**CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF DRUG ABUSE.**

 What is drug abuse? Drug abuse refers to the use of certain chemicals (drug) for the purpose of creating pleasurable effects on the brain. Drugs are mostly abused among young adults under the age of 30. From my point of view drugs can either be abused by illegal intakes of drug such as cocaine, marijuana, cannabis e.t.c . It can also abused by the use of drugs for a particular issue without prescription from a doctor or a medical personnel.

 However, many drugs that are abused are also addictive, they cause cravings and a continued desire to use them despite the negative effects. A specific incentive differs from person to person, generally speaking, people start using drugs to escape or mask pain. In some individuals, the onset of drug use can be from untreated psychiatric issues including anxiety and depression. The rush of pleasure from using drugs can provide temporary solace from suffering, which can stem from many mental health or issues such as poverty, stress, low self-esteem, trauma or abuse, chronic pain or medical conditions and so on. What causes most youth to abuse drug is due to peer pressure and while others use it as a means of obtaining creative inspiration. Drug abusers take drugs due to ignorance and don’t consider the long term effects.

 In Nigeria, due to indifference among people, some believe that the more the drug the faster the effects. For instance, a man diagnosed with malaria was given armatem (anti-malaria tablet). The pharmacist prescribed two per day, one in the morning and one in the evening. So he felt If he could also take one In the afternoon to get better. Instead of him getting better, his sickness got worse and he was even treated for something more than malaria. When drugs are given out the should be taken strictly based on prescription of doctors of the medical personnel. Some people prescribe drugs by themselves claiming the problem might be minor. If one isn’t careful or doesn’t have experience in the medical field things could get out of hand and make things more complicated.

 Moreover, the reasons why teenagers find interest in taking drugs like cocaine is because it’s makes them creative especially In lyrics writing. And the drugs are quite addictive, so once they start taking it the become very ignorant about the negative consequence. I know of a church member who was interested in music, and was most of the times depressed due to is family background. So he had to look for a way to make money, he decided to use is talent in music. Although he had a good voice but he had nothing to sing. So he was adviced to take drugs, the drugs actually helped him a lot in terms of music because he became quite popular. His music was also very depressing but people loved it because they felt he understood what was going on with them. He started by taking the cocaine only once in month but with time it became once n a week. He became so addicted to the drug that he couldn’t even do without, to the extent it became more like food to him. This guy was only looking at the positive side of the effects of the cocaine though he knew the latter consequence but he felt as far as he could make money, having sickness won’t be a problem. By the time the cocaine accumulated inside him, he ended up dieing and not been able to spend the money he earned.

 Lastly, parental impacts have likewise been discovered to be noteworthy indicators of teenager tobacco, alcohol, and drug use, counting the way of parental supervision and observing. Most of the time parents get so busy in their official and house chores that they could not be able to give proper attention and care to their children which can bring wide gap between parent and child relation and the child ultimately prone to vulnerable society. Most of the teenagers indulge in drug abusing behaviors due to feeling of inferiority. For improvement in self esteem some low self esteemed teenagers starts using drugs, which describes that depressive symptomology initiates drug use.

 In conclusion, knowing fully well that teenagers are getting victim of drug abuse globally. Parent should take time to look after them so when the grow older making decisions won’t be a problem. Also that in terms of taking drug, we should always seek medical attention to avoid worsening if problems.

 OLUWADARA,Kolade 19/ENG04/042