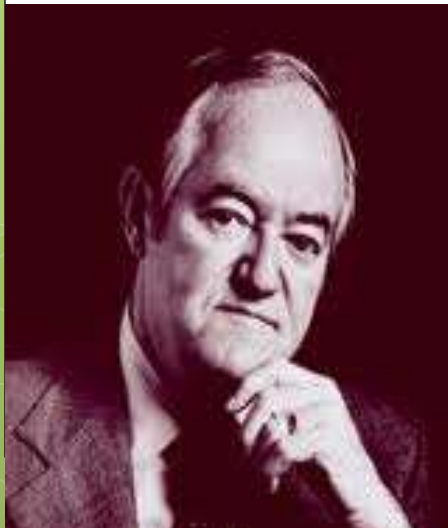


Substance abuse problems in Uganda

A hidden problem



VCU Virginia Commonwealth University
Institute for Drug and Alcohol Studies
Promoting excellence in substance abuse research and training



Vital issues



My role in the country



UYDEL work



National vital statistics.



- HIV/AIDS is still a problem in Uganda and prevalence was estimated at 6.4% in 2005.
- 50% of 31 million of population are under 15 years.
- In 2004 Uganda was No. in alcohol consumption in the world according to WHO.
- Human development index 143rd position. Dire need and on drip.

National vital statistics

- Children under 18 years constitute 57.4% of Uganda's 31 million people.
- Of Uganda's 31 percent under the poverty threshold, 62% are children.
- number of orphans 2.43 million in 2010.
- HIV prevalence in Uganda is 6.5 %.
- 75 % of Ugandans live in poor quality houses, lack basic utilities such as water and sanitation.
- overall literacy rate among males of 76 % compared to females at 63%.
- high fertility rate of 6.9 % per woman has resulted into a high population growth rate of 3.2 percent



Extent and Cost of Drug Abuse

Alcohol is number one
Sedatives, cannabis,
Inhalants Opiates, synthetic
narcotic analgesics and
Hallucinogens.

Increasing lack of discipline in
a number of urban youth,
violence, poverty, crime,
accidents



Other Drugs



Increased Use

Police reported that in 2009, 2,274 arrests made compared to 2,542 in 2008.

In 2008-9 over 54 Ugandans had been arrested outside and 38 convicted to death in China.

Other from various countries from India, Kenyans Nigerian, Pakistanis and Tanzanians in Uganda.

Increase is attributed to unemployment, social upheavals, family disruptions, drop-outs from school.

Increased production and trafficking, availability of the drug. Inadequate laws and weak border controls.

Association with poverty, road accidents and HIV/AIDS

- The 5th major cause of poverty in Uganda.
- Road accidents have tripled in the last 5 years and mostly affected young people.
- Unprotected and high risk sexual behavior and teenage pregnancies are associated with HIV/AIDS.
- Food shortage/famine because young people spend more time drinking, less time in the fields.
- Domestic violence increases and compromises power relations in homes.

Responses to drug abuse

- Uganda does not have an effective law, though one has been on the shelves since 2005.
- The National Drug Authority Act 2000 is weak and comprehensive.
- NGO with limited capacity operates in major urban centers and impact difficult to measure.
- Active NGOs have been UYDEL, Serenity a decline in NGOs due to limited funding,
- Drug education is incorporated in schools.

Treatment and Rehabilitation

- 12 specialized facilities.
- 25% mental cases is due to drug abuse.
- Different levels of facilitation, border porous unmanned and manpower affect joint fight in the East African region .
- Networking among NGOs is steal weak, Work to reduce alcohol and drug abuse is supported by IOGT-NTO and Mentor Foundation .

UN Conventions



UN Conventions on Narcotics

Uganda is Party to the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and the 1988 Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

Narcotics enforcement is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of internal affairs and treatment is under Health.

Uganda is now known as a producer, consumer and transit country for drug trafficking.

Substances not under international control

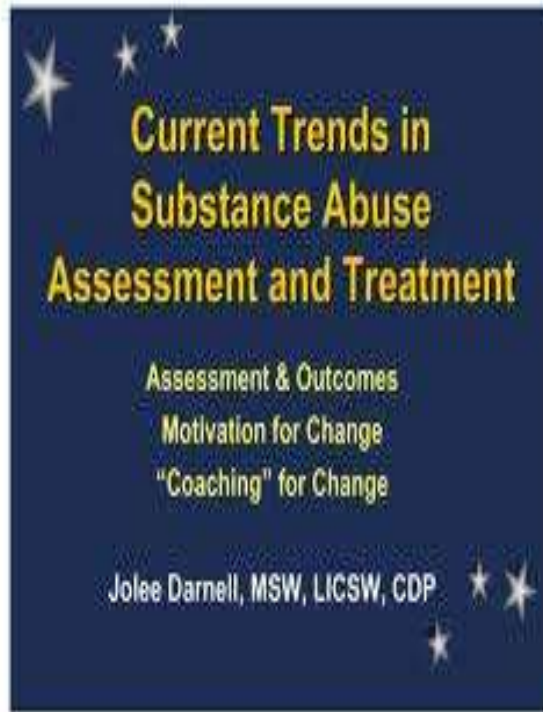


Khat, which is not currently under international control, continues to be cultivated in Uganda.

Although khat consumption is associated with health risks and may have detrimental social consequences, the prohibition of khat is yet to be effected

Banned by US and In Europe.

Need to carry out 1st Accurate assessment of prevalence rates



Training of staff in the region



Advocacy for Strengthening National Drug control



Support NGOs efforts to increase prevention



Programs targeting young people

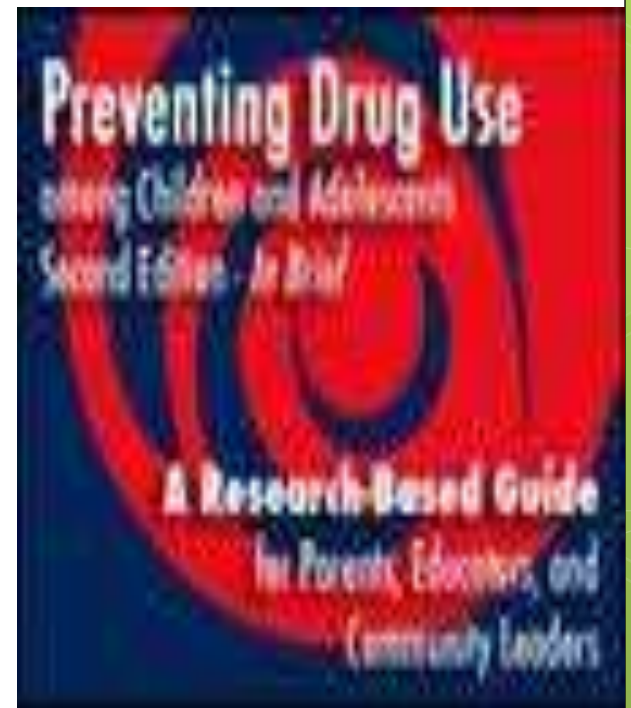


Dissemination of good practices and Information.



National Drug Abuse Treatment

Clinical Trials Network Dissemination Library



Factors escalating the use of alcohol



- High alcohol content
- Packing small
- Cheap
- Advertising
- poor law enforcement
- (place, time and age)

Develop alternatives like music/ sports



Involve parents and communities



Increase Awareness on drug abuse



Thank You



Reference

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