

**UNIDAD EDUCATIVA PARTICULAR JAVIER**

**BACHILLERATO EN CIENCIAS**

**MONOGRAPH**

**“THE USE OF DRUGS IN TEENAGERS IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS OF  
ECUADOR WITHIN THE LAST 15 YEARS”**

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### **Gratitude**

In this small paragraph, I would like to thank God, our creator, mainly, because without all this being possible, all the people around me, family, friends, etc. Because they are the main ones in getting ahead when I am in a problem and my teachers because thanks to them I have learned many things and are the main motors of this monograph.

## Summary

This monograph is about the use of drugs in teenagers in urban and rural areas of Ecuador within the last 15 years, there are, the different types of drugs for example marijuana or cannabis, heroin, cocaine that the teenagers tend to consume, such as a lot of reasons or purposes that make them to recur to this substances like the social environment or the family environment the range of age that the investigations say that they start to consume, a ratio, as there are the types of consumers and why do they tend to consume, the most drug consumed in these areas or in Ecuador generally there is a lot of ways that are in the monograph to make sure that the prevention is guaranteed, there are different levels of prevention that are made in base of every single type of consumer and the type of treatment according to the symptoms that these present, according to their way of acting.

We can also highlight the social drug problem that exists in Ecuador, stories such as the distribution of drugs in Ecuador and the production of drugs that occur through neighboring countries such as Colombia, which is the main producer of drugs.

One of the main reasons for this monograph is to make people aware of what is happening in Ecuador with many of the adolescents who do not receive the required attention and tend to decline in the world of drugs, in order to take into account the Ways to prevent this from happening and in turn what to do in case a teenager is already in this big problem.

The third chapter is more focused on the rules and policies of drug use, on adolescents, like an example we can take care that there is the code of childhood and adolescence that protects young people who get to consume these substances, the law of psychotropic substances how it replies if there is a teenager that decay in this problem how the code will act with different rules or statements, always wanting to protect the rights of the younger people.

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## Introduction

The importance of this topic *the use of drugs in teenagers in urban and rural areas of Ecuador within the last 15 years* is that in Ecuador are a lot of consumers of this substances in all areas but this monograph is more focus in the young people, the teenagers that tend to consume in urban and rural areas and different important factors about them such as what kind of substances are the most consumed the type of people that are higher to tend to consume drugs, the reason of this.

My main purpose for making this monograph is to make people be more careful of what could happen and its happening with many of the teenagers who do not receive the required attention and tend to decay in the world of drugs, in order to take into account the different levels to prevent this from happening and in turn what to do in case a teenager is already in this big problem.

To make this monograph there was a lot of books that helped me to have the best information with the proper information such as *Guia de drogas Ecuador 2007* , *Ecuador 2007* or *Abuso de drogas en adolescentes y jóvenes y vulnerabilidad familia, CEDRO*.

The spatial context where i write my monograph is the urban and rural areas that the teenagers are suffering disease of attention from their families and they tend to consume drugs because they think that doing that they can resolve of the problems that are in their minds such as social pressure, there are many people that consume because of what other people could think about them.

My monograph is divided into three chapters, these have their sub-themes that describe the problems that the teenagers are experiencing at the moment, in Ecuador a lot of ways to prevent this and how to threaten this. The first chapter is about the teenagers and their problems with the drugs, why they consume and different types of these substances, the second chapter is more focused in the drug social problems in Ecuador, the distribution and the different levels of prevention, and finally the third chapter is about the laws and the politics of the drugs use in the teenagers, the code of childhood and adolescence and the Stupeficient and psychotropic substances law.



## **Chapter I**

### **Teenagers are faced to drug use**

#### **1.1 Introduction**

Drugs are substances that when coming into contact with our body can get to alter the nervous system, these can lead to experience mental health problems or alter your physical state, for medicinal use, can alter feelings, among other things, however , many of them when consumed can have chemicals that cause them to be addictive and may end up producing not so good side effects.

Daily young people are prone to decay in this terrible addiction which can be carried by different ways or methods, however here we will highlight different topics such as why they are trapped in this vicious state. The different types of psychotropic substances that exist and those that mostly recur due to economic problems in Ecuador. Other important issues that cause adolescents to use drugs is the factor of having an easy source of obtaining substances at an early age.

“The average age of first use for licit and illicit drugs is distributed between 14.7 and 19.5 years, with the exception of inhalants with an earlier age of onset” (Griffin, 2007, p.7).

##### **1.1.1 Types of drugs.**

Nowadays, there are many drugs available for the consumer; some of the most used are cannabis, cocaine and heroin.

#### ***1.1.1.1 Cannabis.***

There are different types of good and bad drugs and cannabis also called, marijuana, can sometimes be bad or sometimes could be good since it is also used as medicine.

However, that does not change the fact that it is still an illicit substance and is the most currently consumed worldwide and the levels according to statistics indicate that the vast majority of people who tend to consume this drug have started at such an early age,

An investigation that had been made with the best references, Castillo (2005) says:

“In the consumption of illicit psychoactive substances the prevalence of life is: marijuana, 3.9%; base, 2.8%; cocaine, 2.4%; inhalants, 2.2%; hallucinogens, 1.9%; heroin, 1.6%. The most common drug with which students began their consumption is marijuana” (p.8).

‘The use of marijuana is usually perceived by adolescents and young people not only as harmless and inoffensive to health, but even as they had healing properties. The introduction into the collective imaginary of the idea that this substance (...)’ (Rojas, M., 2010, p.7).

#### ***1.1.1.2 Heroin.***

Also called diamorphine is used not only with bad terms but also with good purposes as for example in medicine has been used as a stimulant to make the patient not feel pain at the time of an operation or something as this drug affects at the brain level and makes you not feel so much pain.

Heroin is one of the most dangerous and harmful drugs in the world because users get addicted to it on a first try. Its addiction can be compared as the most quickest and effective on users, causing humans to become addicted to it, but most worrying of it, is

the fact that it is the most easily obtained for adolescents or young people in our country, Ecuador.

#### ***1.1.1.3 Cocaine.***

Cocaine is a strong stimulant which can be inhaled through the nostrils or injected directly into the veins and its effect can make you lose your head or the notion of things and can even get you to be much more aggressive. This substance can cause a state of happiness since your brain accelerates and can make you feel more euphoric and energetic.

Some of the effects of this substance can be the increase of the temperature in the body, changes in blood pressure and even problems in the circulation of blood through the body, among others. It also has other effects that are at a long term which can be at the brain level, and cardiovascular as altering the heart rate and even cause heart attacks, sudden headaches and can even fall into a coma the implicated.

### **1.2 ¿Why they consume?**

According to experts there are many factors why a person might consume drugs. Some of these reasons can be related to their social environment or family issues. They consume this because of the circumstances that they live Barrett, A., y Turner, J. (2006) says that:

"Unemployed youth with marijuana and alcohol consumption problems are mostly from separated or single parent families, this being the consequence" (p.77).

#### **1.2.1 Social environment.**

Many cases of drug use in adolescents are due to the impact of what people around them think of them.

This may give the adolescent who suffers from relative weakness, a feeling of maturity, and group belonging as they use drugs. It also makes it easier for them to handle situations of deep social distress. He thinks he feels stronger, as it happens especially thanks to the utilization of hallucinogens. (Griffin, 2007, p.23)

Usually those who tend to consume more these substances study in public schools and often surround themselves with people who are already involved in this evil and vicious circle. The fact that their friends consume these, make young people want to try them or simply because they believe that nothing will happen if they try drugs.

### **1.2.2 Family environment.**

The family environment plays a very important role in the life of a teenager or anyone, since he takes them as an example. In many cases parents can be the main consumers and this generates that their children want to try and get to decay in the vice or could also be due to the fact that parents do not pay attention to their children and they start looking for a quick way to escape from their problems.

Parents are responsible because they must be concerned about the environment of adolescents, they must pay much more attention and time to them so that they do not fall into this vice There are four main factors why the family is responsible for an adolescent's drug use and one of them is the conflicts that exist because they increase the stress of family members and tend to consume (Castillo, 2005).

## **Chapter II**

### **Drugs problems in Ecuador**

#### **2.1 Ecuador's drugs social problems**

Drugs have turned into an overall issue, both in light of the harm to the strength of the populace that expends them, how much for the negative reactions but now we are talking about drugs social problems in Ecuador there has been a lot of problems when we are talking about the teenagers. The use of drugs its more on areas that the people tend to have a poor education or they have family members that consume it but they have to know how to control it.

Its vulnerable they has not only access to consume this substances and micro traffic, even at the drug trafficking, it's important to have prevention and let him make another activities recreatives to make sure that they can give her own answer and say no to this substances. (Castillo, 2005, p.32)

##### **2.1.1 Drug production.**

The production of the drugs has a lot to take care of. Fortunately, in Ecuador the production of this substances isn't like the production of this in other countries such as Colombia who is one of the countries that produces and exports the drugs such as cocaine, Ecuador is surrounded by some of the most cocaine producers, Colombia, the aforementioned, and Peru. This is a problem for Ecuador that it's more considered as a route to transport the drugs from those countries, In Ecuador the most consumed is called "H" and it contains heroin and other substances and it's more easier to the teenagers to get it because of the price.

"Actions are being coordinated with the Police and FF.AA. Statistics show that most illegal substances enter through the north" (Carrasco, 2009, p.12).

### ***2.1.1.1 Drug's distribution.***

In Ecuador there are many methods to distribute the drugs, the ways of transporting cocaine can be several among them by land or sea, even it could be transported through the air. But there are low-income people who have no other way of obtaining money and they find it easy to be someone's "mule" to do this job which consists of transporting the drugs by sticking them with adhesive tape to their body or even using their own body as a container to be able to transport them themselves by means of balloons filled with cocaine that will later be expelled through feces, This method is very risky for the health of a human being because if the balloon is broken it can be the end of that person.

Ecuador, being circumscribed in the potentially Andean cultivator, producer and marketer of narcotic and psychotropic substances, under the influence of Mexican, Colombian, Peruvian and African transnational organizations, is used to collect and send drugs, from platforms through ports and airports to international consumer markets and another quantity of drug on a smaller scale is redistributed to the national level.

(Rojas, 2010, p.17)

## **2.2 Drug prevention**

Prevention is to stop doing something or to try to not decay in that problem, the principal purpose is to improve the personal satisfaction and to secure the lives of natives or cityzens, particularly adolescents, about this drugs problem it is divided in levels of prevention and they depend on the state or conditions in which the person is.

### **2.2.1 Levels of prevention.**

There are three different types of levels to prevent the use of drugs and it could be categorized in two different cases such as the types of levels of exposure to which it is directed and if the person that it is directed the intensity of him vulnerability, this levels are enumerated in the order of how the problem is in their cases.



### ***2.2.1.1 First, second and third level of prevention.***

In the first level is proportional to avoiding occasions, before the issue emerges and its central goal is to keep it from showing up. It is viewed as the most attractive sort of aversion. This preventive sort is planned for taking measures so individuals don't utilize drugs, dodging danger factors and creating defenders.

In the second level the goal is to find and treat as quickly as time permits the issue whose beginning couldn't be wiped out by applying essential preventive measures, so as to stop the advancement of the issue that is in the beginning periods, it makes sure that if there is minor problem it wouldn't make it a bigger.

And finally the third level of prevention is when there is a consumer that has accepted that has been inside this problem and there are centers of rehabilitation that are disposed to help the affected with treatments that should help them in the process to leave the drugs.

#### ***2.2.1.1.1 Universal prevention.***

The universal prevention is routed to the wider population, with no differentiation, or any pre-set up factor, for example, that which could be routed to the whole population of an organization, city, territory or nation. It is an expansive viewpoint, less exceptional and has truly sensible expenses than others that are situated to changes in explicit and enduring practices. What this level is looking for is to have a type of worldwide prevention through talks and commercials with the goal that is to harden the values of a person and their attitudes to avoid the consumption of them and do not pass to bigger problems with more risk such as take them to rehabilitation centers or another types of prevention previously mentioned. But like everything in this life this type of prevention can bring its advantages and disadvantages.

#### *2.2.1.1.2 Selective prevention.*

The selective prevention is more directed to people that have high levels of risks to consume drugs such as familiar environment, they have somebody in their family that consumes or the social environment, the social pressure or depending the area that they live if in their neighborhood they have a lot of pals that consume they will tend to consume it. but it has some advantages like if they know that their environment is not the best they can treat it with anticipation.

### **Chapter III**

## **Legal context of the drug's use**

### **3.1 The political constitution and human rights**

"Art. 1.-From the Form of State and Government - Ecuador is considered as a social state of right, sovereign, unitary, democratic and multiethnic, Its government is a republican, presidential, elective, responsible, alternative, participatory and a decentralized administration" (Iglesias, 2008, p.33).

The subjective jump from the standard of law to the social condition of law suggests assurance of the major rights and opportunities of the person, so as to improve their personal satisfaction and elevate it, it is a lawful rule of quick application, which additionally brings a duty, which is the dynamic investment of the native in the choices of the State, substance that embraces decentralization as a type of organization, whose uniqueness is the neighborhood organization and particularly the metropolitan.

Art. 17 .- Freedom to exercise human rights.- The State shall guarantee to all its inhabitants, without discrimination of any kind, the free and effective exercise and enjoyment of the human rights established in this Constitution and in the other declarations, covenants, conventions and other international instruments in force. It shall adopt, by means of permanent and periodic plans and programs, measures for the effective enjoyment of these rights. (Iglesias, 2008, p.34)

Human rights are a piece of the general standards of our Constitution, is the transverse pivot, situated to ensure its free, successful exercise what's more, capable, in every aspect of resident living; being the commitment of State ensure its viability through satisfactory and compelling frameworks that acknowledge consistence, which incorporates assessment components. These rights convert into common, political, financial, social and social. Social equality incorporate the privilege to a personal

satisfaction that guarantee wellbeing, nourishment and sustenance, drinking water, natural sanitation, instruction, work, business, entertainment, lodging, dress and other social administrations vital.

### **3.2 Worldwide agreements and treaties**

In the area of health we find Art. 43, third paragraph:

It is the commitment of the State to advance and execute wellbeing focused projects to forestall and keep away from the utilization of liquor and other psychoactive substances, so which has the National Health System made out of open substances, self-sufficient, private and network part that works as it were decentralized, decentralized and participatory. The fundamental gathering defenseless against the utilization of psychoactive substances is youngsters, young ladies and adolescents (Iglesias, 2008).

### **3.2 United nations organization (UN)**

Worldwide medication the executives depends basically on two shows supported by the United Nations:

-The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as changed by the Convention of May 25, 1972. This Convention sets up various preventive, harsh and utilization impediment measures, however the activity additional fascinating is without a doubt the arrangement that makes medicates in four classifications:

Substances with an addictive limit, which speak to a genuine danger of maltreatment. Substances regularly utilized under therapeutic criteria and exhibiting a generally safe of maltreatment (propiram, codeine).

Planning of substances incorporated into list II, just as arrangements of

Cocaine, morphine, opium.

-Increase in dangerous substances that have a more noticeable potential for harm and a scandalous restriction on medicinal use and a negligible useful value (heroin, cannabis, cannabis gum, acertofin.)

-The Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 builds up power over Psychotropic substances, so as to guarantee that they are utilized for restorative and logical purposes These substances may have a worth restorative, and yet they present a risky danger of maltreatment.

### **3.2.2 Organization of american states (OAS).**

The Organization of American States (OAS), has the Commission Inter-American Drug Abuse Control (CICAD) arrange and execute counteractive action and social consideration plans and projects; work together and arrange with the National police, insurance, security and native conjunction. CICAD propelled the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), going to the order of the Second Summit of the Americas held in Santiago de Chile in April 1998, perceived at the Third Summit of the Québec Americas in April 2001. The MEM is an assessment instrument and of open scattering of the advancement made by the legislatures of the States Individuals in their activity against medications; It has likewise filled in as an impetus for hemispheric participation, empowering discourse among rulers and collaboration has been directed upgrading assets to zones that require more consideration.

### **3.2.3 Organic law of municipal regime.**

Builds up that the Municipality is the self-ruling political society subjected to the protected legitimate request of State, whose design is the nearby normal great and inside it and in structure vital, the consideration of the necessities of the city, the metropolitan territory and of the provincial wards of the separate locale. So the region is in charge of satisfying the reasons that are fundamental, that is, address the issues of the network, particularly those got from urban conjunction whose consideration doesn't contend with others government offices; being among others the fundamental ones as per this law:

- Ensure the material and social welfare of the network and add to the advancement furthermore, security of nearby interests.
- Promote monetary, social, ecological and social improvement, inside of your locale.

The Municipality among the capacities it has is to plan, arrange and execute counteractive action and social consideration plans and projects; work together and arrange with the National police, insurance, security and native conjunction.

### **3.3 The code of childhood and adolescence**

Its particular targets are the far reaching assurance of the State, society and family, to all youngsters and young people living in Ecuador, so as to accomplish their improvement indispensable and full delight in their privileges, inside the system of opportunity, respect and value.

It controls the delight and exercise of the rights, obligations and commitments of the youngsters and teenagers and the way to make them viable, young ladies and young men secure them, as per the standard of eventual benefits of kids and teenagers and to the principle of basic security.



So no activity or exclusion is permitted, which causes or can avert harm to the trustworthiness or physical, mental or sexual wellbeing of a youngster, young lady or juvenile, by any individual, including their folks, different relatives, instructors and individuals responsible for their consideration. It is the obligation of the State to receive authoritative, regulatory measures, social, instructive and other, important to ensure kids and young people against the practices and realities gave, all the kids have the right to be protected of this types of substances.

### **3.4 Stupefacient and psychotropic substances law**

Our nation, for being a signatory of responsibilities expected inside the Joined Nations and other global shows, has gathered all current global standards regarding the matter, particularly the alluded to in the 1988 Vienna Convention, which has permitted the nation with a significant legitimate instrument to counteract, treat, control, research and rebuff practices that compromise wellbeing, prosperity and security Residents lifes.

## **Conclusions**

- In conclusion the first chapter is about the teenagers that are faced to drug use in Ecuador it englobes the reasons of why they tend to consume this illicit substances their social or familiar environment can affect the status of a person, it also is about the different types of substances such as heroin, cannabis and cocaine that are more often to be consumed by the teenagers in our country and all the effects that it has it is more usual that a teenager that starts to consume this drugs is because they haven't the attention that they need.
- The second chapter is about the drugs problems in Ecuador, this is more general and with more information about what is happening in Ecuador with the drugs, it starts with information about the drug production in Ecuador and it is certainly that the drug production is in Colombia but their neighbor countries suffer from Colombia because there is where they transport the drugs, and finally it has three types of levels to prevent that the teenagers or the people in general still consuming this substances that doesn't bring you good things to your life.
- The chapter number three is a little bit different because this chapter is more about their laws that has the Ecuador and how they work in case of the use of drugs, with the teenagers or the kids with the code of childhood and adolescence and the human rights passing through the stupefacient and psychotropic substances law it is important take care about the security of the teenagers so we can have a great future guaranteed.
- Last but not least, is important to take care of what these substances can make to our body and mind because they have some substances that make him addictive so your body is going to start to need it and it has a lot of secondary effects so it is too.

Important to take care about the people that are in drugs because is better than ever to stop someone to being in this world even if you think that it is too late.

## **Recommendations**

- This space is important to highlight the fact that in Ecuador there are many adolescents who suffer from this problem, which is important to take into account the different ways that this happens and the types of prevention.
- This monograph is proof of that each family is different and each family raises their children in different ways and it is important that adolescents with everything they live always have the support of a family.
- When they usually have ups and downs or problems that usually cause these children to resort to use of drugs in order to always be able to get ahead because the family and the attention they give to a boy is a fundamental pillar for the decisions that he makes.
- Another recommendation would be to instill values to children from small, who learn to differentiate what that it's good for what's wrong so that it doesn't generate major problems in the future and the general recommendation would be to always keep an eye on your children, family or friends, that if they are going through a bad time do not hesitate to tell them to get help and do not resort to decay in the world of drugs.

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