



DEVIANT BEHAVIOR AND DRUG ADDICTION AMONG YOUTH

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Abstract

Deviant behavior among youth is one of the most pressing social issues in modern society. Drug addiction, as a form of deviant behavior, poses serious threats to the physical, psychological, and social well-being of young individuals. This article analyzes the causes, consequences, and preventive measures of drug abuse among students and adolescents. The study emphasizes the importance of family, education, and social environment in reducing the spread of addiction.

Keywords

Deviant behavior, youth, drug addiction, students, social problems, prevention, psychology

Introduction

In contemporary society, the problem of deviant behavior among young people is becoming increasingly significant. Deviant behavior refers to actions that violate social norms, rules, and expectations. Among the various forms of deviance, drug addiction is one of the most dangerous and widespread.

Young people, especially students, are in a transitional stage of life where they are more susceptible to external influences. The desire for independence, curiosity, and peer pressure often lead them to experiment with harmful substances. Therefore, studying this issue is essential for developing effective prevention strategies.



Main Part

1. Concept of Deviant Behavior

Deviant behavior is defined as behavior that does not conform to accepted social norms. According to sociologists, such behavior may arise due to social inequality, lack of education, or psychological problems. Youth are particularly vulnerable because they are still forming their identity and values.

2. Causes of Drug Addiction Among Youth

Drug addiction among young people is caused by multiple interconnected factors:

- **Family Problems:** Lack of parental attention, conflicts, and broken families increase the risk.
- **Peer Influence:** Friends and social circles strongly affect behavior.
- **Psychological Issues:** Depression, stress, and low self-esteem push youth toward drugs.
- **Lack of Awareness:** Insufficient knowledge about the harmful effects of drugs.
- **Socio-economic Conditions:** Poverty and unemployment may contribute to deviant behavior.

3. Consequences of Drug Abuse

Drug addiction leads to serious consequences:

- **Health Damage:** Addiction causes physical and mental illnesses.
- **Educational Problems:** Students lose interest in studies and may drop out.
- **Social Isolation:** Relationships with family and society deteriorate.



- **Crime and Delinquency:** Drug users are more likely to engage in illegal activities.

4. Prevention of Drug Addiction

Preventing drug addiction requires joint efforts:

- **Educational Programs:** Schools should educate students about drug risks.
- **Family Support:** Strong family bonds help prevent deviant behavior.
- **Psychological Counseling:** Professional help is necessary for at-risk youth.
- **Community Involvement:** Social activities and youth programs reduce harmful influences.

Conclusion

Drug addiction among youth is a serious social problem that reflects broader issues of deviant behavior. Addressing this issue requires cooperation between families, schools, and society. Preventive measures, education, and support systems can significantly reduce the spread of drug abuse and ensure a healthier future for young generations.

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