

Prevalence and Pattern of Male Adolescents Substance Abuse in Ibadan Metropolis

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Abstract

The study investigated the prevalence and pattern of substance abuse among in-school adolescents in Ibadan metropolis. It also examined the influence of socio-economic background on substance abuse experience and effects. Data were collected from 917 male secondary school students within the age range of 12 to 20 years drawn from 20 secondary schools in Ibadan metropolis. Respondents completed 54-item questionnaire which measure exposure to psychoactive substance, frequency and quantity of substance consumed, personal experience after use, perceived social effects, and other drug related behaviours. The results of the analyses showed that alcohol is the most prevalent substance of abuse followed by cigarette smoking. The socio-demographic data of the adolescents revealed that 11.5% of the boys have taken one form of psychoactive substance by age ten. Abusers reported series of physical and psychological effects of alcohol and drug abuse. It was also found that age, socio-economic status, and parents' educational level did not exert significant influence on in-school male adolescents substance abuse.