

CURBING THE MENACE OF DRUG USE AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The initiation to drug and alcohol abuse early in life has exposed adolescents to voluntary drug consumption, smoking, drinking and substance abuse which have become a threat to our Nation. This paper focused on curbing the menace of drug use among students. It discussed some drugs that are commonly abused by the adolescents under the slangs or common name, route of administration and possible effects in terms of physical, psychological, social and emotional. The health implications of adolescents' drug behaviour were also explored. The paper concluded that there should be more serious concern, and worried that more students in our secondary schools are fast joining the drug train, drinking and smoking away their future for the pleasure of getting high, hence, poses a threat to the health and safety of the adolescents, family, their community and the country. Recommended among others is that Ministry of Education and Culture in-collaboration with National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) should improve arrangements for sensitizing particularly students on the adverse effects of drugs and alcohol abuse. Also, teachers should be provided with skills on how to handle students with behavioural problems.

Keyword: Drug abuse, students, school, family.