

DRUGS- ILL EFFECTS-II

“Drugs are a waste of time. They destroy your memory and your self-respect and everything that goes along with your self-esteem.” — Kurt Cobain

Drug addiction is a problem that has been increasing immensely among the society today.

In the previous class we have learnt that drugs affect all aspects of our lives, including social mental, emotional, financial etc. Drugs not only destroy our mental health but gives rise to many diseases and health problems. Sometimes it leads to the world of crime.

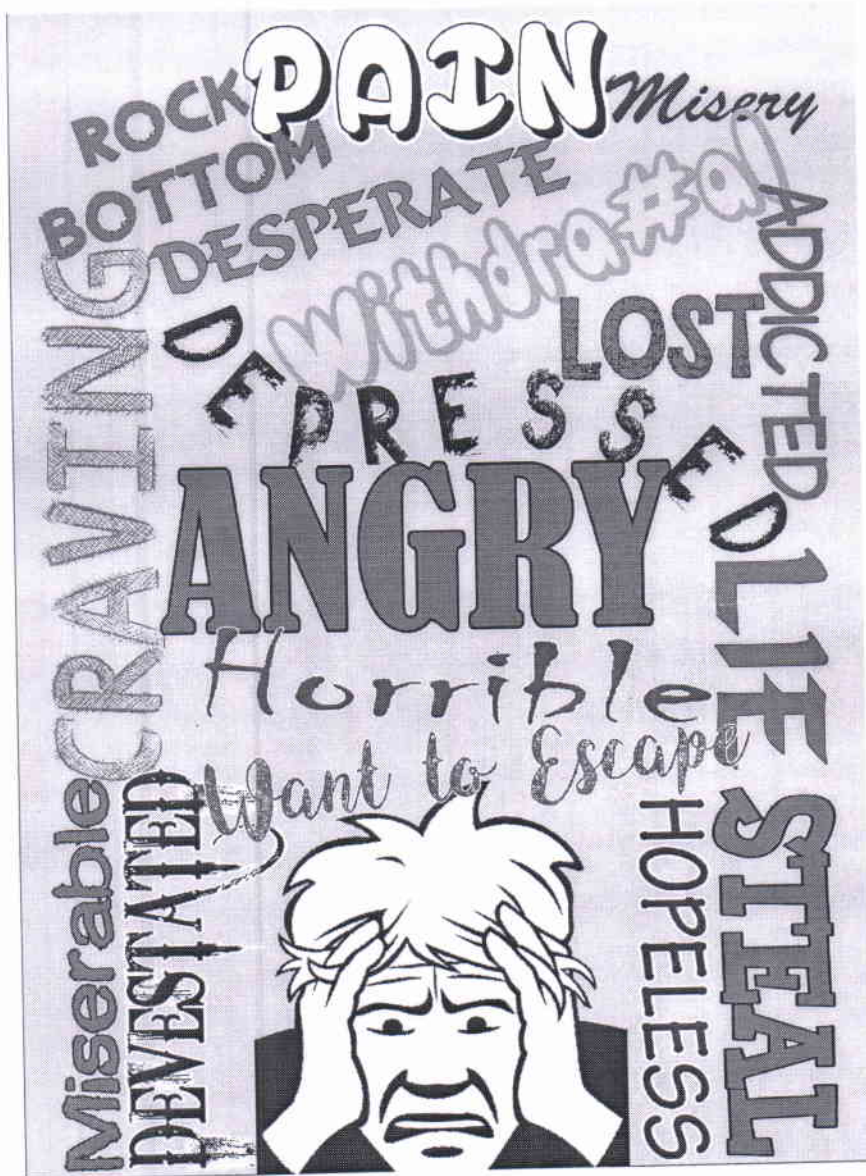
Let us know the ill effects of drugs.

CONSEQUENCES OF USE OF DIFFERENT DRUGS:

A. Health consequences:

S. No.	Name of the Drugs and its types	consequences
1	Alcohol	Alcohol decreases the response of central nervous system, causes the liver damage and psychotic behavior. It weakens co-ordination and thinking abilities.
2	Opioids (Opium, heroin, morphine, pethidine etc.)	Use of Opioids causes constriction of pupils, reduced night vision, irregular blood pressure and heartbeat, fatigue and breathlessness.
3	Cannabis (ganja, bhang, charas)	Cannabis makes some people feel confused, sleepy, lethargic, anxious, faint and sick. It affects the memory, making it difficult to remember things.
4	Sedative hypnotics (Tranquilizers)	Larger doses of Tranquilizers cause slurred speech, memory loss, decreased interpersonal functioning, staggering gait, poor judgment etc.
5	Cocaine	It causes high blood pressure, severe mood swings and irritation. Use of cocaine can cause heart attack, heart failure, irregular heartbeat, sleeplessness and anxiety. Larger doses can lead to death.
7	Hallucinogens (LSD, peyote, magic mushrooms etc.)	Use of Hallucinogens causes irreversible brain damage, ruptured blood vessels in the brain, multiple and dramatic behavioral changes.

8	Tobacco	It causes asthma, cancer of lungs, mouth, larynx, throat, esophagus, stomach, urinary bladder, kidneys, pancreas, colon and rectum. Some of the other problems associated with the use of tobacco are coronary artery disease including angina and heart attacks.
9	Volatile solvents (Kerosene, gasoline, paint thinner etc.)	Inhaling solvents can cause intoxication which is dangerous to liver, kidneys, heart, and some of these solvents can produce peripheral neuropathy (nerve damage usually affecting the feet and legs) or progressive brain degeneration.



B. Occupational/academic consequences

The drug abuser is irregular and inefficient at his job or studies. He may become a dropout or get fired from job or remain unemployed forever. The drug abuser tends to get into trouble by repeatedly impaired relationships with the colleagues, seniors and juniors.

C. Consequences for the family

Relationships get strained since the abuser not only fails to contribute meaningfully to the household but also further drains its resources. Ultimately, affecting marital life and psychological development of children.

D. Social Consequences

The addict ignores the society and society ignores him and gradually there is wide rift between him and the society.

E. Legal and Criminal Consequences

There are many ways in which the drug abuser can get into legal problems. Some of them are drunken driving, drunken brawls, street fights and other public nuisance, accidents while intoxicated, using illicit drugs, getting involved with drug rackets or peddling etc. So he leads a life in constant fear and uncertainty.

THE NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES ACT 1985

According to THE NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES ACT 1985, it is illegal for a person to produce/manufacture/cultivate, possess, sell, purchase, transport, store, and/or consume any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance.

The punishments under this law is imprisonment of 20 years and fine up to ₹2 lakh, depending upon the quantity of the drugs contravened

OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

Offence: Cultivation of opium, cannabis or coca plants without license

Sections: Opium – 18 (c), Cannabis -20, Coca-16

Penalty: Rigorous imprisonment- up to 10 years + Fine up to Rs. 1 Lakh

Offence: Embezzlement of opium by licensed farmer

Sections: 19

Penalty: Rigorous imprisonment- 10 to 20 years +Fine up to Rs. 1 to 2 Lakhs

(Regardless of quantity)

Offence: Production, manufacture, possession, sale, purchase, transport, import-export (Inter-state), use of drugs

Sections: Opium-18, Prepared opium-17, Cannabis-20, Manufactured drugs or their preparations-21

Penalty: Small quantity-Rigorous imprisonment up to 6 month or fine up to Rs. 10,000 or both.

More than small quantity but less than commercial quantity- Rigorous Imprisonment up to 10 years+ fine up to Rs. 1 Lakh

Commercial quantity- Rigorous imprisonment- 10 to 20 years+ fine RS. 1 to 2 Lakhs.

Offence: Import, export or transshipment of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

Section: 23

Penalty: Same as above

Offence: External dealing in NDPS-ie engaging in or controlling trade whereby drugs are obtained from outside India and supplied to a person outside India.

Section: 24

Penalty: Rigorous Imprisonment-10 to 20 years+ Fine of Rs. 1 to 2 Lakhs (Regardless of quantity)

Offence: Knowingly allowing one's premises to be used for committing an offence.

Sections: Same as for the offence

Penalty:

Offence: Violations pertaining to controlled substances (Precursors)

Section: 25A

Penalty: Rigorous Imprisonment up to 10 years + fine Rs. 1 to 2 lakhs .

Offence: Financing traffic and harboring offenders

Section: 27A

Penalty: Rigorous Imprisonment 10 to 20 years + fine Rs. 1 to 2 lakhs.

Offence: Attempts, abetment and criminal conspiracy

Section: Attempts-28, Abetment and criminal Conspiracy-29

Penalty: Same as for the offence

Offence: Preparation to commit an offence

Section: 30

Penalty: Half the punishment for the offence

Offence: Repeat offence

Section: 31, Death 31A

Penalty: One and half times the punishment for the offence. Death penalty in some cases.

Offence: Consumption of drugs

Section: 27, Immunity-64

Penalty: Cocaine, morphine, heroin- Rigorous Imprisonment up to 1 year or fine up to Rs. 20,000 or both

Other drugs- Imprisonment up to 6 months to fine up to Rs. 10,000 or both

Addicts volunteering for treatment enjoy immunity from prosecution

Offence: Punishment for violations not elsewhere specified

Section: 32

Penalty: Imprisonment up to six months or fine or both

Awareness should be made regarding drug addiction with posters, banners, placards, rallies, skits, nukkar natak, debates etc. As student you can make society happy, healthy and free of drugs by spreading awareness about its ill effects

Exercise

1. What are the social consequences of use of drug?
2. In what sense tobacco is a killer?
3. What physical damage occurs with the use to cocaine?
4. What are volatile solvents? How are they harmful when used as drugs?
5. How does drug addiction affect ones occupational / academic life ?
6. What are social consequences of drug addiction?
7. How does a drugs abuser get in to legal problems?
8. Which government department is responsible for prevention of drugs?
9. What is Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Act 1985?
10. Which is penalty for the cultivation of drugs' plants with license?
11. Which section and what penalty is enforced for embezzlement of opium by licensed farmer?
12. Is consumption of drugs is an offence, if yes, what penalty is suggested for it under law?
