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**ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF DRUG ABUSE ON HUMAN  
CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT IN SOME SELECTED SECONDARY  
SCHOOLS IN BAUCHI STATE**

**<sup>1</sup>MUSA LUMI; & <sup>2</sup>SADEEQ LAUNI (Ph.D)**

*Public Administration Department, Federal Polytechnic Bauchi, Nigeria*

*Sponsored by Tertiary Education Trust Fund, Nigeria*

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**Abstract**

*In recent time drug/substance abuse has received global attention among intellectual discourse. According to Drug Use in Nigeria 2018 Reports. Bauchi state is estimated that over 530,000 people have prevalence of drug use. The prevalence of drug/substance abuse among the youths and children is increasing which calls for attention. To assess the impact of drug abuse on human capital of some selected secondary schools in Bauchi State, and to ascertain the causes of drug abuse of some selected secondary schools in Bauchi State. The research adopted mixed method of research. Data were collected through questionnaires and interview. Data were presented through descriptive statistics using SPSS software. The study revealed that, there are great impact of drug/substance abuse on human capital in areas such as school dropout brain disorder among others. The cause of drug/substance abuse are multidimensional base on the studies revelation. The studies recommended a multidimensional and collective approach to drug/substance from family, school, religion centers, communities' approach to government approach. The studies recommend drug/substance campaign awareness in schools.*

**Keywords:** *Drug/Substance Abuse, Human Capital, Impact, Cause, Bauchi State*

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## **Background of the Study**

Drug abuse has been a subject of discussion among human resources development scholars. since the early beginning of hunting and gathering, leaves, herbs, plants and other related substances have been used to cure and heal people from various diseases and ailment. Right ministering of drugs and substance have been a source of blessing. Drug means a substance that brings about a change as a result of chemical reaction in biological function. Drug is also erred to as a substance that modifies behavior, mood, body function cognition and perception of people or animals.

United Nations office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) in 2017 reported that an estimated quarter of a billion people, or around 5 per cent of the global adult population, used drugs at least once in 2015. Even more worrisome is the fact that about 29.5 million of those drug users, or 0.6 per cent of the global adult population, suffer from drug use disorders.

Drugs and other related substances abuse have become one of the major public health and social problem all over the world and Nigeria inclusive. The increase in the rate of drug abuse in Nigeria has drawn great concerns. Drug and other related substances abuse are great negative impact on human capital of every society. Youths are mostly at risk and victim of drug abuse in the academic, career development, identity formation, innovation, institution, leadership and social skill.

An estimated 14.4 per cent (range 14 per cent - 14.8 per cent) of the population in Nigeria, or 14.3 million people between 15 and 64 years of age had used drugs, excluding alcohol and tobacco, in 2017(Drug Use in Nigeria 2018). According to Drug Use in Nigeria 2018 Reports, Prevalence of drug use in Nigeria by geopolitical zones and states, 2017. It indicates that North-East zone Prevalence: 13.6% Numbers: 2,090,000 between the age of 15 to 64 which made the region to be the fourth in prevalence of drug use with North-West is the Highest South-West zone Prevalence: 22.4% Numbers: 4,382,000. In Bauchi state is estimated that over 530,000 people have prevalence of drug use with 16% compared to the other state in the North East with Gombe state as the Highest with 21% of prevalence of drug use.

Adeoti(2010:332), and Haladu (2003), Oluremi (2012:430) gave the causes drug/substance abuse as experimental Curiosity, peer group influence, poor

parental supervision, personality problems due to socio-economic conditions, the need for energy to work for long hours, availability of the drugs, and the need to prevent the occurrence of withdrawal.

Mackenzie, Annette, Jennifer and Mark (2013) had identified three (3) Risk Factors for Adolescent Substance Use such as familial risk factors; physical and sexual abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, Social Risk Factors, Deviant Peer Relationships, Peer Pressure and Popularity/Gang Affiliation, Individual Risk Factors, Depression.

The cause of Drug abuse or substance abuse according to World Drug Report 2018 had identified as a risk factors category into different level micro and macro level. The micro-level influences include Income and resources, Poverty, Homeless, refugee status, Child labour, lack of access to health care. Social environment, Antisocial norms, poor informal social controls. Lack of social cohesion, disconnectedness, lack of social capital. Conflict/war, social exclusion, inequality, discrimination. And physical environment such as Decay: abandoned buildings, substandard housing. Neighborhood disorder, Access to alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, firearms, Lack of access to nutritious foods, Exposure to toxics, Media

The impact of drug abuse has been considered as a macro-level influence as risk and protective factors (World Drug Report,2018). The present subsection contains a discussion of the association of person-level micro- and macro-level risk factors in substance use and harmful use as sources of vulnerability versus resilience. The consequences of eventual substance use for child and adolescent development and the multiple impacts of caregiver substance use on the development of the child and adolescent are also discussed. Throughout the subsection, the evidence of aetiology (causation) and knowledge regarding the consequences of drug use for the child and adolescent are discussed within the context of an integrated developmental framework. Individual-level risk factors and individual's characteristics play a significant role in determining whether that individual will use substances, will progress to harmful use of substances or will develop substance use disorders, or whether the individual will abstain from or desist such use during the developmental pathway.

According to World Drug Report 2016, there are many potential health risks and outcomes for people who use drugs, including overdose, suicide, trauma,

mental health problems, disability and premature death. People who develop dependence and become affected by drug use disorders are those who account for the vast majority of negative health consequences among people who use drugs. UNODC estimates that, as of 2014, out of a quarter of a billion past-year drug users, more than 29 million had a drug use disorder. Sporadic or regular drug use that has not progressed to drug dependence can still carry some health risks, particularly if it has the potential to change the user's behaviour when he or she is under the influence of drugs; even a single episode, or small number of episodes, can have damaging effects. Since products sold in the illegal drug market under a certain name may contain a wide variety of substances, and people who use drugs do not have information about the contents of what they consume, there are also additional risks. Moreover, episodic drug use itself carries the risk of evolving into drug-dependent use. Certain people who use drugs may manage to lead socially integrated lives in parallel with regular drug use and thus do not conform to the stereotypical image of a problem drug user, but that does not prevent the development of drug dependence, and the harm caused by drug use may only be felt in the long term. In general, the consequences of drug use may develop independently in two different aspects of an individual's life: health and social.

World Drug Report 2016 revealed that, Drug use often affects people during their most productive years, and the entrapment of youth in both drug use and the illicit drug trade itself, as opposed to engagement in legitimate employment and educational opportunities, poses distinct barriers to the development of individuals and communities. Depending on a wide range of factors associated with the culture and context of that use, such as the type of drugs and the availability of particular drugs, young people may be vulnerable and at risk of drug use. There is not a straight cause-and-effect relationship between development and the involvement of youth in illicit drug use and drug trafficking, as these factors are all associated with each other. A key feature in understanding risk.

Therefore, drugs among young children and youths Bauchi State have been observed to be having a tendency of undermine the process of human capital development. It has impact on of youths in their educational pursuit and the tendency of indulging in behavioral problems in the areas. This calls for urgent

attention that is why this study is designed to undergo a rigorous study to ascertain the impact of drug abuse among youths in Bauchi state in order to proffer remedy to it.

### **Research Questions**

- i. What are the impacts of drug abuse on human capital development in some selected secondary schools of Bauchi State?
- ii. Are there causes of drug abuse of some selected secondary schools in Bauchi State.?

### **Objectives of the Study**

The study is designed to assess the impact of drug abuse on human capital development in selected Secondary schools of Bauchi State. Other sub objectives are:

- i. To assess the impact of drug abuse on human capital of some selected secondary schools in Bauchi State.
- ii. To ascertain the causes of drug abuse of some selected secondary schools in Bauchi State.

### **Methodology**

The research is a survey research. Sample size of 398 was taken from the population. A total of 398 questionnaires were distributed across the six secondary schools for the students to fill. The secondary schools were: Government Day Secondary School Shira and Government Secondary School Giade in Bauchi North senatorial Zone, Government Day Ningi and Government Secondary School Missau in Bauchi Central Senatorial zone and Government secondary School Bogoro and Government Day Secondary School Bayara in Bauchi South Senatorial zone. The questionnaire was shared to only Senior Secondary Student from SS1 to SS 3 in above named secondary school. The table below indicated how the questionnaires were shared and returned.

**Table 1: CAUSES OF DRUGS ABUSE AMONG STUDENTS OF BAUCHI STATE**

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
<b>1,Peer Group</b>	306	2	5	4.17	.570
<b>2,Family Background</b>	306	2	5	4.22	.688
<b>3,Availability of Cheap Drugs</b>	306	2	5	4.22	.633
<b>4, School Failure</b>	306	1	5	3.93	.773
<b>5, Home Frustration</b>	306	1	5	4.02	.719
<b>6, Home Stress</b>	306	1	5	4.03	.787
<b>7, Mass Media Influence</b>	306	1	5	4.07	.780
<b>8, Self Esteem</b>	306	1	5	4.04	.847
<b>9, Curiosity</b>	306	1	5	4.12	.768
<b>10, Need to be Feared</b>	306	2	5	4.16	.737
<b>Valid N (listwise)</b>	306				

Source: Survey, 2019

Table 4.12, shows the descriptive statistics of the extent to which these factors cause students to abuse drugs. The mean response to question 1 is above the average of (3.50-5.00) this result indicates that peer groups make most of the students to abuse drugs in Bauchi state. The same was observed in question 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10. By implication, the listed factors are the main cause of drug abuse among secondary school students in Bauchi State.

**Table 2: Effects of drug abuse on participation in learning among students in your school.**

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
<b>1, Lack of Interest in Studies</b>	306	2	5	4.32	.590

<b>2, Lead to school drop out</b>	306	2	5	4.31	.667
<b>3, School absenteeism</b>	306	2	5	4.05	.871
<b>4, Brain disorder</b>	306	2	5	4.35	.631
<b>5, Crime and Violence</b>	306	2	5	4.34	.601
<b>6, Risky sexual behavior</b>	306	2	5	4.35	.648
<b>7, Health problem</b>	306	2	5	4.27	.673
<b>8, Strained Relationship</b>	306	2	5	4.27	.747
<b>9, Lack of interest in extra curriculum activities</b>	306	1	5	4.32	.658
<b>10, Low concentration span</b>	306	2	5	4.21	.633
<b>11, Declining in grade</b>	306	2	5	4.13	.684
<b>Valid N (listwise)</b>	306				

Source: Survey, 2019

Table 4.13 shows the descriptive statistics of the extent to which our respondents agreed that the above-mentioned factors are the impacts of drug abuse on human capital development. The mean response to question 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 are above the average of (3.50-5.00). This indicates that Lack of Interest in Studies, school dropout, school absenteeism, brain disorder, crime and violence, health problem like kidney and liver failure among others are the major impacts of drug abuse on human capital development.

### Findings

This study reveals that there are several causes of drug abuse of some selected secondary schools in Bauchi State these factors are:

- i. **Peer Group:** The research indicated that peer group pressure is among the factor influencing students into drug abuse. The implication is that the high the number of drug addicts in the

school the high rate of influencing the other student to engage in drug abuse.

- ii. **Family Background:** The studies indicate that family background is a strong factor that can influence the attitude of students into drug abuse in the school. Family that is loose without strict child discipline or the parents are into alcohol/drug abuse, the students/children are prone to drug abuse in the school.
- iii. **Availability of Cheap Drugs:** This communicated that availability of cheap drug or substance, has a great impact as a cause for substance abuse in the schools.
- iv. **School Failure:** This shows that school failure is a strong contributory cause for drug abuse in the school. The implication is that, school authorities are not very effective in curbing the menace of drug abuse in the schools.
- v. **Home Frustration:** The research exposed that home frustration is a strong factor that can negatively influence the attitude of students into drug abuse in the school. Once a student is frustrated in home, he tries to find a comfort zone by engaging into drug abuse as solace.
- vi. **Home Stress:** Disclosed that home stress can cause student to involved themselves into drug abuse.
- vii. **Mass Media Influence:** The studies find out that mass media can influence students into drug abuse with most of the respondents agreeing that mass media influence negatively the attitudes of youths into drug and other related substances abuse. May be the kind of movies the students are watching and the social media advertisement.
- viii. **Self Esteem:** This study revealed that for self-esteem the students can involve themselves into drug abuse. For self-ego among their mates.
- ix. **Curiosity:** shows that more than 80% of the respondents agreed that for curiosity the youths can involve themselves into substance abuse. They want to experiment.



- x. **Need to be Feared:** The studies disclose that, the need to be feared by students or parents can cause student to engage into drug and other related substances abuse. Similar studies conducted by Ikoh, Smah, Kwanya, Clemeny, & Aposhi (2019), they identified poor parental relations, availability and ease of getting drugs in the Metropolis and in the neighborhoods, predisposing factors. Each factor tends to reinforce the other. Their findings serve to strengthen the arguments of the proponents of social disorganization, and control theories. Lack of effective parenting have weakened not only the role of guardianship but also training and socializing the child to acceptable norms, rules and values of the society. In the circumstance, the moral compass of some youths is modeled after street values and behaviour, where the code of honour.

The study revealed that drug abuse made students to have lack of interest in their studies which at the long run can cause school dropout or the child can abandon the student or the students can be expelled by the school authorities for bad behavior. Once there is lack of interest can lead to student absenteeism in the class especially lessons hours. The drug can cause brain disorder which can lead to crime and violence and risky sexual behavior especially among the female students. Drug has an effect on health of the students and cause strained relationship especially when the other students, school authorities and parents/guardians are not happy with their behavior. Drug abuse can cause apathy in extra curriculum activities because of health-related problem. Once this are manifesting at the long run their will be declining in the grade level of the students. The implication of these thing is that the secondary school education that is considered as the model ground of the students has been distorted. It is at the secondary level that students develop the capacity and the interest to pursue tertiary education. But once the child brain has been damaged it become difficult at the tertiary level to mold such a child or student. The aim of education to provide human capital has been defeated. Irrespective of the investment by the government and the parents/guardians, if the child is been destroyed y drug or substance abuse, the resources and the investment become

a waste. This is in line with the statements of Vandana (2019) that Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a serious developmental disorder that affects individuals across their life span.

### **Conclusion**

The drugs/substance abuse is gradually eating deep in to children fabric. Drug/substance abuse has become a global phenomenon that is receiving attention by the United Nations due to its devastating effects on humanity irrespective of the level of civilization. The developed and the developing nations, urban and rural areas all are plague by the menace of drugs/substance abuse. Investment in human capital especially the free educational programme of the government can be thwarted by drugs/substance abuse. Because if those who are suppose use the facilities that has been constructed by the government their life is been waste away because of drugs/substance abuse. So, there is need for government to pay attention to drugs/substance abuse especially at the primary and post primary level. The cause of drugs/substance abuse is multidimensional approach to addressing the cause of drug abuse. To prevent drug/substance is there is need for awareness at the grassroots, family level to government level.

### **Recommendations**

- i. There is need for radical holistic approach to addressed the cause of drug/substance abuse among the secondary school students in Bauchi state. This is because what causes drug/substance abuse is multidimensional. There is need for multidimensional approach from the family level, peers, religious place, communities, schools and at government level to curb the menace of drug abuse among students and youths of Bauchi State.
- ii. There is need for love especially those that are mentally affected by drugs/substance abuse from the family level to school level. In addition to this, well-equipped rehabilitation centers should be established across the three Senatorial zones and service should be offer if not free but at cheaper rate. The society should not segregate or reject the victims of

drugs addict. Because two wrong does not make it right. They are human beings they need love, care and need to be valued.

- iii. The study recommended adequate drug awareness in school, reaching youths outside the school, building family bonds, empowering communities, law enforcement, media campaign and including drug awareness in school curriculum can serve as strategies for preventing drug abuse among the youths and secondary school students in Bauchi state. While community policing, reduction of drug availability and making the drug expensive did not prove strong enough as others. Those school dropout as a result of drugs and other related substances abuse, they can be engaged in skills acquisitions programmes to make them financially independent. Recreational centers can be established across the three senatorial zones in additions to national directorate of employment programme to empower the drug addict so that they can be made useful in the society.

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