this time, the families—which included one parent, their oldest biological child, and (where available) another caregiver—were interviewed 10 times. The study evaluated information obtained from 380 families who completed interview rounds 5 to 10, when the children were 6 to 21 years old.



In earlier analyses, the researchers classified the participating parents into four categories based on their lifetime marijuana use

- Nonusers, who had never, or almost never, used marijuana in their lifetime.
- People with an adolescence-limited pattern, whose marijuana use began in early adolescence, peaked in their late teens/early 20s, and typically stopped by their mid-20s.
- Chronic users, whose marijuana use began in early adolescence, escalated until approximately the mid-20s, and then persisted into their 30s.
- Late-onset marijuana users, who initiated drug use in their late teens/early 20s and maintained infrequent but consistent use into adulthood.

The research team next investigated how these use patterns related to a variety of child outcomes, including marijuana, alcohol, and cigarette use; attitudes towards marijuana use; internalizing, externalizing, and attention problems; and school grades when the children were 6 to 21 years old. The analyses found that, compared with children of nonusers, children of parents with adolescent-limited or chronic marijuana use were 2.5 to 4.4 times more likely to use marijuana themselves and 1.8 to 2.75 times more likely to use alcohol.

In contrast, children of late-onset marijuana users had no increased risk of marijuana use. Children of chronic marijuana users also were somewhat more likely to use cigarettes, report more favorable views on marijuana, or exhibit externalizing behavior and lower grades.



The increased risk for children of chronic users resulted mainly from the parents' ongoing marijuana use. For children of parents with adolescent-limited marijuana use, however, the increased risk remained



even after the researchers accounted for current parental marijuana use. Additionally, these children expressed significantly more favorable attitudes toward marijuana use. This indicates that parents' marijuana use during adolescence, regardless of whether it continues into adulthood, can affect the children's outcomes. "Over and above ever using marijuana, results from this study show that past patterns of use can have ongoing effects on child outcomes, in particular child marijuana use and pro-marijuana norms," says Dr. Epstein.

With the number of adults who use marijuana rising following the drug's legalization in several states, the effect of prior and current parental marijuana use on their children is an increasingly significant public health concern. This study suggests that efforts to reduce children's risk of drug use must take into consideration not only the parent's ongoing marijuana use but also their use history. "The field needs to become more nuanced in how marijuana use is handled in research and clinical settings," adds Dr. Epstein.

This paper is from: National Institute on Drug Abuse

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/2020/06/parents-marijuana-use-may-increase-childrens-risk-of-marijuana-use-and-favorable-views-of-marijuana>



Taiwan Research News

The Study on Death Penalty for Drug Offences between China and Taiwan

Jiunn-Yueh Yang

According to Narcotics Hazard Prevention Act, drug offences can be sentenced for death penalty in Taiwan. In grand judicial interpretations, charging death penalty on the drug offences is constitutional in Taiwan; additionally, it is often seen that the drug offences would be sentenced for the death penalty in China. From discussing and comparing pros and cons of legislative and judicial regulations, which practice on the drug offences, between China and Taiwan by literature review, it is found that verdicts on the drug offences in Taiwan are biased by polarizative criminal policy; but in China, they are biased by criminal policy of combining leniency with rigidity. However, from legislative perspective on the drug offences, China and Taiwan both believe that manufacturing, selling or transporting drugs is the root of all evil, it is necessary to restrict it from serious punishments, even death penalty. Nevertheless, either on judicial trials or implements, Taiwan and China work differently. In Taiwan, there is no any death penalty of the drug offences being convicted nor executed since 2002; on the other hand, China still overwhelmingly practices death penalty on the drug offences. These differences are based on how International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and Human Right Committee define general comments, which influence on the practical regulations of domestic laws. To evaluate how China and Taiwan employ Article 6 of the ICCPR to protect the right to life of all human beings, where can be reviewed by convicting death penalty only on most serious crimes. Due to strict legislative



regulations but loose judicial verdicts of the drug offences, suggestions on the amendments of the Narcotics Hazard Prevention Act in the study were made to make the convictions of the death penalty being more constitutional.



Burnout and turnover intention in the Job Demands-Resources Model: Studying Drug Abuse Prevention Member

Ying-Siou Chen,Chao-Hsiu Chen

Based on the Job Demands-Resources (JD-R) model as the theoretical framework, this study investigates the relationships among drug-abuse-prevention staff and volunteers' job demands, job resources, burnout, and turnover intentions. Employing the convenient sampling and the survey method, 213 drug-abuse-prevention staff members and volunteers provide valid responses. The measurement instruments include the job-demand scale, the job-resource scale, the Copenhagen Burnout Inventory (CBI), and the turnover intentions scale, and the Construct Factor Analysis (CFA) is used to test the instruments. Additionally, the Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) is used to test the structural model and model fit. The best JD-R model indicates that the Burnout variable mediated the relation between the Job-Demand variable and the Turnover-Intentions variable. It is suggested that the drug-abuse-prevention agencies provide staff members and volunteers with more resources such as necessary training and organizational support so their turnover intentions could decline. Also, avoiding excessive job demands which could cause much emotional stress or work-family conflict can reduces staff members or volunteers' burnout and therefore decrease their turnover intentions



Latest Conferences Information

➤ 編輯組

Conference	Host Organization	Date	Location
2020 Convention on Prevention and Consultation of Teen Drug Abuse	National Chung Cheng University Education Center for Prevention of Drug Abuse	October 20-21 2020	Chiayi, Taiwan Contact: deptcrc@ccu.edu.tw
ISAJE Annual Meeting 2020	International Society of Addiction Journal Editors (ISAJE)	September 2-4 2020	virtual video conference format Contact: casyisaje@gmail.com
National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse	National Institute on Drug Abuse(NIDA)	September 10 2020	Rockville, MD Contact: media@nida.nih.gov
2020 Cannabis in a Changing Brain Virtual Symposium	UCI Center for the Study of Cannabis (CSC)	September 16 2020	International Online Symposium Contact: media@nida.nih.gov
AMERSA—44 th Annual Conference	The Association for Multidisciplinary Education and Research in Substance Use and Addiction (AMERSA)	November 5 2020	Boston, Massachusetts conference format Contact: casyisaje@gmail.com
International Society of Addiction Medicine Annual Meetings	International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM)	November 12 2020	Victoria,Canada Contact: isam.mdorozio@gmail.com