

## HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS AT ERADICATING ILLICIT DRUG TRADE AND ABUSE

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### ABSTRACT

Drug is known to be any substance in pharmaceutical product that is used to modify or explore physiological system or pathological states for the recipient. As Goodman & Gilman (1980) observed, drug is any natural or synthetic substance which (when taken into living body) affects its functions or structure and is used in the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of a disease in relief of discomfort. Drug referred to as narcotic psychoactive drugs are habit forming stimulant (such as alcohol, cannabis, nicotine, or a derivative of cocoa or poppy) which produces a state of arousal, capable of inducing sleep, contentment, stupor and insensibility in the system. Armin (1984) expressed that, continued or excessive use (called drug abuse or substance abuse) of such substances causes addiction or dependence. However, over the years, the continuous use of these drugs had increased its rate of trafficking to an alarming proportion worldwide; which has become a global headache within the international community. This paper made use of secondary sources in discussing the historical perspective of international community's efforts at eradicating the illicit drug trade and made suggestions on how to prevent its abuse.

**Keywords:** Substance, Addiction, Eradicating.