

DRUG ADDICTION AS A CAUSE OF SOCIAL MALADAPTATION

The aim of the study is to characterize whether a person burdened by drug addiction can have such problems as maladaptation in the environment.

The dynamics and challenges of state formation in Ukraine are accompanied by difficulties in the political, economic, social, and spiritual spheres. All these factors may lead to the loss of life guidelines, despair and pessimism in some people and as a result, it can cause addictive behavior in order to escape from the realities of life, to facilitate the perception of existing problems.

Several general psychological theories describe the relationships between social context and individual addictive behavior. Among these, social control theory emphasizes the motivational effects of the bonds between group members, social learning theory emphasizes the importance of role models in the development of substance-related behaviors and attitudes, and stress and coping theory emphasizes the impact of stressors resulting from social disorganization on the coping resources of the individual. [1]

All these approaches describe influence processes moving bidirectionally between individuals and their social setting. [5]

In 1865, German physiologist H. Aubert introduced the term “adaptation”. This term was used in biological, medical and psychological literature, where it meant a change in the sensitivity of the analyzers under the influence of adaptation of the sense organs to the action of stimuli. Later, the term “adaptation” began to be used in psychology, sociology, and pedagogy. The concept of “adaptation” is universal, it covers phenomena from the adaptation of harmful substances to environmental conditions to the complex socio-psychological adaptation of a person, which is the process of his interaction with the environment. [4]

Studying the concept of “adaptation”, the famous American scientist T. Shibutani noted that each personality is characterized by a combination of techniques as forms of adaptation. In contrast to the concept of “adjustment”, which refers to how an organism adapts to the certain situation, “adaptation” is necessary for more stable solutions - well-organized ways to cope with typical problems, for techniques that crystallize through a repeated series of adaptations. [3]

Joel W. McGlothlin and David N. Fisher examined social selection and the evolution of maladaptation. In their article they presented that maladaptation is most likely when social selection is strongly affected by nonsocial selection and acts in the opposite direction. When social selection is strong and informs nonsocial selection, and/or when there is strong negative correlation in the phenotypes of interacting individuals, the partial increase in population mean fitness may be outweighed by the deterioration of the social environment, leading to maladaptation. [2]

Thus, the state of mental health of drug addicts does not allow them to fully function in society, to satisfy their physical, psychological, and social needs.

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