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## CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF DRUG USE AND ABUSE AMONG YOUTH IN RURAL COMMUNITIES OF KONDUGA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF BORNO STATE

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### Abstract

*This study examines the factors motivating youths to engage in drug abuse in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area of Borno State. This study also identified the consequences of drug on human health it also gives some strategies and recommendation as the best path to tackle the challenges of drug abuse in our society. This paper reviewed several related literatures and theoretical perspective to understand the root causes that motivating the youths to drug abuse in our community, despite government effort to curb the menace to the minimum level. Substance abuse has been pandemic confronting Nigeria. The phenomenon of drug abuse has tremendously increased in recent years. It is fact that drug abuse and it related antisocial behavior has consumes the entire population of society to the extent that it requires collective to address the situation, hence the youth are the future leader. A group discussion (FGD) was used to generate data required from the respondent (**Drug Abuse**). A statistical method of simple frequency distribution and percentages were applied to distinguish the respondent's responses on the phenomena under study. The study findings revealed that peer-groups, joblessness, frustration, poverty, broken home, poor socialization, access, to the drugs e.t.c are the factors motivating the youths' minds to involve in drug abuse.*

**Keywords:** Drug use, Drug Abuse, Youth, Communities and Konduga

### 1. Introduction

A drug can be defined as any chemical solid liquid or an amorphous substance derived from plants, animals, or mineral resources which applied externally to cause some desirable effects. Drug abuse been a pandemic, to all concern stake holders, government, researchers and society as a whole it has greatly affected the social, economic and political progress and development of Nigeria. The substance addiction continues to be principal source of establishing anti-social behavior associated with health hazards among youth in society. Besides, the dangers or consequences associated with it, youth consciously taking the drugs their detriment (mamman – H et al, 2015).

Drug abuse is rapidly growing and effecting almost every country in the world. The unprecedented increased in drug abuse has created a serious problems ranging from formation of illegal group to cause havoc, increase in violence, cultism and creation of related group vulnerable of committing crime and undermining the program and development of society. The majority of the youth

population nowadays abusing substance abusers disorderly to extent of compromising their health status and future as well. (Johnson, O Malley, and Bachman, 2003). A vast population of youths abusing drugs for pleasure and continues intake of the substance could lead to undesirable consequences, such as organs damage, complicated illness, premature death, traffic accident, family breakdown etc. (Bolaji, K, 2018) Similarly, Eric, P (2017) opined that a community mostly made up youth who are strength has been invested and waste in the activity of abusing drugs. The implication of substance addiction are myriad and range from large numbers of untimely death such as suicide, road accident, violence, crime, laziness and subsequent improvement. In view of that homes are broken, dreams, are shattered and potential manpower is wasted as drug abusers struggle to sustain their habits. They therefore, become burden to themselves, families, the society and the state at large (Eric P. 2017).

Drug abuse is among the social problems that are affecting the Nigeria economy which in turn is affecting

it is development. The abuse of substances is so pervasive to the extent that it become a serious development challenge and continued to undermine the individual efforts and render them meaningless (Abang, 2006: NDLEA, 2008: Magaji, A.A 2018). Other report indicates that a worker under influence of drugs abuse could affect his/her potentiality, productivity, output income, and service delivery and more likely commit antisocial behaviour and leading to dismissal (INCB, Report, 2018). In related development, Mamman, H.M et al. (2014) added that drug abuse among Nigeria youths has been a trait of a morally bankrupt, corrupt and wasted generation and loss of our societal values and ideas. The situation is now appears to be such that no one can ignore of what is happening (Adubu, 2008). Drugs abuse threaten the peaceful atmosphere of every society. (Giade, 2011: Mamman H. Et al. 2014). The alarming rate of abuse of drugs by youth in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area, has been a major concern for general public, government, parent, community and other concern stake holders to demonstrate efforts to tackle the menace of abusing substances among the youth.

The problems and danger of drug abuse and misuse are enormous, especially as it affect the health both physical and mental states of the person concerned. These include damage to health as a result of unhygienic injection practices and adulteries such as acquisition of HIV and AIDS, hepatitis, abcesses, gangrene and sleeplessness, paranoid feelings, manic depressions and schizophrenia. Drug abuse is a pandemic problem even on the increase in an alarming rate in Nigeria today. About two decades ago, incidence of drug traffic-king in Nigeria was low and abuse was minimal, but today drug has destroyed and killed many people in the society. Youth in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area, not left out in this act. In view of the, the research is embarked on to highlighting the ills of drug abuse .Over the years, it has been observed that youth in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area, they are in drug addiction or the other as well as being involved in drugs abuse. This research is therefore designed to view immediate causes and health implication of drug abuse among youth in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area.

The main objective of this study is to assess the cause and consequences of drug use and abuse among the youth in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area. While the specific objective include:-

- i. To identify the factors motivating youths into substance addiction in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area.
- ii. To determine the implications of substance abuse on youth in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area.
- iii. To suggest the best way forward to minimize the menace of drugs abuse among youths.
- iv. To make known the socio-economic forces responsible for drug abuse among the youth in Rural Communities of Konduga.

The importance of this study is to provide resource materials for many that want to have deeper knowledge about the cause, effect and control of drug abuse. This research work will encourage organization like NAFDAC, NDLEA, health organizations like W.H.O and government Organization to establish drug rehabilitation center to help victims of drug abuse. More so, the significance of this study is to outline its health implication among the youths which will be centered on the following:-

- i. To identify the cause of drug abuse among the youth in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area
- ii. To reduce the incidence of rape among the youths in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area.
- iii. To alert the government on how to control the abuse of drugs since the short disastrous in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area.

The scope of this study is assess the cause and consequences of drugs used and abuse among the youth. The study was conducted in Rural Communities of Konduga Konduga Local Government Area. The limitation of the study is faced with the problem of time and finance, which area the common problems usually encountered by researchers. Consequently the research could not administered questioners to a large number of drug abusers. Another limiting factors was the lack of

cooperation from some stubborn drug abusers who do not want to give factual answer to the questions this made the work more difficult and stressful for the researcher and some youths were not able to read the questionnaires and write down the answer.

## 2. Literature Review

Concept of literatures review on theories of drug and addiction. It will focus on the causes of drugs addiction and abuse among youths in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area. Literature on drug addiction is today very vast and theoretical orientations in the literature is extremely diverse and sometimes conflicting. The majority of the work focuses mainly on how individuals get initiated in drug abuse. Review of literature on the addictive personality trait theories.

This is exemplified in the work of term graft (1970) Benord and Ritch (1969) and Blum (1971) they argued that addicts are people with manifest severe personality problems, which predisposes then to drug taking behavior and consequent addiction. These problems are identified clinically include low frustration tolerance, feeling or isolation, low self-esteem with grandiose behavior and sex role confusion. These (for example, wills 1069) postulated that poor educational attainment poverty, inadequate home background, and influence, belonging to large families and low socio-economic scale, expose individuals to involvement with drugs. This types of approach goes from there to correlates drugs addition with membership of emotionally inadequate unstable disorganized, broken homes or an aggregate of some of these variable. The thesis is that broken homes produce children who are more likely to get involved with drugs.

Any family which fails in its normal primary function of giving status, providing for biological maintenance, providing for adequate socialization and hence for the balance emotional development of its members is disorganized and likely to produce individuals who are disturbed and may be susceptible to drug abuse (Seldin 1972). A third theoretical approach is sociological in nature and focus on social associational patterns of individuals as sources of initiation into drug abuse. The most popular one of this Edward Sutherlands theory of differential association which holds that deviant behavior

is learned in the process of every day interaction within intimate group's contexts. The etiology of drug abuse is seen to be located within intimate group processes.

According to Clinard (1973), writing in the tradition of differential association the use of drug is a group setting. Addiction is learned like any other behavior's is learned, primarily from association with others who are addicts. It therefore appears from the point of view of this theory that an over balance of exposure to a group culture of which drug taking forms an essential part is the factors which initiate young into drug addiction.

### Causes of Drug Abuse among Youth

Drug abuse is rapidly becoming a attracted business among youth in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area as they have been busy always making the drug business in the broad daylight at almost all the area of Konduga Local Government. However, besides, the government efforts to curb the problems of drug abuse yet the disturbing challenge are the uncontrollable commitment of the youths towards abusing drugs. Unfortunately, the youths are either underrates the consequences of the drug abuse or unaware of the dangers involved in drug abuse.

There are a lot of factors that cause drug abuse among the youth

**Peer group:** - this one of the common causes of drug addiction and abuse on the effected youth. Peer group is group of people of the same age or social status (Homby, 2000).

**Family:** - the parental background of a child can expose a child to all sorts of evil including drug abuse. This could be due to family problems like broken homes, polygamous family, poverty, culture influence on children, having a father who is a drug addict etc. if a child has father who is a drug addict, likely that the child will become a drug addict, like father like son.

**Nature of the people's job:** - there are so many job that require complete alertness, for instance a members of armed forces who is expected to be alert throughout the night, a student who has to read overnight to prepare for examination, lecturer notes or even a business executives whose brain has to active in making solace in drugs.

**The phenomenon of unemployment:** - this is a serious issue in our society our secondary schools and tertiary

institution of leaning turn out several products every year. While there are no corresponding job opportunities?

**Lack of proper home training:-** individual who are not properly brought end of becoming drug abusers, for example children brought up in a have where one or both parent and guardian are drug abusers, eventually grow with the mind that indiscriminate use of drug is part life and may not find anything wrong with it.

**Ready Availability of Drug:-** they can never be drug abusers, if the drug to be used is not available. Because of our habit of get rich quicker syndromes of the society. There is always a ready market where dug are gotten. These market operated covertly or overtly and so far there has not been muck success in curtailing the activities of the people concerned perpetrating this deadly business by the authorities concerned.

**Emotional well-being:-** Drug abuse can provide pleasurable emotion and sense of improvement in how one feels. Some young people may experience physical pain, depression, anxiety, and stress related disorder, and they may turn to narcotics as a means of finding relief.

**Environmental VS. Biological risk factors:-** environmental factors play a significant role in several risk factors for drug abuse. External influences and biological traits make drug abuse more likely to occur in individuals predisposed to it. Understanding ones genetic traits at an early stage of life can help prevent a genetic predisposition to drug addiction enabling wise decision that steer clear of drug abuse (Chris Fay, 2002: Dalal 2020).

**Experience of trauma:-** it has been demonstrated that youth who have experienced trauma such as Violence, or abuse are more likely to engage in drug abuse and addiction in the future it is crucial for parents and other adult to understand how trauma can impact a child and seek appropriate support (Drug free, 2022: Turn-Bridge, 2021).

**Personal Characteristic:-** the development of externalizing disorders during childhood such as attention-deficit challenges or behavioral issues like sensation-seeking tendencies, as well as low education levels can increase the risk of drug abuse (Degenhardt- ct al., 2010: Patel et, ai 2016).

The section that follows offers an overview of sustainable approaches for addressing housing challenges in Nigeria as well as other developing countries. Five major elements of affordable homes were identified based on the findings of the studied literature. They consist of economic, social, institutional, ecological, and technical elements.

### **Economic Approaches to Affordable Housing:**

Affordable homes in Nigeria have apparently been trampled by hyperinflation because of the exorbitant interest cost, and costly construction material costs. These difficulties have made homes even more expensive for people. However, the existence of a robust finance market as an economic plan of affordable housing may solve the challenges of high loan rates, inflation rates, and high construction material costs (Baumann 2003). Because of the market system's instability, entrepreneurs and developers have lost interest, leaving only a handful of entrepreneurs in the housing market. As a result, market stabilization will boost the confidence of private investors and developers. With a sustainable economy, more private investors and developers are likely to participate. This will aid in the regulation of price inflation along with commodity prices. Ultimately, a secure economic market will undoubtedly encourage the people and provide them with more opportunities for homes.

Moreover, studies have observed that offering incentives to investors and developers (loans, tax breaks, etc.) is one of the economic methods of affordable homes that, if embraced by stakeholders, may assist in addressing the difficulty and as a result, provide people better access to housing. Likewise, advantages in the form of architectural flexibility can go a long way toward motivating investors and developers, resulting in reduced home costs for the people. Furthermore, the low financial standing of average workers in Nigeria has been noted as a part of the major reasons why housing for the people is in short supply (Blake, 2020). Existing housing unit prices in Nigeria are out of reach for most people due to their weak financial situation. Nevertheless, providing most households with house benefits in the form of low-interest loans and mortgages is another economic method for affordable housing.



Likewise, studies have stated that the economic objective of affordable homes is to give benefits to households in the context of lower transportation and other non-housing expenditures. Ultimately, providing economic incentives to most families will buffer the low-economic income position, culminating in improved housing for the people (Blake 2020).

**Social Approaches to Affordable Housing:** Earnings or income disparity has often been cited as a major global impediment to most people's access to affordable housing. Because of their lower position financially, a considerable number of Nigerians have been recorded to be displaced in terms of housing. Because of their poor financial standing, they are largely restricted to metropolitan area fringes where infrastructural amenities are lacking, making their dwelling circumstances more analogous to slums. Likewise, poor socioeconomic position fosters an atmosphere in which income segregation thrives. According to Budlender & Meintjes (2021) one of the social strategies of affordable housing is to lower earnings inequality through promoting social investment, inclusiveness, and cohesiveness. Social cohesiveness fosters a feeling of belonging, social unity, and emphasizes the importance of interaction within communities and families. Similarly, social investment fosters cooperation and collaboration across communities, resulting in the actualization of families' safety and belongingness. Furthermore, social equality results in unfettered access to resources for homes and families, resulting in efficient engagement and participation of families in economical, governmental, and cultural activities in the neighbourhood (Budlender & Meintjes 2021).

Moreover, poor preservation ethics and neglected control of public infrastructure have been identified as a barrier restricting most people's access to decent housing globally. In many African nations including Nigeria, poor upkeep and abandonment of public buildings have become normal practices. Poor maintenance has resulted in a rise in ageing and defective infrastructures worldwide. Unfortunately, these outdated and weak infrastructures are where most typical Nigerians live. However, arguments have been raised on how to make these outdated and weak infrastructures more appropriate

and useful. To that purpose, studies have observed that adapting ageing infrastructure to affordable standards is less expensive and more helpful than outright removal. According to the (Creamer 2022), renovating ageing infrastructures, a component of the social approaches of affordable housing, retains the architectural features of the facilities, creates more jobs, and achieves a nearly 80% savings in energy consumption, thereby improving the housing conditions for people.

Furthermore, poor infrastructure development supply has been noted as a concern for housing in the majority of African nations, most African countries have been classified as developing states and they are home to the majority of impoverished people in the world hence infrastructure development is scarce however as noted by several studies, difficulties of insufficient supply of infrastructure may be solved by the practice of high-density housing construction and the construction of different affordable housing categories which are social strategies of affordable housing. Similarly, by implementing high density housing construction as well as diversity of dwelling types, the people will benefit from closeness to accessible infrastructure while spending less on non-housing expenditures this method also leads to mixed-use development (Dissel & Ngubeni 2003).

### **Environmental Approaches to Affordable:**

Drugs use close to 40% of global energy consumption, making them the largest user of energy. The industry of construction accounts for almost one-third of global GHG pollution. This has caused significant suffering both inside and outside the sector. Consequently, the planet finds itself amid this pain and often suffers much more because of the condition of this pollution (Dissel & Ngubeni 2003). Likewise, the ecological approach of affordable homes that are sustainable aims to achieve energy preservation in houses by encouraging and promoting the adoption of energy-efficient lighting mechanisms, solar heating innovations, energy-efficient heating systems, air conditioning and ventilation systems, the installation of water-efficient appliances, rainwater collection innovations, and general enhancements to residential floors or walls. These techniques will undoubtedly increase housing quality. Likewise, studies

have claimed that buildings that use the measures can reduce energy usage by up to 80%. This will very probably result in greater comfort for people both indoors and outside (Department of Housing 2004e).

Furthermore, despite the richness of local resources in Nigeria and most African nations, the non-utilization of local resources has been identified as among the factors why homes are in short supply for people. Imported building materials are clearly out of reach for many people. The promotion and utilization of local resources, on the other hand, appear as a component of the ecological approaches to affordable homes. Through its environmental approach, affordable housing emphasizes the need of promoting the use of indigenous materials in the form of tax breaks and incentives to businesses interested in developing housing. Likewise, land for house construction has been identified as one of the barriers to housing in Nigeria. According to Huchzermeyer (2003), available lands are being sold at rates that are out of reach for people. Furthermore, the exorbitant cost of land is a key impediment to the construction of affordable housing. However, ineffective land use planning may be to blame for this growth. Another environmental approach to affordable dwellings is the effective usage and management of land.

Additionally, natural disasters and a high rate of internally displaced persons have been recognized as contributing factors to people's relocation from their homes in Nigeria. Because of the geography of their homes, many Nigerians have been victims of many environmental calamities. This dreadful development may be avoided. One of the various environmental methods of affordable homes is to combat catastrophe situations through the performance of ecological and geographical evaluations prior to the start of real building. The evaluations identify immediate and prospective hazards and take efforts to reduce their incidence and impact. Assessment cost, in addition to the project cost, may appear to be considerable, but the underlying advantage that the evaluation portends justifies the effort (Jenkins 2019).

### **Effect of Drug Abuse**

The effect of drug abuse on youth is going to be viewed from three aspect. There are;

1. Social aspect
2. Financial aspect
3. Health aspect
  - i. Social aspect: - the hard drug makes the taker hyperactive at the point of taking this drug. Tis makers the taker to behave abnormally, contribute to immoralities such as armed robbery, sexually transmitted disease and many other societal vices.
  - ii. Financial effect: - the person addicted to drugs tends to spends to spend more money on the purchase of their drugs. This can make the taker to become bankrupt or start searching for money by all means.
  - iii. Health effect: - it makes the taker become unstable. The taker tends to go mad and start behaving abnormally. It infiltrates a lot of diseases into the system of the taker and can eventually lead to his death.

### **Control of Drug Abuse and Misuse**

The problems and dangers of drug abuse and misuse are enormous and ever increasing just like HIV and AIDS to the extent that if one is not infected then he must be on deck to find measure of controlling this problem such measures include the following

Proper up-bringing of children:- parents can ensure tis by taking interest in their children's activities, their peer group and by living an exemplary live in that they should not engage themselves in any form drug takings and parent mast not sent their children to buy such things like cigarettes

Health education agencies, NDLEA, NGOS, and all the stakeholders can undertake health education and public enlightenment campaigns of the danger of drug abuse and misuse.

Enforcing stiffer penalties to drug offenders:- more agencies like the national drug law enforcement agency should come up in order to fight the war against consumption or even possession of drugs like the cannabis, (wee wee), heroine etc.

Provision of employment opportunities to the people: - this is another essential solution to the control of drug abuse and misuse. In addition, Muslim Right concern muric (2018) reported that the jobless Almajiris are also abusing drugs, and thereby use them by drugs couriers to sell the illicit drugs at their own peril. More than 50 jobless youths (Almajiris) were arrested by NDLEA in 2018, and confirmed to have been in the substance selling business activities,

Lack of technical know-how, misunderstanding of technological mechanisms for affordable dwellings, doubts about technology performances, and the constantly evolving aspects of technology have all been identified as obstacles to the drugs of affordable dwellings in African countries. Likewise, improving local materials to sustainable standards necessitates the use of technology. A significant technical approach to affordable drugs emphasizes the need to foster technology innovation as a path forward. This will raise the necessary awareness. Additionally, another affordable drugs technology approach promotes the use of recyclable, reusable, and renewable materials. The ecosystem will be further preserved, and disasters will be better controlled as a result (Rust 2021).

Similarly, the rate at which technology advances is a boon to past abilities. As a result, developers invest more money in hiring and bringing in professionals to keep up with technological advances. As a result of the expense of the final product, drugs has further hampered many Nigerians. Many of these issues, though, may be solved through the adoption, promotion, and creation of regional and indigenous technological innovations, which is a technical strategy for affordable drugs (Huchzermeyer 2005). The lack of trained labour may be solved while immediate employment can also be created by fostering the creation and expansion of indigenous technologies. In addition, the large sums spent on employing and bringing in specialists will be saved. As a result, residential drugs prices will be dramatically decreased, giving many people greater access to drugs.

This social sciences perspective recognizes equilibrium in the social system. However, where the component parts fail to function efficiently, social disequilibrium sets in.

Within the context of this study, the awaiting trial problem caused by rigidity of the penal code, holding charges, delay in the delivery of justice is responsible for the disequilibrium occurring in the system. Therefore, the inability of the Nigerian federal government to sustainable development to its citizens through institutions such as Federal works and Housing to provide sustainable development of which attracted Nigerians.

### **3. Methodology**

Research methodology is the systematic, researching and analyzing of data about a problem. The issues of research method arises in scientific definition when researchers are to be conducted in such field.

#### **Research Design**

Research design consist of the plan for research work, which can be directly or indirectly on the researcher towards solving the research problems. Therefore, the researcher organized structure questions which can be distributed to the respondents to answer or completed when answered, the response will be analyzed in the next chapter.

#### **Study Area**

This research study was carried on sample of drug users, and the target population of the study is "Conducted in Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area.

#### **Population of the Study**

Population is the total number of people lining in a geographical area or an entire element in a research study area. For the purpose of the study, the targeted population of this study was the entire youths of Rural Communities of Konduga Local Government Area.

#### **Sources of Data Collection**

Method and Lawrence, it refers to the range of approach used in the research to gather data, which are to be used as a basic for inferences and interpretation for explanation and prediction. Data are facts to be collected the research undertaking, the researcher used two methods of gathering data, which are primary data and secondary data.

**Primary Data.**

These are data collected from the original source for a certain purpose by a researcher. They are first hand facts collected by researchers the purpose of effective research undertaking.

Under primary source, the researchers used the average of being one of them as an indigene of the study area and staff working under the Konduga Local Government Area, to interview and observe matters regarding causes and consequences of drug use and abuse among youth in Rural Communities of Konduga local government area.

**Secondary Data**

These type of data on other hand are the information collected second hand through a desk research. Data collected from any other source other than original source are referred to as secondary data. The source of data collection is opportunity of the researchers to lay hand on the records and chants of the Local Government and extract information for purpose of their research work and the availability of relevant text books, magazines, newspapers and pamphlets conceiving the subject of the research topic i.e cause and consequences of drug use and abuse among youth in the local government administration were consulted.

**Sample Size and Sampling Techniques**

For this project, three methods of sampling were employed for the purpose of vindicating drug abuse. They are stratified sampling, systematic sampling and accidental sampling. A stratified sampling is employed in this research work to administer questionnaire to psychiatric staff in the Konduga Local Government Area. However, a systematic sampling is also used here in this project to interview patients or drug addicts. This is to be done through using the psychiatric patient roster list. Finally, an accidental sampling is also employed to interview a number of drug users on the street and lack of their permanent address of abode. Hence, twenty to twenty five abuses were to be interviewed for the purpose of this research work.

**Instrument of Data Collection**

With regard to this research, four major techniques of data collection were utilized in the cause of the field work.

These are: - The record survey, interview method, questionnaire method, and participant observations.

**Survey Record**

A record survey was carried out in this research. It constituted as one of the major techniques utilized in the cause of this study. Thus efforts were made to get statistical records on the nature and dimension drug abuse activities from psychiatric office record.

**Interview Method**

In any research work, interview method constitutes another major source of obtaining information. A method of collection that involves two or more people exchanging information through a series of questions and answers.

**Questionnaire Method**

The questionnaire techniques also provide another useful source of data generation for this research study. The questionnaire is framed in such a way that information were received on the variables to be measured.

**Observation Method**

This was the researcher's simplest method of finding the data. He saw and heard about the town and the behaviors of the general public with the aid of this method as well as the opportunity of being one of the researchers and indigene of the town who has done a lot for masses as well as to know what is the cause and consequences of drug use and abuse among youths and how to provide a lasting solution to that problem.

**Method of Data Analyses**

Data collected here are analyzed using descriptive statistics such as simple percentage method. This method shows views, opinions, attitude or reactions of respondent in the category the use of past literature records added value and relevance to analyzed primary data. The analysis covers all the questionnaire administered, properly filled and returned.

**4. Results and Discussion**

A total of thirty (30) copies of questionnaire were administered, of this twenty (20) were properly completed



and return, while ten (10) copies not returned. The twenty (20) copies present 100% of the total copies administered.

**Table 1: Age Distribution of the Respondents**

Age group	Number	Percentage
15 – 20	19	31.1%
21 – 25	14	23.0%
26 – 30	9	27.9%
31 – 35	9	14.8%
36 – 40	2	3.3
Total	61	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025.

The distribution of drug abusers by age groups revealed that the younger age are more prone to the risk of drug abuse. More than one-third of respondents fall under the age group 15 – 20 years. Likewise, half of the drug abusers are of the age group 20 – 30 year, while the number gradually decreases afterwards.

**Table 2: Marital Status of the Respondents**

Age group	Number	Percentage
Married	22	36.1
Unmarried	37	60.6
Divorced	2	3.3
Total	61	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025.

As per the information obtained from the respondents, marital status has been categorized in married, unmarried and divorced. Every six drug abuser out of ten was unmarried and only two respondents were divorced at the time of interview.

**Table 3: Gender – wise Distribution of the Respondents**

Gender	Number	Percentage
Male	56	91.8
Female	5	8.2
Total	61	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025.

Although a few number of females have been under detention due to drug abuse, it cannot be denied that women are free from the abuse of drugs. The table below shows that nearly ten percent of total respondent are females.

When we look at the data on age by gender of the respondents, males out number females at every age group. In total, one in every ten respondents is female. Data also depict that lower the age, higher the propensity for women to be vulnerable to drug abuse. This generally, applies to males as well as revealed by above table.

**Table 4: Educational Status of the Respondents**

Educational Qualification	Number	Percentage
Basic Level	33	54.1
Secondary Level	26	42.6
Higher Level	2	3.3
Total	61	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025.

Education status of the respondents shows that the higher proportion remains as that of the basic level of education (54.1%). The percentage of the respondents having the secondary level of education is 42.6% among the

respondents, it is observed that less than five percent of the drug abusers have an educational qualification higher than plus two level.

**Table 5: Occupational Status of the Respondents**

Occupational Status	Number	Percentage
Business	4	6.6
Farmers	5	8.2
Driver	7	11.5
Helper (Bus)	8	13.1
Wage Labourers	7	11.6
Illegal Drug Supplier	5	8.2
Other	5	8.2
No Occupation	20	32.7
Total	61	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025.

The occupational status of the respondents varied from business small scale shops to illegal drug supplies to other drug abusers as well as in the market. One – fourth of the respondents comprise of bus drivers and helpers who take drug illicitly. However, nearly one-third have no jobs and

currently unemployed. Likewise, the respondents with some other occupational groups include wage labourers (11.5%) Farmers (8.2%), business (6.6%). It is noteworthy that same (8.2%) of the respondents stated that they have been involved in illicit drug supply.

**Table 6: Drug Abusers Response as To How They Get Supply of Drugs They Are Taking**

How to you get supply	Number	Percentage
Dealers	18	60
Medicine Store	9	30
Through friend	3	10
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025.

From the data above, i.e the one obtained from the drug abusers, we have seen that majority of sample (60%) of them get supplies of the drug they are taking through dealers, while (30%) of them get supplied through medicine stores. Since the majority of our sample get

supply of their drugs through dealers, this shows that the condition of anomie or corruption of our society is in. the law is too weak, the police are not efficient to detect the dealers and arrest them. As a result of this, it leads to continues getting supply of the drugs.

**Table 7: Influencing Factors of Drug Use**

Factor Influencing	Number	Percentage
Family	27	44.3
Friend	31	50.8
Community	25	40.9
Total	61	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025.

Influencing factors of drug abuse among the respondents have been categorized into Family, Friends and Community. The respondents who have been influenced

to use drugs by their friends comprised (50.8) percent. The second hierarchy of the factors that influenced the respondents for using drugs is their own family (44.3%)

and the third factor is their community (40.9%) as multiple responses have been supplied by respondents, the total of cells exceed the total which is obvious.

**Table 8: Family Factors of Drug Use**

Influencing Factor	Number	Percentage
Parental control of everything	5	18.5
Parental conflict	11	40.7
Mother left away	5	18.5
Father Beating	3	11.1
Family member also use drug	3	11.1
Total	27	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025.

Among those who reported the causes of drug abuse as the familial factors, the majority pointed towards the conflict of their parents that lead them to the use of drugs.

Nearly one in every five stated that unnecessary and unusual control of their parents caused them to be indulged into the drug abuse.

**Table 9: Consequences on Physiological Health**

Physiological Consequences Of Drugs	Number	Percentage
Drowsiness	21	34.4
Loss of appetite	18	29.5
Blurred Vision	15	24.6
Fatigue	27	44.3
Low blood pressure	9	14.7
No any symptoms	18	29.5
Total	61	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025.

The consequences of drug use among the respondents here have been include along with the withdrawal symptoms of drugs as well. The physiological consequences include fatigue among the respondents (43.3%) followed by drowsiness (34.4%) loss of appetite (29.5%), blurred vision (24.6%). However, almost three out of ten reported that they did not experience any physiological symptoms.

## 5. Summary, conclusions, and recommendations

The summary of the study, conclusions, and recommendations are presented, deal with the background of the study which is known as the causes or consequences of drug used and abuse among the youths. Using Rural Communities of Konduga local government area as a case study. It further went to identify the statement of the problem.

The general and specific objectives were also started alongside the research question to guide the objectives, the important of the study was also started and scope of the study was also addressed and the literature that are relevant to the topic of discussion were review accordingly. Methodology for the study was carried out so as to have adequate method of carrying out research work, contained the presentation of data and analysis where the data gathered were presented in tabular form with simple percentage.

Based on the theoretical opinions used in the work and the empirical findings of the study, it is obvious to conclude that the abuse of the drug and other substances constitute a great problem affecting the person and the community at large. The problem is prevalent among the youths, and Rural Communities of Konduga local government area youths are also not exception of the phenomena (field survey 2023). This paper revealed that the bulk of the

youths abusing the substances interviewed were ignorant of hazards associated with drug abuse. Beside the accessible drug such as Marijuana (Wee Wee) Exzol, Tramol, Cocaine, Alcohol and related drugs. The youths and other people outside the drugs abused subculture also abusing locally manufacture or herbal mixture drug including Matala, Kum, Janki, Coco extra, bitter cola among others. All abuse with a view to give them and alter their mood for pleasure (field Survey 2023). The study also show that majority of those interviewed were engage in doing abuse activities as a result of family broken down, frustration and joblessness, Poverty, Environmental factor, poor parental supervision, poor group influence, Boko haram insurgency factor, Curiosity and experimentation as well as access to the drugs among others are the principal factor motivating the addicts.

Based on the analysis and the findings of the study, the following recommendation were made so as to tackle the phenomena of drug addiction in Rural Communities of Konduga local government area of Borno State Nigeria.

- i. That extensive parental supervision is highly needed. As some parent have less time to coordinate and monitor the movement of their worth or have trine to interacts due to nature of their work
- ii. And or negligence therefore, active supervision of parent is highly recommended.
- iii. Sociologist, social workers and qualified medical counsellor unit should be established at all community with mandate of giving advises, suggestion and guidance to youths around regarding the effect of drugs abuse.
- iv. Parent and guidance should keep monitoring and know the caliber of friend of their children in order

to avoid peer influence that could drag the children into drug abuse.

- v. Community leaders should be given a mandate to control the proliferations of locally herbs mixture drugs consumes by both the young and adults of both sex for increasing strength and enhance sexual pleasure.
- vi. Imams and pastors have a significant role to pray in mosque and churches to discourage with their faithful followers against drug use and other form of abuses.
- vii. Government and NGOs should organize workshop, seminar or conference at regularly basis of parents and youth on the hazards of substance abuse on human health.
- viii. NDLEA in collaboration with Media houses should join hands and embark on intensive campaign against drug misuse and abate so as to have a substance abuse free community. This paper shows that majority of abusers from all selected areas in Rural Communities of Konduga local government area were ignorant of the dangers of drug abuse.
- ix. There is need to balance the socio-economic status of all classes or citizen as the findings reveals that some of that abusers felt discrimination and their involvement in the drug related activities were influenced by their poverty states and thereby frustrated and recruited themselves and distributor of marijuana (Wee Wee) etc
- x. Government at levels and well to do individuals should as matter of urgency redouble their efforts and create more jobs opportunity to our teaming jobless youths in order to minimize the unnecessary roaming of jobless youth in our streets.

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