

Full Length Research Paper

The menace of opiate: The socio-psychological and physiological impacts of opiate on addicts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan

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Opiate addiction is a menace and a matter of concern throughout the world, being one of the most hazardous aspects of personal as well as the societal course of life of an individual. This study describes the socio-psychological and physiological impacts of opiate on addicts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province of Pakistan. Data were collected from 100 pure opiate addicts through simple random sampling technique using structured interview schedule. The collected data were statistically analyzed and presented in the form of tables and bar charts, and tested through statistical tools. The rational choice theory of criminal behavior with classical theory of criminality has been utilized as a theoretical model for the study. The results show that the use of opiate has multidimensional impacts upon the addicts' social status, psychological and physiological well-being. The study suggests that there is a need for proper policy in order to implement drug-supply-reduction, drug-demand-reduction and drug-harm-reduction; while, severe punishment should be entailed over the violators and traffickers.

Key words: Opiate, addiction, social, psychological, physiological, impacts.

INTRODUCTION

All the third world countries are facing the menace of drugs, opiate and addicts including Pakistan. Research of Becker (1967) reveals that a huge number of people are suffering from the obnoxious curses of drugs nowadays in all parts of the country. The problem has entered into its worst shape, which can be easily observed by its rapid increase and hazardous impacts. Pakistan, being a poor country in the region, has no sufficient resources to tackle the problem with ease, where the basic needs for survival are barely available to individuals. In such sizzling conditions, it is very difficult to handle social evils like use of toxic drugs, that is, opiates.

Of all the blistering social evils on the territorial surface, the curse of opiate has been proven as a monster to personal as well as family life of a user/addict, and has intensively obliterated the social structure of society. The

research of Frischer (1994) shows that the high prevalence of opiates as well as the derivatives and their easy availability in the society are among the causes of hasty proliferation of addiction, which leads to inconsistency, chemical dependency, and prevalence of passive-aggressive behaviors, discontentment, restlessness and devastation of spiritual status of the individual. In this regard, the National Survey on Drug Abuse (2005:12) indicates that there are more than four million chronic drug addicts in Pakistan, while in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province the estimated number of drug addicts is 0.6 million out of which 71% drug abusers are under the age of 35 years, and are found to be excessive opiate users. Among them, almost 60% are literate and surprisingly, a similar percentage was employed. The report further elaborates that in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 20 years of Afghan turmoil has caused considerable distortions of social, economical and political system of the country. Massive migration of Afghans has resulted in the increase of heroin users particularly the young

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generation. At present, no part of the province is protected from the menace of addiction (NSR, 2005).

For a long time, humans have been trying to keep themselves psychologically stable and mentally strong. For that purpose, they offers tactics, which sometimes leads the wrong direction as the world is a supermarket of psychoactive substances, or drugs where the whole world is flooded with drugs that distort perception and change mood (Sternberg, 2001). Drugs that are taken by the individuals let them down and move them across the town. Some of these drugs are legal, others are illegal; some are used recreationally, others medically; some are safe if used correctly, and dangerous if they are not. Some people use drugs because their friends do or because their parents tell them not to. Also, some are seeking pleasure; seeking inner truth or escape (Rathus, 2008).

Opiate addiction or using the chemical substances is not only the misery of developing or third world countries. The developed and highly advanced, and civilized countries are also among the victims of such abuses which are affecting their function and smooth running. According to Wills et al. (2002), for better or worse, drugs are part of American life. Young people often become involved with drugs that impair their ability to learn at school and are connected with reckless behavior. Further, it is indicated that alcohol is the most popular drug in high school and college campuses. In addition, more than 40% of college students have tried marijuana, and 1 in 6 or 7 smokes it regularly (Johnston et al., 2003). Substance abuse and dependence usually begin with experimental use in adolescence (Chassin et al., 2000; Lewinsohn et al., 2000).

In such a connection to the experimental use of opiates in adolescence and their addictive tendency, access and availability to drugs is easier in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as compared to other parts of the country because it is adjacent to Afghanistan having a demarcation line with Khyber Agency. Khyber Agency is in conjunction with Afghanistan possessing world wide fame for the cultivation of poppy plant and supply of opiates to the remaining world. History is a witness that Afghanistan has been remaining on top all the time by producing and providing drugs and opiates to other parts of the world. In the 1980s, Afghanistan was on top of the list among those who used to produce and export drugs with a significant ratio of 92% of world's opium and heroine. After the Taliban Regime, the cache of drugs reduced only to 2% in the 1990s. According to UNODC Afghanistan Opium Survey (2008), after the abolition of Taliban Regime, the accumulation of opiates has been reached to 98% of the whole world (World Drug Report, UNODC, 2009-10:187). By such statistics it can be easily assessed that the adjacent areas to Afghanistan are on severe threat and are victims of drugs and addiction.

The ratio of drugs is alarming among the adults and the young ones. The report shows that behind the involve-

ment of young ones in drugs; there are numerous factors, which are responsible for such addiction. According to annual survey report of United Nations Children's Fund (2009: 19), more than one billion children – half of all the children in the world, are denied a healthy and protected upbringing. Many millions suffer from one or more kinds of extreme deprivation like inadequate shelter, poor sanitation, insufficient health care, little or no education, lack of food and no proper socialization. All these factors are forcing the children and youths to involve in drugs as there is no proper check and balance on them (UNCF, 2009: 23). Besides, the parents strive to earn food, and in such scenario they fail to give attention to their children which causes maladjustment and instills the coming generation into the mire of drugs.

Opiate addiction has become a social problem rather than a personal problem. It is obvious that drug use interferes with person's health or economic or social functioning. Then it becomes drug abuse and is personal, but when a large number of people become upset about such effects of drugs and want to see something done about the matter, drug addiction is then a social problem (Henslin, 1996: 101). In addition, alcohol abuse leaves behind a trail of impaired health, poverty, broken homes, and smashed dreams. Similarly, the derivative of opiate such as heroin, the barbiturates, and other addictive drugs create severe problems for addicts and their families and friends (Henslin, 1996: 106).

Opiate has been defined as the multidimensional and multifunctional phenomon, which has numerous impacts over the users. It is explicit that drugs do not have a precise and single effect on every individual. The effects vary from person to person and the drugs which they are using. It is also observed that the same person is affected in different modes at different times. According to Ray (1978) and Zablocki et al. (1991: 65) there is no such thing as drug experience. Drugs do not simply "excrete" experiences, rather, what a person experiences from a drug depends on several factors.

Severity of the problem can be measured by citing the slogans which are delivered by the agencies and organizations who are striving to impede the curses of drugs. Initially it was reiterated that the agencies should work on Drugs Supply Reduction (DSR), which failed in its primary attempts due to no proper control and high influence of the drug sellers (World Drug Report; WDR, 2009:2). It was then decided that Supply of Drugs cannot be hindered and work should be done on Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) that aimed to sensitize people about the hazards of drugs, counsel them and educate them to eschew the use of drugs. Such strategy also failed and gave birth to a new concept - Drug Harm Reduction (DHR). This had no such policy to abdicate drug use and abuse, rather it intended to reduce those harms which are spreading due to the drugs in the shape of HCV, HBS, HIV and AIDS (WDR, 2009: 3). At present majority of the Governmental and Non-Governmental Organi-

zations are working on Drug Harm Reduction (DHR) by facilitating the addicts in shape, providing them with the disposable syringes, condoms and awareness about health and hygiene. However, there is no proper implementation of the policies by the Governmental and Non Governmental Organizations which not only increases the number of addicts but also adversely affects their family members, relatives and friends.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Pakistan is included among those countries which are facing the problem of excessive opiate addiction and particularly the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province which is one of the severely affected; Here, the availability of drugs is easy, and is the home of a huge number of addicts. The main focus of this research is to highlight the various social and psychological impacts of opiate and its derivatives on the addicts.

Worst form of opiate addicts has been observed in the province which has abominably degraded the living standard of community where the impacts of opiates have reached an unbearable stage. Drugs (derivates of opiates) are openly sold and used in the rural as well as urban areas due to weak law enforcement, lack of proper check and balance, black marketing and easy availability. Such a swift and unwarranted prevalence of these drugs has inculcated the social, psychological, physiological, spiritual and economical impacts on the addicts as well as the co-addicts.

In the context of the impacts of opiate on the social life and status of individual, it is also important to enumerate that drugs alter the mood of individual, which further affects them psychologically. Such psychological effects cause a variety of social monsters in the shape of social disturbances, social deviation, violation of cultural values and norms. It is noted earlier that alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents claim about 15000 lives every year. Most of these accidents are caused by young male drunk drivers where the male culture views alcohol consumption as a macho: a symbol of male potency (Peele, 1987: 210-218). In agreement to that, Ronald Snow and Orville C (1985) suggest that excessive drinking among young males is related to their developing sexuality. Still in the proving stage of their manhood, young males find drinking and driving an expression of bravado, a form of risk taking that validates their developing sense of male identity.

In the field of drugs like alcohol and cocaine, narcotics also have a key role to affect the users as well as the society in the larger spectrum. Narcotics are used worldwide for a variety of purposes including pain killing and curing different diseases. On the contrary, the abuse of narcotics has altered the life of individual adversely where use of such drugs paves the way to different social evils and numerous crimes. James Inciardi and Anne

Pottieger (1994: 273-292), in their study of Miami crack users, found that the average crack use had committed 6000 crimes in just the past three months. Universally, it is an approved fact that most of the social evils are linked with the use of drugs. In this context it is crystal clear that the heroin addicts rob, steal, burglarize, mug and prostitute themselves in order to support their drug habit. For satisfaction of their craving and fulfilling the drug desire, they do not eschew any kind of deviant act which further leads to severe crimes and makes them proclaimed offenders (Inciardi and Pottieger 1994:273-292).

In this regard, the research of Johnson et al, (1988) palpably shows an intensive augmentation in crimes. They interviewed 105 drug addicts and found that during just the past 24 hours, such group had committed 46 robberies, 18 burglaries, and 41 thefts, earning for themselves 7771 dollars. Out of the earned money, 75 percent of the amount went for a variety of drugs, and 25 percent for other items such as food etc. In addition to the relationship of crimes with drugs, Douglas and Speckard (1988) argue that after addiction occurs, property crime increases and narcotic use is further increased while *...periods of curtailed narcotics use produced by treatment, property crime levels are significantly reduced and become extremely low after termination of the addiction career* (Speckard, 1988: 198).

Besides the tendency of opiate and its derivatives towards crimes, they also tend to influence the educational well being of the user adversely. Different studies have been launched on the consequences of drugs on educational status of the users, which have summarized that chronic or acute use of cannabis may result in preoccupation with the immediate present, an impairment of short-term memory and other mental functions, impaired tracking ability in sensory and perceptual functions. It is further observed adverse emotional and social development of children and adolescents and impaired classroom performance (Thomas, 2003:1470). He has concluded that drugs can decrease cognitive operations, making it difficult for the youth to develop a functional set of values and ideals. It is further mentioned that reduced cognitive efficiency also leads to poor academic performance and a resulting decrease in self-esteem, contributing to instability of the individual's sense of identity. In short, it may be called the apathy of present day youths and adults who take drugs to deal with problems which cannot be resolved by such substances (Thomas, 2003: 1470).

Notably drugs have multidimensional impacts over the personal, familial as well as communal and societal well being of the users. Besides the social and economic impacts, drugs also have a strong relation of adverse impacts on human psychology. It would not be wrong if expressed that more than the social and economic status of human, the psychological aspect is affected. It is obvious that most of the humanistic operations are

conducted under psychology and obviously it is psychology that regulates, stabilizes and adjusts human in a society.

Objectives of the study

This study covers the following objectives:

1. To know about the social impacts of drugs on the social status of users in society.
2. To assess and record the multiple impacts of drugs on the mental feebleness of the users/addicts.
3. To identify the various adverse impacts of opiate addiction on the physiology and health of the addicts.

Hypotheses of the study

This study is based on the following hypothetical statements:

1. There is a strong correlation between opiate addiction and its socio-economic impacts.
2. Positive relationship exists between excessive use of opiate, its dependency and personality disorganization with psychological feebleness.
3. Indulging in opiate addiction leads to damage of family structure and human physiology.

Conceptual framework

The researchers have given the operational definitions to various key concepts in order to clarify the problem and its various dimensions and what the researchers exactly want to find out. These concepts are explained as below in a co-relational manner with this research.

Drug

According to Douglas (2001), drug is thought to have originated from the old French word "drogue", possibly deriving into "droge-vate" from middle Dutch meaning "dry barrels", referring to medicinal plants preserved in them. Drug is any substance that when absorbed into the body of a living organism, alters normal bodily function (WHO, 1969).

In the field of pharmacology, according to Harvey et al. (2000:26), a drug is "a chemical substance used in the treatment, cure, prevention, or diagnosis of disease or used to otherwise enhance physical or mental well-being". However, in the current research such drugs are referred to as toxic drugs that are derived from opium and have adverse impacts on the addict's social, economic, psychological, physiological and spiritual well-being.

Addiction

The condition of being addicted to a habit, and specifically the habitual use of narcotic drugs is known as addiction (Webster's Dictionary, 2008: 16). Besides, addiction is a persistent behavioral pattern marked by physical and/or psychological dependency that causes significant disruption and negatively affects the quality of life of an organism.

Drug addiction

Mahler (2004: 42) argues that drug addiction is a pattern of compulsive use of a psychoactive substance to the point where drug use interferes with one's normal activities in life. In addition, cessation of drug use by an addict often leads to distressing physical and/or psychological withdrawal symptoms and drug craving. While acute drug withdrawal ends hours to days after cessation of use; drug craving seems to be persistently elicited by drug cues for extended periods, or possibly permanently.

The opiate

The opium group of narcotic drugs is among the most powerfully acting drugs which produce depression to the CNS (Central Nervous System). They are derived from the active compound of exudates of the opium poppy. Drugs of this group are used principally as analgesics, but they possess numerous other useful properties (Hanson, 2000: 1445).

Opiates are a group of narcotics that are derived from the opium poppy, from which they obtained their name. Opioids are similar in chemical structure but are synthesized in a laboratory. The ancient Sumerians gave the opium poppy its name: It means "plant of joy". Opiates include morphine, heroine, marijuana, cannabis, hashish, barbiturates and other similar drugs. The major medical application of this group of drugs is relief from pain (Rathus, 2008:214).

In the context of its abuse, it has excessive adverse effects on the users, which make them in-efficient, laxer, and dull minded. The constituents of opiates are the morphine (heroine), cannabis (derivative of hashish) etc, which are excessively abused throughout the world and in the reaction, the users are facing the consequences.

Derivatives of opiate

(a) Morphine (heroine): Heroine is the derivative of opium that provides a strong euphoric "rush." Users claim that it is so pleasurable that it can eradicate any thought of food or sex. Although regular users develop tolerance

for heroin, high doses can cause drowsiness and stupor, alter time perception and impair judgment. With regular use of opiate, such as morphine or heroin, the brain stops producing the neuro-transmitters that are chemically similar to opiate, and is a pain relieving endorphins (Rathus, 2008: 215).

On the basis of addictive properties of heroine, the non-medical use of opiate has been criminalized. Penalties for possession or sale are high, so they are also expensive as street drugs. For this reason, many physiologically dependent people support their habit through dealing, prostitution or selling stolen goods (Johnston et al., 2003).

(b) Barbiturates: In the ideas of Rathus (2008: 215), barbiturates are the secondary depressants and a derivative of opiate having strong addictive properties. Such drugs have also several medical uses like relief of anxiety and tension, relief from pain, treatment of epilepsy, relief of high blood pressure and insomnia. With regular use, barbiturates lead rapidly to physiological and psychological dependence.

Barbiturates are popular as street drugs because they are relaxing and produce mild euphoria. High doses of barbiturates result in drowsiness, motor impairment, slurred speech, irritability, and poor judgment. A highly physiologically dependent person who is withdrawn abruptly from barbiturates may experience convulsions and may die. Because of addictive effects, it is dangerous to mix alcohol and other depressants.

(c) Marijuana: Marijuana is a substance that is produced from Cannabis Sativa plant, which grows wild in many parts of the world. Marijuana helps some people to relax and can elevate their mood. It also sometimes produces mild hallucinations, hence called hallucinogenic drug (Rathus, 2008: 219).

Ashton (2001: 101-106) describes that in the 19th century marijuana was used much as aspirin is used today for headaches and minor aches and pains. It could be bought without a prescription in any drug store. Today, marijuana use and possession are illegal in most of the states of world. Marijuana also carries number of health risks, for example, it impairs the perceptual motor coordination used in driving and operating machines and impairs short-term memory and slows down learning process.

Contrary to its positive mood changes in the users, there are also disturbing instances of anxiety and confusion and occasional reports of psychotic reactions due to which it is considered as a forbidden substance (Johns, 2001).

(d) Hashish: Hashish is the derivative of cannabis and marijuana which is denoted as "Hash". It is derived from the resin of marijuana and is more potent than marijuana. The effects of hash are same to that of cannabis and marijuana and the affected of hash are also known as

"cannabis induced psychotic" (Rathus, 2008: 219).

Impacts

The term impact is a derivative of Latin word "Impactus" which refers to the violent contact of some objects with each other. It also means that the force of collision, shock or the power of an event, idea etc. to produce changes or having effects usually over the other object (Webster, 2008: 714).

In the present study, various impacts of opiate addiction have been focused on and are explained in relevance to this research as follows:

(a) Social: The Latin word "socialis" or "socius" mainly expresses the meaning of companionship that directly refers to understanding the term social (Webster, 2008: 1360). In addition, it means the characteristic of living organisms and the interaction of organisms with others and their collective co-existence, irrespective of whether they are aware of it or not, and irrespective of whether the interaction is voluntary or involuntary (Morrison, 2006).

(b) Economic: The term economic is derived from a Latin word "Oeconomicus" and Greek word "Oikonomia" that is related to the management of income, expenditures etc, of a household, business, community or government (Webster, 2008: 451). Furthermore, economic is the set of norms relating to production and distribution of goods and services. Besides, economic is concerned with both actions and thoughts which are deeply rooted in the habits of a group and customs of the people (Chaudhary, 1984: 245).

(c) Psychological: Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental process. But the term psychological refers to, or pertains to the behavior and mental process which includes physical actions that can be seen or heard as well as the mental process which cannot be seen or heard such as thought about prejudice and emotions such as anger (Matlin, 1999: 4).

METHODOLOGY

The present study represents both qualitative and quantitative aspects of research. Quantitative data were collected for statistical analysis and testing of hypotheses while qualitative facts describe the in-depth details of socio-economic, psychological and physiological causes and consequences of opiate addiction. Besides, this research activity was conducted in *Karkhano* Market, Peshawar Khyber *Pakhtunkhwa* Province in Pakistan. This is because it is one of the provincial and national places for opiate black market where opiate and its derivatives are smuggled from Pak-Afghan border through *Khyber* Agency to *Karkhano* Market. *Karkhano* is a renowned spot for easy availability and consumption of drugs. Data for this research were collected in the last two months of the year 2010, that is, November and December. The

Annual Census Report of Dost Welfare Foundation (2009a, b) declares 3437 drug addicts using all types of drugs including morphine, marijuana in the research area. These addicts belong to different parts of the country but are residing in the specified areas permanently for long, known as the street addicts. These addicts are living there on the railway track crossed through the area, pavements, under the small bridges in the tents etc. In addition, these addicts arrange money for purchasing drugs through begging, theft, larceny and cheap labor etc. Among these addicts more than 2219 are opiate users, who use a variety of drugs which are produced from opium including heroine (Morphine), Hashish (*Marijuana*), and pure opium.

Out of the mentioned ratio of opiate addicts that is, 2219, a total of 100 respondents (pure opiate addicts) were selected through random sampling technique because of their homogeneity in the context of their behaviors, life style, drug use, modes of intake and impacts. In addition, the respondents comprised only male members as there were no female addicts in the research area.

Structured interview schedule was used as a tool of data collection because majority of the respondents were illiterate and unable to utilize other instruments of data collection. An interview from these addicts was a tough job that was made possible through small incentives in the form of edibles, money and other daily used items. The respondents were interviewed thoroughly in a face to face contact through a designed and pre-tested interview schedule. Moreover, the tools recording the interviews were arranged before going to the field that included recording on a white paper as well as on a tape-recorder.

Theoretical framework

Sociological ideas are usually expressed in the form of theories where theory is a tentative explanation of some aspects of social life and states how and why certain facts are related (Turner, 1989; Babbie, 2004; Brym and Lie, 2005; Khan, 2011). In this context, the current research study has been designed under the umbrella of causation theories in the field of criminology that exemplifies the causes and impacts of anti-social and unexpected action in society. The huge range of theories in a bulk is available to illuminate the crime causation, where the researchers have selected the "Rational Choice Theory" as a philosophical underpinning of the mentioned issue.

Rational choice theory has its roots in the classical school of criminology developed by the Italian social thinker Cesare Beccaria (Devine, 1982; Siegal, 2007). The view that crime is a matter of rational choice is held by a number of criminologist who believe the decision to violate any law like robbery, attacking a rival, filling out a false tax return and more prominently selling, using and abusing drugs could be because of personal and impersonal reasons (Siegal, 2007). In this regard, Beccaria's utilitarian view called for fair and certain punishment to deter and identify the crimes because people are egotistical and self centered where despotic spirit resides in every person (Devine, 1982). Besides, the writings of Beccaria inspired social thinkers to believe that criminals choose to commit crime where the British philosopher, Jeremy Bentham helped popularize Beccaria's views in the light of his utilitarianism. Bentham projected four main objectives in his classical theory: (1) to prevent all criminal offenses; (2) to convince offender to commit a less serious crime; (3) to ensure that a criminal uses no more force than is necessary; and (4) to prevent crime as cheaply as possible (Bentham, 1967).

Rational choice approach reveals that law violating behavior occurs when an offender decides to risk breaking the law after considering both personal and situational factors based on the criminals' perception that the economic benefits are no longer there or that the risk of apprehension is too great (Rengert and Wasilchick, 1985). Many criminal offenders retain conventional

values of striving for success, material attainment and hard work (Uggen and Thompson, 2003). In this context, Philippe Bourgois studied crack dealers in New York and found dissimilarity in their motivations where they were upwardly mobile, scrambling around to obtain their piece of the pie (Bourgois, 1995).

In light of the aforementioned philosophical approach of Rational Choice Theory, drug use is also a rationality based action. Researches in this context show that from its onset drug use is controlled by rational decision making (Siegal, 2007). Users report that they begin taking drugs when they believe that the benefits of an abused substance outweigh its costs e.g. drug will provide fun, exciting and thrilling experience. Entry into abused substance is facilitated by the perception that valued friends and family members endorse and encourage drug use and abuse substances themselves (Petraitis et al., 1995: 60). In adulthood, heavy drug users and dealers show signs of rationality and cunning in their daily activity, approaching drug dealing as a business proposition (Siegal, 2007). The research of Leanne Fital Alarid, in this connection, provides an elegant illustration of drugs dealing and trade in a businesslike manner where people are taught how to recon, cut and repack cocaine (Alarid et al., 1996: 61).

In the light of the mentioned philosophical illustration of the Rational Choice Theory of criminal behaviors, it has been palpably understood that use of drugs and drug causation is a rational decision that is made by the offenders, users, or abusers. Drug use, abuse and trade must be regarded as criminal activities as they are followed by a thought process, which ultimately leads to dysfunctionality in the society. Same is the case in the area under study where black marketing of drugs, easy availability, poor check and balance by the concerned authorities, and low level of education and awareness lead to their involvement in drug abuse. There occurs the rationality of the users who predominantly realize that the use of drug will make them have an increase in their activities, will augment their efficiency, and will be a source of fun, joy, ecstasy and excitement. Resultantly, such factual information well-justifies the position of the researchers to adopt the Rational Choice Perspective as a theoretical model in the current study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The information collected during research has been discussed under three major headings: social, psychological and physiological impacts. The discussion describes major chunks of respondents in percentages while secondary factors have been discussed qualitatively in relation to majority of the impacts. In addition, for the acquisition of authentic and accurate results; Chi-square test and gamma analysis have been used to validate the relationship between opiate and socio-economic, psychological and physiological impacts on the opiate users. Besides, tables and bar charts have been given, showing major impacts on the respondents where at the end hypotheses of research have been proved and validated through results. The main details under the heading concerned are given.

Table 1 shows alliance between the use of opiate and its socio-economic impacts on the users. The quantitative analysis explicitly demonstrates that the use of opiate is adequately responsible for bringing severe socio-economic impacts on the users (79%) while 21% of the respondents enumerated that the use of opiate has milder impacts on the users.

The analysis obviously illustrates that the use of opiate

Table 1. The socio-economic impacts.

Impacts	Percentage of impacts		Total (%)
	Mild impacts (%)	Sever impacts	
Crime	10 (24)	32 (76)	42 (100)
Unemployment	3 (10)	26 (90)	29 (100)
Low standard of life	0 (0)	2 (100)	2 (100)
Poverty	0 (0)	3 (100)	3 (100)
Family problems	1 (25)	3 (75)	4 (100)
Lack trust	2 (40)	3 (60)	5 (100)
No self esteem	3 (50)	3 (50)	6 (100)
Problem of social adjustment	1 (25)	3 (75)	4 (100)
Gambling	1 (20)	4 (80)	5 (100)
Total	21 (21)	79 (79)	100 (100)

($\chi^2 = 8.457$, D.f. = 8, highly significance = 0.000**, Gamma Value = 0.369, ** = highly significant).

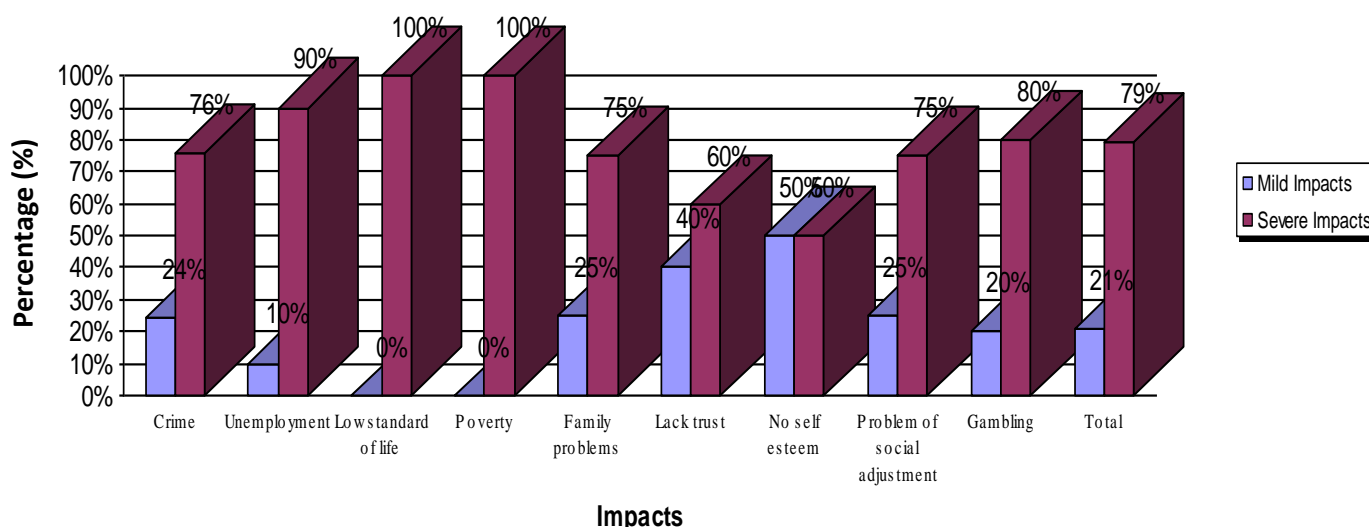


Figure 1. Socio-economic impacts.

leads to social evils in the society as it primarily causes crimes and augments the ratio of law violators (76%) while 29% of the respondents were of the opinion that it is a source of prevailing unemployment in the community. In addition to the mentioned evils caused by opiate and its users, it has further been analyzed that the output of jeopardy also includes the curse of gambling, the misery of poverty, lack of trust, devastation of self esteem, impediments in social adjustment and abatement in standard of life.

The chi-square test and gamma technique were applied to test the hypothesis. The chi-square value (8.457 with degree of freedom = 8 and Alpha = 0.05) shows a highly significant (0.000**) association between use of opiate and socio-economic impacts (Table 1). The gamma value (0.369) exemplifies a positive relationship between opiate and socio-economic impacts. So, the

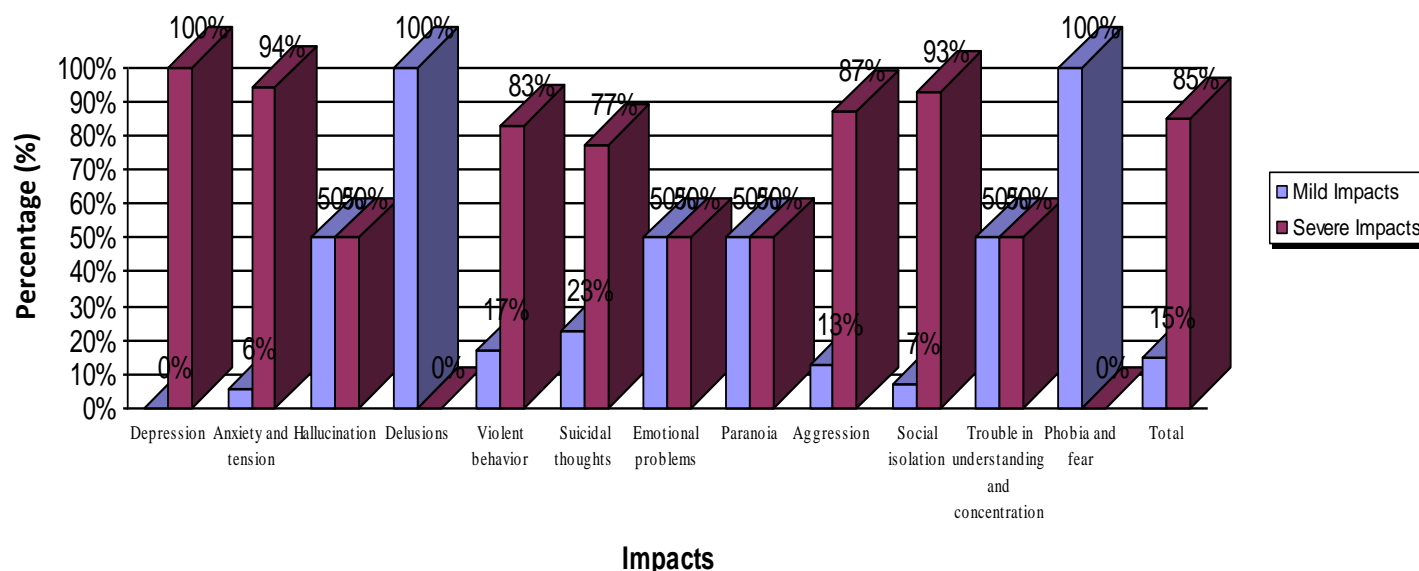
hypothesis- "There is a strong co-relation between opiate users and its socio-economic impacts with the easy availability and black marketing of opiates and their derivatives" is accepted as valid (Figure 1).

Opiates, being the strongest addictive and hazardous drugs for the social and economic well-being of the users, have also been proved to be a peril to the psychological status of the users, having severe impacts on their mental well-being (85%). 15% of the respondents illuminated that they have milder impacts on the psychology of the user. Quantitative analysis of Table 2 unequivocally elucidates the puzzling response of respondents that use of opiate is responsible for social isolation of the users (97%) while it has been observed with the alarming percentage through the collected data that it is a source of aggression creation in the behavior of users (87%). In addition, the analysis reveal that the

Table 2. The psychological impacts.

Impacts	Percentage of Impacts		Total
	Mild impacts (%)	Severe impacts (%)	
Depression	0 (0)	3 (100)	3 (100)
Anxiety and tension	1(06)	16(94)	17 (100)
Hallucination	1 (50)	1 (50)	2 (100)
Delusions	1 (100)	0 (00)	1 (100)
Violent behavior	2 (17)	10 (83)	12 (100)
Suicidal thoughts	3 (23)	10 (77)	13 (100)
Emotional problems	1 (50)	1 (50)	2 (100)
Paranoia	1 (50)	1 (50)	2 (100)
Aggression	2(13)	13 (87)	15 (100)
Social isolation	1 (03)	29 (97)	30 (100)
Trouble in understanding and concentration	1(50)	1 (50)	2 (100)
Phobia and fear	1(100)	0 (0)	1(100)
Total	15(15)	85 (85)	100 (100)

($\chi^2 = 19.320$, D.f. = 11, highly significance = 0.000**, gamma value = 0.288, ** = highly significant).

**Figure 2.** Psychological impacts.

menace of opiate also causes anxiety and tension among the users (94%) while there occurs the trouble in understanding while their intentions are further strengthened towards suicidal thoughts (77%). Moreover, the list of impacts is further expanded to the havoc of depression, imposition of hallucination and delusion, creation of suicidal thoughts, emotional hypertension, paranoia and more prominently the occurrence of phobias and fears.

Chi-square test and gamma technique were used to check the validity of the hypothesis that opiate caused psychological impacts in the stated locality. The chi-

square value (19.320, with degree of freedom, 11 and alpha 0.05) describes highly significant (0.000**) association between use of opiate and psychological consequences (Table 2). The gamma value (0.288) shows positive relationship in the context of opiate users and its psychological outcomes. Therefore, the proposed hypothesis, positive relationship exists between excessive use of opiates dependency and personality disorganization of the users in the form of producing passive-aggressive behavior and psychological feebleness, is approved as authentic and valid (Figure 2).

Opiate, the undeniable segment of society in

Table 3. The physiological impacts.

Impacts	Impacts of opiates		Total (%)
	Mild impacts (%)	Sever impacts (%)	
High blood pressure	0 (0)	3 (100)	3 (100)
Cardiac problems	6 (25)	18 (75)	24 (100)
Neuritis	0 (0)	2 (100)	2 (100)
Epilepsy	1 (50)	1 (50)	2 (100)
Gastro intestinal disorder	2 (67)	1 (33)	3 (100)
Skin problems	1 (33)	2 (67)	3 (100)
Respiratory	0 (0)	2 (100)	2 (100)
HCV/HBS	09 (35)	17 (65)	26 (100)
HIV/AIDS	9 (26)	26 (74)	35 (100)
Total	28 (28)	72 (72)	100 (100)

($\chi^2 = 8.161$, D.f. = 8, highly significance = 0.000**, gamma value = 0.201, ** = highly significant).

pertinence to the expansion and nuisance of adverse and severe impacts, has been proved as an inevitable phenomenon that brings impacts on the physiology of the users. Table 3 validates the correlation between opiate and its physiological impacts where the statistical analysis obviously states there are severe impacts of the use of opiate on the physiology of the user (72%), while 28% respondents argued that it has milder health impacts.

The statistical data explicate that the havoc of HCV/HBS has been excessively caused and augmented by the use of opiate (65%) while the menace of HIV/AIDS has also been brought and expanded severely with opiate users (74%). In addition, the statistical analysis also expresses and expands the criteria of physiological impacts towards cardiac problems that have been severely caused by use of opiate (75%) while 67% of the respondents agreed that skin problems are mainly caused by the use of opiates. Furthermore, the analysis and response of the respondents indicate that the expanse of such impacts also cover the threat of high blood pressure, neuritis, epileptic problems, gastro-intestinal disorders and problems in respiration.

Hypothesis enumerated for such kind of data has been tested with the application of chi-square and Gamma having the value of ($\chi^2 = 8.161$, d.f. = 8, highly significance = 0.000**, gamma = 0.201, ** = highly significant) (Table 3). The statistical application authenticates the proposed hypothesis. Indulging in drugs damages the structure and function of family, makes it dysfunctional and becomes a threat to easy survival as well as comfortable life of the members, as valid (Figure 3).

Opiates and societal disruption (OSD) model

The OSD model is derived from study findings, review of

the literature and recommendations extended by researchers for smooth running of the society and intercepting the hasty proliferation of Menace of Opiates (Figure 4).

Conclusion

The menace of opiate, being a global matter of concern, has multidimensional and obnoxious impacts on the socio-economic, psychological and physiological well-being of the users. This research study evidently concludes that the use and abuse of opiate and its derivatives encompass numerous impacts on the users and abusers that are worth-mentioning and worth-analyzing. They prominently include distortion of social status, bringing havoc to psychology and feebleness to mental power and almost devastating the elegant process and smooth body function. In addition, the whole research activity expounds that the prevalence of opiates and their abuse are alarmingly high in the research area, which draws the shadows of adversity in the form of intensive miseries in the familial and social life. Furthermore, evidences have been found through the research that the use and prevalence of opiates play a significant role in hindering the economic stability of the users, bringing discontentment and pathetic conditions in the society as well as diminishing the zest of human creativity and lucrativity.

The research has palpable results in the course of impacts, brought over the subject users and abusers in order to shudder the lucrative performance of individuals. The heavy prevalence of opiates and its derivatives have necessitated the opiates addicts to spend a miserable life with a filthy status and put others on threat as well. It has been drawn-out during the research that excessive spread of opiate abuse paves the way for plenty of crimes and deviant acts that are regarded as severe

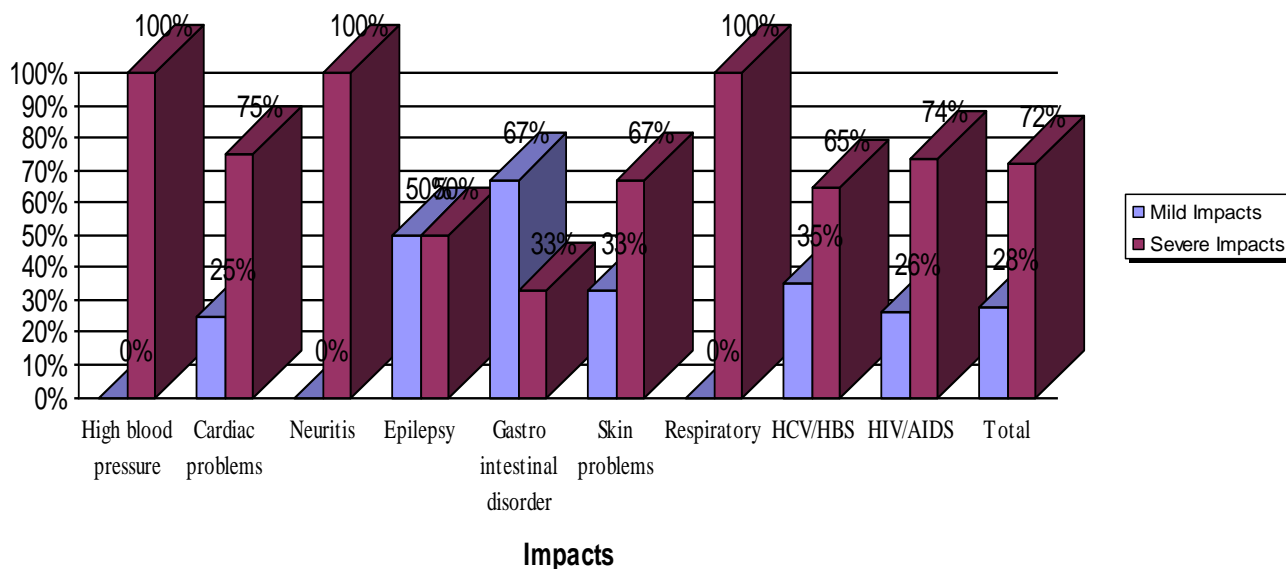


Figure 3. Physiological impacts.

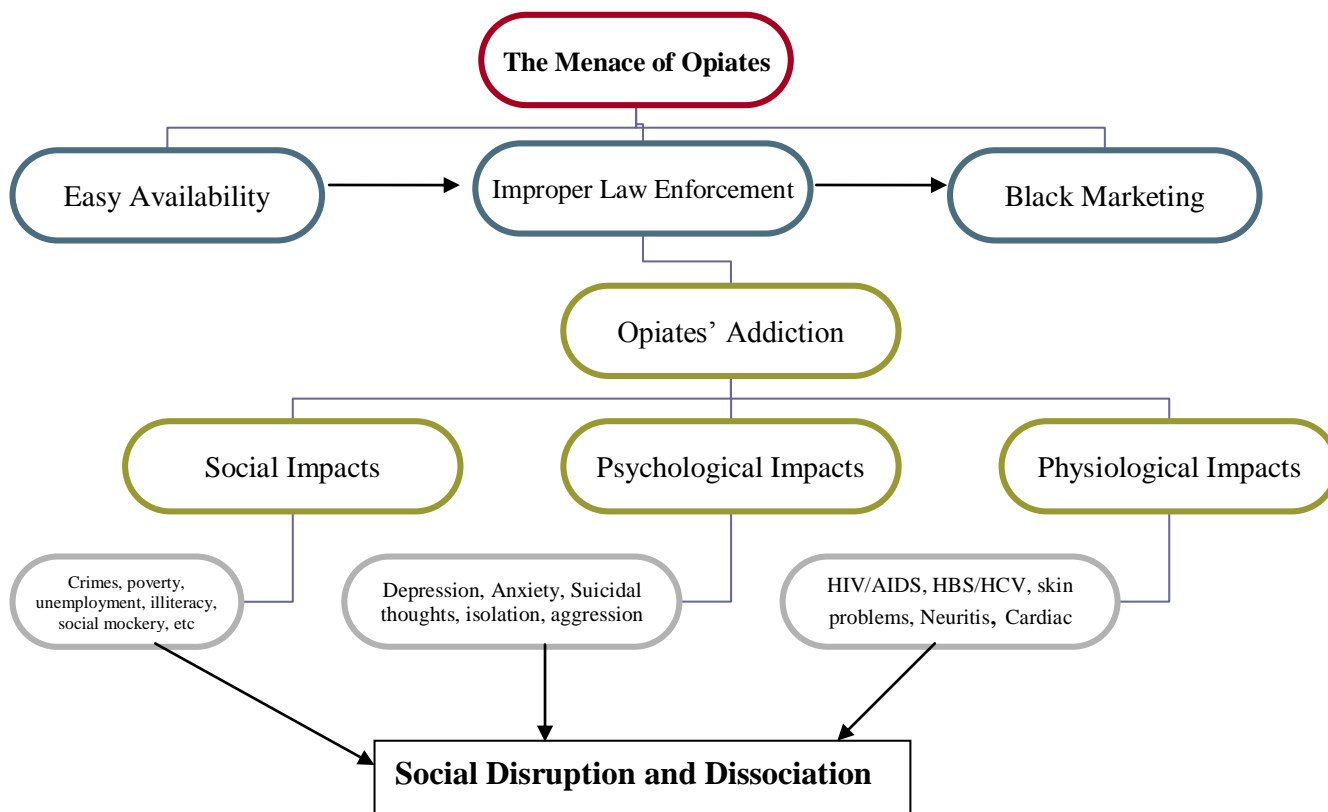


Figure 4. Opiates and societal disruption (OSD) model.

threats to the stability of the community. Such crimes included the series of robberies, excess of burglaries, high rate of larceny and more prominently unlawful

assault and battery. Besides, the research illuminated that augmentation in the rate of unemployment is also one of the major impacts of such menace where most of

the opiate users are unemployed and are idle which worsens the burden on society and increases the ratio of poverty as well.

This research activity further highlighted the intensity and severity of the problem in the context of its consequences over psychology of the users and abusers. In this regard, it was predominantly illuminated that addiction of the opiate brings excessive depression among the addicts, creating aggression in their behavior. Besides, the problem of social isolation has also been worsened accompanied by loss of concentration and mental feebleness among the addicts. In the course of psychological consequences of opiate addiction, prevalence of anxiety and tension as well as hallucination is never behind to shudder the addicts and society.

Results of this study express factual information in order to pinpoint the impacts of opiate on the physiology of addicts, which is a prominent figure among the consequences. The most lethal threats to the world nowadays are considered as diseases like HIV/AIDS, whose incurableness to the present day has been mostly caused by the opiate addicts who share needles with one another when they inject themselves and also keeping of illicit sexual relations. In addition, HCV/HBS, skin problems, respiratory disorders, cardiac threats etc. are also among the impacts of such addiction.

The overall study concludes that opiate addiction, being a blizzard in the course of its hazardous consequences, is prevalent on the roots of social, economic, psychological and physiological development of the addicts and area where the problem is worsening day by day. In-short, the research findings unanimously conclude that opiate addiction is a monster, which hinders the overall smooth functioning of the subject person as well as the society, with adverse effects on the future of the nation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This study extends and suggests that general mass awareness is inevitable for overcoming the problems of addiction caused by the use of opiate. General mass awareness may be brought through the expansion of drug related campaigns both on local and national level to eradicate addition and fight against such curse where the role of community personnel and common inhabitants is more worthy.

The concept of drug demand reduction is worth-strengthened that has an ability to create abhorrence against opiates among the addicts as well as the common people. The demand reduction policy should be implemented through holding of workshops and seminars.

Non-governmental organizations have an undeniable and highly important role to play in combating the curses of opiate addiction. In this regard, NGOs should be assisted both by government as well as the community

and co-addicts to de-toxify and rehabilitate the addicts. Drug treatments centers should be empowered and facilitated with basic needs to reintegrate the opiate addicts and minimize its adverse consequences.

In collaboration with NGOs, government's role may also not be underestimated that needs to persevere and confirm the drug supply reduction/eradication. It is the primary role of government and concerned agencies to intercept those mercenaries who are having the business of death and poison. Furthermore, law enforcement agencies should dig-out such smugglers and should be intensively punished to settle a lesson for the future.

Mass media is one of those influential forces that can access the nook and cranny of the society with less efforts and more elegance. Media should be positively utilized in order to bring intimation regarding the curses and consequences of opiate addiction and motivate the people to eschew such menace. On the other hand, the projection and advertisement of alcohols, cigarettes and other addictive and toxic drugs should be banned in order to prevent the masses.

Last but not the least, recreational facilities should be ensured in the form of healthy activities like games, parks, theatres, healthy and active competitions or any other possible sources that the government and community deem necessary for leisure time of the masses.

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