



【47th Edition】

Publish date: January 01, 2023

Chief editor: Shu-Lung Yang

Executive editor: Hua-Fu Hsu

Vice executive editor: Yueh-Chung Ma, Chiao-Yun Chen

Document editor: Ting-Chen Lai, Ting-Ya Wang

Executive department: Crime Research Center,
National Chung Cheng University

Phone number: +886-5-2720411#26305

Website: <http://deptcrc.ccu.edu.tw/index>.

◎ **UNODC and NIDA Reports**

◎ **Taiwan Research News**

◎ **Recent International Academic**

Conference

Education Center for Prevention of Drug Abuse : Please add us on “Line”!

Dear scholars and experts:

With the impact of COVID-19 since 2019, online platforms that accommodate the next generation of social interaction have set a trend. Additionally, in the era of information explosion, anti-drug knowledge related advocacies provided through physical entities alone are very limited in strength. Traditional physical tours can no longer compete with digitalization trends, while the Education Center for Prevention of Drug Abuse (CPDA) is confronted by the challenges of having to undergo transformation. In response to the online to offline (O2O) trend and increase the reach of anti-drug propaganda, the CPDA created an official line account this year (2022). Based on the latest government policy and tendency to substance abuse, related information is delivered to users from time to time, in order to enhance public knowledge and continue to bring anti-drug promotion into full play.



Line id: @496eqwli

Contact Person: Assistant Ting-Ya Wang

Crime Research Center, National Chung Cheng University

Tel. 05-2720411#26304, 26305

Email: deptcrc@ccu.edu.tw



UNODC Reports

Afghanistan opium cultivation in 2022 up by 32 per cent: UNODC survey

➤ **Editorial Office**

Vienna, 1 November 2022-The 2022 opium crop in Afghanistan is the most profitable in years with cultivation up by nearly one-third and prices soaring, even as the country is gripped by cascading humanitarian and economic crises, according to a new research brief from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Opium cultivation in Afghanistan – latest findings and emerging threats is the first report on the illicit opium economy since the Taliban, which assumed power in August 2021, banned cultivation of opium poppy and all narcotics in April 2022. This year’s harvest was largely exempted from the decree, and farmers in Afghanistan must now decide on planting opium poppy for next year amid continued uncertainty about how the de facto authorities will enforce the ban. Sowing of the main 2023 opium crop must be done by early November 2022.

“Afghan farmers are trapped in the illicit opiate economy, while seizure events around Afghanistan suggest that opiate trafficking continues unabated,” said UNODC Executive Director Ghada Waly upon the survey’s launch.

“The international community must work to address the acute needs of the Afghan people, and to step up responses to stop the criminal groups trafficking heroin and harming people in countries around the world.”

According to UNODC findings, opium cultivation in Afghanistan increased by 32 per cent over the previous year to 233,000 hectares – making the 2022 crop the third largest area under cultivation since



monitoring began. Cultivation continued to be concentrated in the south-western parts of the country, which accounted for 73 per cent of the total area and saw the largest crop increases. In Hilmand province, one-fifth of arable land was dedicated to opium poppy.

Opium prices have soared following the announcement of the cultivation ban in April. The income made by farmers from opium sales more than tripled from USD 425 million in 2021 to USD 1.4 billion in 2022 - the new figure equivalent to 29 per cent of the 2021 value of the agricultural sector. In 2021, the farm-gate value of opiates was only worth some 9 per cent of the previous year's agricultural output.

However, the increase in income did not necessarily translate into purchasing power as inflation has soared during the same period, with the price of food increasing on average by 35 percent.

Following a drought at the start of 2022, opium yields declined from an average of 38.5kg/ha in 2021 to an estimated 26.7 kg/ha this year, resulting in a harvest of 6,200 tons, 10 per cent smaller than in 2021. The 2022 harvest can be converted into 350-380 tons of heroin of export quality, at 50-70 per cent purity.

Seizure events collected by UNODC's Drugs Monitoring Platform suggest that opiate trafficking from Afghanistan has been ongoing without interruption since August 2021. Afghan opiates supply some 80 per cent of all opiate users in the world.

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

https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/releases/2022/November/afghanistan-opium-cultivation-in-2022-up-by-32-per-cent_-unodc-survey.html

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/releases/2022/November/afghanistan-opium-cultivation-in-2022->



NIDA Reports



Prenatal cannabis exposure associated with mental disorders in children that persist into early adolescence

➤ **Editorial Office**

September 12, 2022 Prenatal cannabis exposure following the middle of the first trimester—generally after five to six weeks of fetal development—is associated with attention, social, and behavioral problems that persist as the affected children progress into early adolescence (11 and 12 years of age), according to new research supported by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), part of the National Institutes of Health. These conditions may put these children at a greater risk of mental health disorders and substance use in late adolescence, when youth are typically most vulnerable to these disorders and behaviors.

Published today in *JAMA Pediatrics*, this study analyzed data from the ongoing Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study, the largest long-term study of brain development and health in children and teens in the United States, which is supported by NIDA and nine other Institutes, Centers, and Offices of the NIH. The study was conducted by scientists at Washington University in St. Louis

These findings add to an expanding body of research on the effects of cannabis use during pregnancy. A previous analysis using baseline data from the ABCD Study found an association between prenatal cannabis exposure and behavioral problems in these children at 9 to 10 years of age. Preclinical studies have shown that delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the main psychoactive substance in cannabis, can cross the placenta and potentially affect brain development.

Cannabis use among pregnant women increased from 3% in 2002 to 7% in 2017. In 2018, 4.7% of pregnant women reported cannabis use and 5.4% did in 2019, according to the National Survey on Drug



Use and Health. The results of this new analysis further support caution against using cannabis during pregnancy, the authors say.

The ABCD Study tracks nearly 12,000 youth as they grow into young adults. Investigators regularly measure participants' brain structure and activity using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and collect psychological, environmental, and cognitive information, as well as biological samples. ABCD Study seeks to understand the factors that influence brain, cognitive, and social-emotional development, with the ultimate goal of providing actionable information to help educators, health professionals, and policymakers improve the lives of all children, today and for generations to come.

The Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development Study and ABCD Study are registered trademarks and service marks, respectively, of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Reference:

DAA Baranger, et al. Association of Mental Health Burden With Prenatal Cannabis Exposure From Childhood to Early Adolescence: Longitudinal Findings From the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study. JAMA Pediatrics. DOI: 10.1001/jamapediatrics.2022.3191

This paper is from : National Institute on Drug Abuse

<https://nida.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/2022/09/prenatal-cannabis-exposure-associated-with-mental-disorders-in-children-that-persist-into-early-adolescence>



Taiwan Research News

Innovative in prevention promotion for high-risk groups of drug abuse : perspective of drug users

Yang, Shu-Lung¹ 、 Tzeng Shu-Ping² 、 Wang, Ting-Ya³ 、

Tung-Jen Hsiao⁴ 、 Yeh, Zih-Ting⁵

According to the World Drug Report, in 2020, around 284 million people between the ages of 15 and 64 have taken drugs, which was a 26% increase compared to those 10 years ago. The anti-drug operation of Taiwan has entered “Phase 2 Plan of New Generation Anti-Drug Strategies”. It has stipulated the “3-Reduce Strategy” with “reducing drug supply, reducing drug demand and reducing drug damage” as its goal. Pre-emptive promotions on preventing drug abuse are the most fundamental and important operation. According to previous domestic studies, existing pre-emptive promotion strategies are still faced with limitations. Hence, this research attempts to further examine the efficacy of existing drug abuse pre-emptive promotions through empirical interviews with drug users and focused interviews with experts, with the expectation of utilizing resources more efficiently and improving relevant solutions to achieve the purpose of reducing drug abuse.

This research practiced semi-structural interviews with purposeful sampling methods by randomly interviewing individuals that have used drugs (first & second class drugs and third & fourth class drugs) from the northern, central, southern and eastern parts of Taiwan between June and August 2022. 4

¹ Ph. D. on Criminal and Justice from the State University of New York; Distinguished Professor of the Department of Criminology and Director of Crime Research Center, National Chung Cheng University; President of the Supervisory Board of Asian Association for Substance Abuse Research; Honorary Chairman of Taiwan Society for Substance Abuse Prevention

² Ph. D. on Criminal and Justice from the State University of New York; Associate Professor and Council Member of the Department of Criminology, National Chung Cheng University; Chairman of Taiwan Society for Substance Abuse Prevention

³ Department of Criminology, National Chung Cheng University Master Degree Bearer; Project Research Assistant Substance Abuse Prevention Education Center, Crime Research Center, National Chung Cheng University

⁴ Associative Professor Level Professional Technician from the Department of Social Work, Yu Da University of Science and Technology; Graduate School Student for Ph. D. Department of Criminology, National Chung Cheng University

⁵ Graduate School Student for Master Degree Department of Criminology, National Chung Cheng University



individuals were interviewed in each region, for a total of 16 individuals interviewed. From the perspective of those who had taken drugs, the interviews were conducted to understand their opinions on anti-drug promotions. This research discovered that those being interviewed seldom pay attention to anti-drug promotion content and have polarized opinions on the influence of anti-drug promotion. They believed that anti-drug promotion courses have little influence, detoxification courses have only little effect on preventing recidivism, and campus anti-drug campaigns were interesting but hardly left an impression. The interviewed individuals suggested that anti-drug slogans should be presented at places where people may trade or use drugs and places that are crowded with people. They also suggested that family outdoor outing anti-drug campaigns, positive thinking courses, group thinking or dialogue courses, lecture by successful people, and anti-drug stage clearing activities should be held to promote anti-drug content. In focused interviews with practical experts, they suggested that anti-drug promotion content should be presented in versatile and refined ways and include situational exercise in anti-drug promotion & education, and include family education in anti-drug promotion plans.

Regarding the innovative plans for the pre-emptive promotion to high-risk groups of drug abuse, this research proposes the following suggestions:

- (I) Strengthen and improve pre-emptive prevention methods in the social environment.
- (II) Combine early childhood intervention with family education.
- (III) With the perspective of drug users as fundamental, design secondary prevention promotion contents and activities that can affect them.
- (IV) The horizontal connection of practitioners should be strengthened to form a team in order to consistently adjust drug abuse prevention promotion strategies and input responding budget and social resources.



The association analysis between drug use, resilience and DASS of youth in custody¹

Hsu, Freya In Chu² 、 Ku, Yi-Chien³ 、 Chia-Yu Hsu⁴

In recent years, Taiwan has been faced with changes and problems such as a low birth rate, an aging population, diversified and complicated family issues, rapid conveyance of information, drug abuse and so on. The development model of the rapidly changing society has exposed teenagers to a more risky environment for committing crimes. Among them, having contact with drugs is the riskiest behavior. Due to the convenience of the internet, there are more ways to obtain drugs. The dazzling packing of drugs and fancy selling techniques have made teenagers forget the significant negative influences drugs have on our bodies and minds. The purpose of this research is to discuss the mental health of teenagers in juvenile correction institutions who have contacted or taken illegal substances or drugs to understand the effects and hazards drugs have on teenagers. Questionnaires were handed out to investigate and analyze the connection between drug-using experience, psychological resilience, melancholy, frustration and stress. These connections were depicted with descriptive statistics and logistic regression to analyze the influence between different variables. The results of this research indicated that enhancing the “self-perception” and “family closeness” of these juvenile inmates could effectively decrease the risk of suffering from melancholy, frustration or stress. According to logistic regression, each point of increased self-perception could decrease the risk of suffering from mild melancholy by 66.7%, mild frustration by 58.9% and mild stress by 62.8%; each point of increased family closeness could decrease the risk of suffering from mild

¹ This article was retrieved from Association between Drug Use and Mental Health among Taiwan Juvenile Detainees, an article from the Academy for the Judiciary, Ministry of Justice 2022 Drug Prevention Foundation Research Project. This article is just a draft and further revision is needed. Therefore, please do not cite this article. We hereby express our appreciation to the Agency of Corrections and schools for helping us collect questionnaires amid the epidemic.

² Assistant Researchers, Crime Prevention Research Center, Academy for the Judiciary, Ministry of Justice

³ Researchers, Crime Prevention Research Center, Academy for the Judiciary, Ministry of Justice

⁴ Project Researcher, Crime Prevention Research Center, Academy for the Judiciary, Ministry of Justice



stress by 87.6%. This research suggests that in the future, we could change the attitudes of teenagers toward drugs from the concept of “decreasing harm”. This research also suggests that current education or systems should be more flexible by stressing more on the importance of “sibling or family” instead of “parents”. Such change helps to reposition their responsibility in a family, enhance family closeness, and establish a more sound mental health quality. This could enable juvenile inmates to have a stronger connection to society and avoid the hazards of drugs.



Taiwan Events News

Innovative Presentation of Drug Abuse Prevention with Artificial Intelligence and International Conference in Kaohsiung City

Drug abuse prevention is closely related to national development and social security.

In order to implement the new-generation anti-drug strategy of the Executive Yuan, Kaohsiung City creates the first Innovative action, including a localized multi-treatment plan for promotes deferred prosecution, localized treatment for drug-related juveniles and the development of AI technology on drug prevention from all aspects.

Kaohsiung city is dedicated to becoming a smart city. This conference will be presenting Innovative technology for drug abuse prevention, using AI big data to construct automatic risk warnings, radar charts to analyze risk trends and multi-dimensional technology pedigree chart to strengthen the risk-prevention and improve counseling effectiveness. Also, connect across the anti-drug network, public security network, and social security network to show the sustainable development value of ESG and SDGs. It's hoped that the technological results will be promoted to the whole country, and also the drug control policy conference will be held to brainstorm forward-looking strategies for enhancing the task with enforcing drug prevention.



The information source is from Department of Substance abuse Control and Prevention, Kaohsiung City Government

<https://dsacp.kcg.gov.tw/en/>



National Museum of Natural Science, Ministry of Education

“Keeping the Drug Demons and Monsters Away - Anti-Drug and Folklore Special Exhibition”

This special exhibition combines anti-drug messages for civil customs to create a one-of-a-kind anti-drug devil exhibition by transforming commonly abused drugs and substances into demons, such as Heroin Demon, Amphetamine Demon, MDMA Demon, Marijuana Demon, Ketamine Demon, Poisoned Coffee Demon, Laughing Gas Demon and Super Glue Demon. Reasons that people may come into contact with drugs were transformed into ghosts such as Curious Ghost, Bad Friend Ghost, Stress Relieving Ghost and Entertaining Ghost.

The exhibition also introduced useful ways to get rid of them when facing these drug demons, such as Brain Protecting Amulet, Drug Demon-revealing Mirror, Abstinence Talisman, Drug Reliving Zhong Kui and others. This special exhibition also contains anti-drug exhibitions that are related to hell, such as Drug Hazard Fortunetelling, Holy Bird Divines Drug Disaster, Beating Up Poisoned Heart and others. There are also puzzle and Rubik Cube games that help visitors to learn more about drugs. This exhibition enables visitors to learn about anti-drug knowledge through entertainment and helps them stay away from the hazard of drugs.



For further information, please refer to the official website of [National Museum of Natural Science]

★Time: September 23, 2022 to February 28, 2023

★Location: 2nd Floor Hall Gallery, Human Cultures Hall, National Museum of Natural Science



The information source is from National Museum of Natural Science

<https://www.nmns.edu.tw/ch/>



Latest Conferences Information

Conference	Host Organization	Date	Location
33rd Annual Meeting and Scientific Symposium	American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry (AAAP)	December December 8-11 2022	Naples, FL Contact: (401)524-3076
Reconvened Sixty-fifth session	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)	December 8-9 2022	Vienna, Austria Contact: Unodc(at)un.org
15th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health	National Institutes of Health (NIH) And Academyhealth	December 11-14 2022	Washington, DC Contact: @AcademyHealth #DIScience22
NASPA Alcohol, Other Drug, and Campus Violence Prevention Conference	National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA)	January 19-21 2022	Kansas City, USA Contact: office@naspa.org
The International Medicine in Addiction Conference	International Medicine in Addiction (IMiA)	February 17-19 2023	Melbourne, Australia Contact: enquiry@imia.com.au