

The Impact of Drug Abuse on Families and Society (Literature Review)

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Abstract

Drug abuse poses a significant challenge to families and society, manifesting in various detrimental effects. Within families, substance abuse can lead to emotional distress, financial strain, and a breakdown of trust and relationships. It often results in neglect or abuse of children, creating an unstable home environment that hampers the psychological and emotional development of young family members. Additionally, drug abuse can lead to domestic violence and an increase in healthcare and legal issues for the family. On a societal level, drug abuse contributes to increased healthcare costs, loss of productivity, and higher crime rates. The burden on public health systems grows as more individuals require medical treatment for addiction and related health complications. Economically, businesses suffer from decreased productivity and higher absenteeism among employees who struggle with substance abuse. Crime rates tend to escalate as individuals may engage in illegal activities to fund their addiction, which strains law enforcement and judicial systems. Social services also face increased pressure as they work to support affected families and individuals. Efforts to combat drug abuse require comprehensive strategies that include prevention, education, treatment, and rehabilitation programs. Support systems for families, improved access to mental health services, and community-based interventions are crucial to mitigating the impact of drug abuse. By addressing the root causes and providing robust support mechanisms, it is possible to alleviate the profound effects of drug abuse on both families and society.

Keywords: *Drugs, Impact, Family, Public, Substance abuse*

1. Introduction

Drug abuse has a devastating impact not only on the individuals involved, but also on families and society as a whole. Drug abuse can cause serious physical and mental damage, disrupt family relationships, and even affect social stability (Ahmadi et al., 2020). Therefore, it is important for us to understand the impact that drug abuse has on families and society and the efforts that need to be made to prevent it (Riski & Warganegara, 2022). This not only impacts the individuals involved, but also the family and society more broadly. Drug abuse can damage an individual's physical and mental health. Apart from that, drug abuse can also disrupt family relationships due to the conflict and disharmony that arise due to addiction and related negative behavior. The impact of drug abuse can also affect the social stability of society, especially if it occurs, we must be aware and understand how serious the impact of drug abuse is on families and society as a whole (Kurniawan, 2020).

Apart from that, drug abuse can also result in an individual's inability to work and contribute productively in society, resulting in poverty and economic instability in the family and community (Daulay et al., 2021). Therefore, it is necessary to carry out comprehensive and coordinated prevention efforts to overcome the problem of drug abuse, protect families, and build a society free from the negative impacts of drug abuse. Drug abuse not only impacts the individuals involved, but also damages families and society more broadly.

Drug abuse is a serious problem that occurs not only in Indonesia but also globally. The impact is devastating, not only for the individuals involved, but also for the family and society as a whole. Drugs, as substances used illegally, have damaging effects both physically and psychologically on their users. Drug use often triggers an addiction that is difficult to overcome and interferes with daily life. The problem of drug abuse is increasingly complex due to the presence of driving factors such as social pressure, economic problems and mental disorders. The Indonesian government is currently actively carrying out development in all fields, both physically, spiritually and mentally. One of the serious problems faced is drug abuse. Drug abusers are people who use drugs without rights or violate the law.

The family, as the smallest unit in society, is very vulnerable to the negative impacts of drug abuse. When a family member falls into addiction, this can cause internal conflict, heavy emotional burdens, and financial instability. This impact can be very significant and influence the development of children growing up in this type of environment. They are at high risk for trauma, behavioral problems, and difficulties in social and academic development. In several sources, the family is defined as the smallest unit in society consisting of husband and wife, or husband and wife and their children, or father and children, or mother and children. The family has an important role in society, including as a protector, socio-economic unit, and a forum where humans experience the initial socialization process. The family also has religious, affective and social functions, such as providing religious experience, love and education (Imtihanah, 2016). However, drug abuse can disrupt these functions and result in internal conflict, heavy emotional burdens, and financial instability. Children who grow up in this type of environment are at high risk for trauma, behavioral problems, and difficulties in social and academic development. Therefore, it is important to prevent and overcome drug abuse in the family so that family members can live a more stable and balanced life.

At the community level, drug abuse contributes to increasing crime rates, violence and public health problems. The economic costs of drug abuse are enormous, including the costs of health care, rehabilitation programs, and the criminal justice system. In addition, social stigma against drug users often hinders their rehabilitation and reintegration efforts into society, which in turn exacerbates existing social and economic problems. The economic costs of drug abuse are enormous and include the costs of health care, rehabilitation programs, and the criminal justice system. Health care costs arising from drug abuse can reach billions of rupiah each year, depending on the scale and nature of drug abuse. The costs of rehabilitation programs can also be substantial, as these programs require significant resources to help drug-addicted individuals overcome their problems and return to society. Social stigma against drug users often hinders their rehabilitation and reintegration efforts into society. This stigma can make individuals involved in drugs feel unrecognized and disrespected, making it difficult for them to seek help and overcome their problems. This stigma can also exacerbate existing social and economic problems, because individuals involved in drugs can become a burden on society and the economy.

2. Method

This research method uses the literature review method, an approach that aims to collect, analyze and synthesize existing knowledge on a particular topic from various published sources. (Aprianto et al., 2021). In this method, researchers do not collect primary data through observation or experimentation, but focus more on analyzing and synthesizing information that has been collected by previous researchers. This literature review method is used to understand and integrate existing knowledge about a topic, as well as to find relevant conclusions and implications.

3. Results and Discussion

Psychological Impact on the Family

Emotional pressure and stress are situations that are often experienced by family members of drug users. This can have a negative impact on their mental and physical health. In cases like this, the use of social media can provide a means of expression and support for these family members (Trulline, 2021). Through various social media platforms such as blogs, Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter, these family members can find a sense of connection and community. They can share their experiences, seek advice, and gain support from others who are going through similar situations. This can help alleviate some of the emotional pressure and stress they are facing. The emergence of expressive social media platforms such as blogs, Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter have accelerated this condition.

The prevalence of mental health disorders among partners or parents of drug users has been extensively studied, revealing a higher vulnerability to conditions such as depression, anxiety, and PTSD (Ellis, L., Hoskin, A W., & Ratnasingam, 2018). This

highlights the interconnectedness of drug abuse and mental health, as the impact of drug use extends beyond just the user themselves (Labzai et al., 2020).

Economic Impact on the Family

The misuse of drugs can have detrimental effects on various aspects of an individual's life, including their financial stability (Wormer, 1999). These effects are particularly evident in families, where drug abuse often leads to serious financial difficulties. Drug addiction can result in significant financial burdens for families. The costs associated with purchasing drugs, the loss of employment due to diminished work performance, and escalating healthcare expenses are some of the primary factors contributing to financial instability in families affected by drug abuse. Furthermore, drug addiction can also have a ripple effect on the overall economic well-being of communities and societies as a whole. The huge government expenditure, spread of AIDS, criminalization of drug users, and treatment neglect are just several of the negative consequences. The stresses can cause arguments and conflicts. This can lead to a breakdown in trust and support, further exacerbating the negative effects of drug abuse on the family dynamic. Therefore, addressing drug abuse and providing support for individuals and families affected by addiction are crucial steps in preventing the serious financial consequences associated with drug misuse. In conclusion, the misuse of drugs can have far-reaching and detrimental effects on an individual's financial stability and their family's overall well-being.

The fluctuating state of the economy has a profound impact on the overall quality of life (Harisandi & Wiyarno, 2023). This impact includes difficulties in meeting basic needs such as food, shelter, and education for children. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated these issues, leading to a decline in the quality of life for many individuals and communities (Ayu & Lahmi, 2020). The fluctuating state of the economy has a profound impact on the overall quality of life. This impact includes difficulties in meeting basic needs such as food, shelter, and education for children. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated these issues, leading to a decline in the quality of life for many individuals and communities (Ayu & Lahmi, 2020). The COVID-19 pandemic has further worsened the already strained economy, leading to a decline in the overall quality of life (Cooper et al., 2022). Moreover, the unstable economy has resulted in a decline in overall quality of life, directly impacting individuals' ability to meet basic needs such as food, housing, and education. In summary, the economic instability and the COVID-19 pandemic have significantly impacted the quality of life, leading to difficulties in meeting basic needs and exacerbating existing challenges. The economic challenges faced by countries such as Pakistan, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Palestine have had detrimental effects on their respective populations. Additionally, the economic challenges faced by countries such as Pakistan, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Palestine have had detrimental effects on their respective populations. These challenges include an increase in unemployment rates, food insecurity, poverty, and a decline in overall quality of life.

Social Impact on the Family

Family members of individuals who abuse drugs often experience social isolation due to stigma and discrimination. They tend to withdraw from social interactions in order to avoid negative judgment from society (Co & Canoy, 2022). In order to combat this issue and provide support for these families, it is important to break down the barriers of stigma and promote understanding and empathy within communities. Drug abuse can have far-reaching impacts on not only the individuals involved, but also on their families. It is crucial to create an environment where families feel safe to seek help and find support, without fear of judgment or discrimination. The concept of harm reduction has emerged as a pragmatic approach to address these challenges. It recognizes the reality that drug use will persist, and focuses on reducing the harmful consequences for individuals and communities. By incorporating harm reduction strategies and promoting access to comprehensive drug services, we can empower families affected by drug abuse and help them navigate the

challenges they face. Insights from this study can be used to better understand the coping strategies used by Filipino families in the absence of kin, and how family support plays a critical role in the recovery of individuals with drug problems.

Drug abuse causes tension and conflicts within families, which can disrupt harmony and relationships among family members. This can lead to strained communication, trust issues, and emotional distress for all involved. Furthermore, family members may also experience financial strain and legal problems as a result of their loved one's drug abuse. These challenges highlight the need for comprehensive family interventions that address the unique needs and dynamics of families affected by drug abuse. By addressing these issues, we can help improve family well-being and strengthen the support systems necessary for successful recovery. The World Health Organization report identified racial prejudice and discrimination as barriers to drug services, which can undermine effective resettlement, self-esteem, and well-being.

Impact on Society

Rising crime in several countries has been linked to various factors, including drug abuse. Studies show a strong correlation between drug abuse and increased crime rates, such as theft, violence and drug trafficking. Other factors that can influence crime include the development of entertainment media, mass media, or other social media which can trigger criminal acts among society. Apart from that, crime can also be caused by life in the era of globalization, as well as economic inequality which can influence a person's behavior in committing criminal acts. Efforts to overcome crime include increasing awareness through education, communicating and collaborating, as well as increasing educational resources to create a legally aware society (Adri et al., 2019).

The burden of drug abuse on society extends beyond the individual level and has significant economic implications. The costs associated with drug addiction, such as healthcare expenses, rehabilitation programs, and law enforcement efforts, place a heavy burden on society as a whole (Lenton, 2003). Furthermore, the negative consequences of drug abuse, such as reduced productivity, increased crime rates, and strained social services, further exacerbate the economic impact on the community. This highlights the importance of implementing harm reduction strategies, which aim to minimize the harms associated with drug use and alleviate some of these economic burden. By implementing harm reduction strategies, societies can effectively reduce the economic burden associated with drug abuse by minimizing healthcare costs, reducing the need for extensive rehabilitation programs, and redirecting resources from law enforcement towards prevention and treatment (Single, 1995). In summary, the economic burden of drug abuse on society is significant and encompasses various aspects such as healthcare costs, rehabilitation programs, and law enforcement efforts. By addressing drug abuse through comprehensive prevention, treatment, and harm reduction approaches, societies can mitigate the economic consequences and create healthier, more prosperous communities.

Drug abuse contributes to public health problems such as the spread of infectious diseases (e.g., HIV/AIDS through shared needles) and the increased need for mental health services. Drug abuse can increase the risk of spreading infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS through shared needles. Syringes used by drug users that are not sterile can be a vector for the spread of the HIV and AIDS viruses. This condition increases the risk of infection and spread of infectious diseases among drug users and the surrounding community. In addition, drug abuse can also increase the need for mental health services. Excessive drug use can cause mental health disorders such as depression, anxiety, and panic disorders. This condition requires more intensive mental health treatment and can burden the public health system.

Discussion

Research findings on drug abuse show that its impact is very complex and multidimensional, involving psychological, economic and social aspects at both individual

and collective levels. The impact of drug abuse is not only limited to the individual who uses it, but also affects the surrounding social and economic environment. The following are some examples of how drug abuse affects psychological, economic and social aspects:

a. Psychological Aspects

Psychological Aspects Drug abuse can cause changes in behavior, such as losing the meaning of life and having no value in the social environment. Individuals who use it may experience feelings of fear, helplessness, and emptiness, as well as feelings of hatred towards themselves. Drug abuse can also affect the process of achieving the meaning of life, which can be achieved in pleasant situations or in suffering (Ramadhan & Darwis, 2023).

b. Economic Aspects

Economic Aspects The costs of drug use can be a huge burden on society. The price of drugs used (expenditure) can influence drug use behavior.

c. Social Aspects

Social Aspects Drug abuse can affect social relationships, such as relationships with family and friends. The social environment with friends/neighbors/relatives can influence drug use behavior. Socio-demographic factors, such as age, gender, education, marital status, place of residence, and activities, can influence drug use behavior (Aditya & Minza, 2021).

Improving mental health support for families of drug users requires policies that focus on providing mental health services that are easily accessible and affordable. Here are some steps you can take:

a. Development of Affordable Mental Health Services: Policies should prioritize the development of mental health services that are accessible to families of drug users, including psychological services, therapy and other support. These services must be easily accessible and affordable, so that families of drug users can get the help they need without economic barriers.

b. Increasing Mental Health Awareness and Literacy: Policies should prioritize increasing mental health awareness and literacy among families of drug users. By increasing awareness and literacy, families of drug users can better understand the importance of mental health and how to get the support they need.

c. Development of Specific Mental Health Programs: Policies should prioritize the development of specific mental health programs for families of drug users. These programs must be able to address the special needs of families of drug users and provide the support necessary to overcome mental disorders associated with drug use.

By following these steps, policies can help improve mental health supports for families of drug users, so they can get the help they need to overcome mental disorders related to drug use.

4. Conclusions

Family members who abuse drugs often cause conflict and tension in the family. This can trigger arguments and reduce the quality of relationships between family members. The costs of purchasing drugs and the costs of treatment resulting from drug abuse can drain a family's finances, resulting in serious economic problems. Family members who do not abuse drugs can experience stress, anxiety and depression due to the behavior of drug users. Additionally, they may feel hopeless and helpless in facing the situation. Drug users often neglect their health, which can lead to serious illnesses and the need for expensive and intensive medical care.

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