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About

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INSIGHT Journal focuses on social science and humanities research. The main aim of INSIGHT Journal is to provide an intellectual forum for the publication and dissemination of original work that contributes to the understanding of the main and related disciplines of the following areas: Accounting, Business Management, Law, Information Management, Administrative Science and Policy Studies, Language Studies, Islamic Studies and Education.

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FOREWORD BY DEPUTY RECTOR OF RESEARCH, INDUSTRIAL LINKAGES & ALUMNI

Since 2018, the INSIGHT JOURNAL (IJ) from Universiti Teknologi MARA Cawangan Johor has come up with several biennial publications. Volume 1 and 2 debuted in 2018, followed by Volume 3 this year as well as Volume 4 with 19 published papers due to the great response from authors both in and out of UiTM. Through Insight Journal, lecturers have the ability to publish their research articles and opportunity to share their academic findings. Insight Journal is indexed in MyJurnal MCC and is now an international refereed journal with many international reviewers from prestigious universities appointed as its editorial review board members.

This volume 5 as well as volume 6 (which will be published in 2020) are special issues for the 6th International Accounting and Business Conference (IABC) 2019 held at Indonesia Banking School, Jakarta. The conference was jointly organized by the Universiti Teknologi MARA Cawangan Johor and the Indonesia Banking School Jakarta. Hence, the volumes focus mainly on the accounting and business research papers compiled from this conference, which was considered a huge success as over 66 full papers were presented.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Rector of UiTM Johor, Associate Professor Dr. Ahmad Naqiyuddin Bakar for his distinctive support, IJ Managing Editor for this issue Dr. Noriah Ismail, IJ Assistant Managing Editor, Fazdillah Md Kassim well as all the reviewers and editors who have contributed in the publication of this special issue.

Thank you.

ASSOCIATE PROF. DR. SAUNAH ZAINON
Deputy Rector of Research, Industrial Linkages & Alumni
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Factors on Drug Addiction: A Case Study at The Cure &Care Rehabilitation Centre (CRCC)

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Abstract

This study was carried out using purposive sampling method. A total of 180 questionnaires were distributed to one of the Cure & Care Rehabilitation Centre (CCRC) in the state of Kedah and only 151 are usable. Self-administrated questionnaire that comprised two parts of questions was applied. All of the respondents are male with majority of them are Malay (96.70%). One hundred thirty-seven (90.73%) of the respondents had secondary education level. The 17 items of questions on 151 respondents were analyzed using principal component analysis (PCA) with a Varimax (orthogonal) rotation. PCA revealed the presence of four components with eigenvalues more than 1. The identified four components are measures of religion, law awareness, peer influence and lifestyle. Multiple regression analysis was carried out to investigate the effects of explanatory factors of religion, law awareness, peer influence and lifestyle on drug addict. The model of this study is fit as the model is significant with F-value of 14.527 ($p < 0.01$). The R2 value 0.286 indicates that the 28.6% of variations in drug addict is explained by the explanatory factors chosen in this study. Results shows that law awareness ($b = 0.408$, $p < 0.05$, BCa 95% CI 0.230, 0.290]), peer influences ($b = 0.268$, $p < 0.05$, BCa 95% CI [0.146, 0.414], and lifestyle ($b = 0.096$, $p < 0.05$, BCa 95% CI [0.014, 0.174]) have significant and positive effect on drug addict. While, religion was having no significant effect on drug addict.

Keywords: Drug addicts, Lifestyle, Peer influence, Religion, Law awareness

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1. Introduction

Drug addiction is a disease that affects a person's brain and behaviour and leads to an inability to control the use of a legal or illegal drug or medication. One would continue using the drug despite the harm it causes. An inability to stop using drugs at a young age and among millennial should be a concern to a nation. Addiction affects one's life includes relationship, career, health and psychology wellbeing.

Drug abuse and addiction has been a worrying issue for decades. Although enormous amount of budget has been allocated on the drug addiction programmes, the trend of drug addicts has escalated throughout years. The National Anti-Drug Agency has recorded the number of drug addicts nationwide from 2014 until September 2018 at 130,478, which is 0.40 per cent of the country's population. The youngest drug abuser on record is a 7-year old child. Of this, 80,068 (73.4 per cent) were youths aged between 19 and 39, 31,850 (19.6 per cent), were adults aged 40 and above, and 3,409 (2.3 per cent) were teenagers aged between 13 and 18.

In terms of ethnicity 88,522 are Malays which form the highest number of addicts, followed by the Chinese (7,883), Indians (7,689), Sabah Bumiputera (4,274) and Sarawak Bumiputera (713). Male addicts stood at 105,632 compared with females at 4,206. The numbers of cases for Bumiputera has fluctuated throughout years but have showed an increase of 20.7 per cent in 2018 compared to 2014. Whereas as for Chinese and Indians the number of cases have dropped by 19.0 per cent and 3.32 per cent respectively. The number of new cases has decreased by 5.2 per cent from 18,440 (2017) to 17,474 (2018). Whereas for relapse cases there was an increase by 4.2 per cent form 7,444482 (2017) to 7,793 (2018) (AADK, 2018). It is estimated that currently, Malaysia suffers 70 new drug addicts daily (NST, June 2019).

The trend in drug abuse has changed from plant-based drugs such as marijuana and heroin to synthetic drugs such as *syabu* and ecstasy. However, methamphetamine drugs such as *syabu*, *pilkuda* and heroin were still the drugs of choice among abusers in the country in 2018. Regardless of the stringent enforcement and awareness activities put forward by the relevant authorities and institution, drug seizures by the authorities has risen in the past years. In 2017, RM292.2 million worth of drugs were confiscated and this has rose to RM516.3 million in 2018 (NST, 2019).

Peer influence, curiosity, having fun and stress are the four main reasons for using drugs apart from ignorance, lack of religious affiliation, financial problems, domestic violence and etcetera (AADK, 2018). It is important to identify the factors leading to drug addiction among millennial and to take proactive measures towards a free drug nation.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Lifestyle

Lifestyle has been identified as one of the primary determinants of drug abuse in the literature. This includes a report by Spooner and Hetherington (2004). The nature of interactions individuals has with the surrounding community have significant bearing on

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the kind of activities individual is likely to participate in. The more an individual engage with people whose behaviour are particularly exposed to drug abuse, the more likely a non-drug abuser to fall into the same pattern of behaviour. This is corroborated in another study by Bloechliger et al. (2016). The authors however examined the risk associated with drug induced seizures. Nevertheless, it provides sufficient explanation that could be used to justify the inclusion of lifestyle as a determinant of drug abuse. Lifestyle choices include behaviour pattern in smoking, drinking and frequency to entertainment centres. These behaviour has been shown to correlate with substance abuse. Hence, if follows that it examining the risk factor associated with lifestyle in explaining drug abuse is crucial.

2.2 Religion

Religious education has long been associated with lower drug and substance abuse tendencies. Dalgalarrondo, Soldera, Corrêa Filho and Silva (2004) for instance investigated the trend of drug abuse for students by means of convenience sampling from seven schools in Brazil. The researchers confirmed the results of previous authors where there is significant relationship between religious education and history of drug abuse. In particular, students with weak or no religious education had strong inclination towards abuse of medicinal drugs and intake of cocaine. Another study by Zanto, Hennigan, Östberg, Clapp and Gazzaley (2011) examined the multidimensional effects of religiosity on substance abuse. The authors rightfully identified that increased church attendance, matched by sound religious education is associated with lower substance abuse. That is to say that church or any worship attendance does not necessarily lead to reduced risk of substance abuse. The key to lower substance abuse therefore boils down to education. In particular, religious education which tends to emphasize on spiritual wellbeing often stands in contrast to substance abuse since any substance intake that physically diminishes one's capacity tends to have the same effect on the spiritual dimension.

2.3 Law

The literature is replete with evidence of correlation between law enforcement and drug abuse cases. For instance the stance taken by Strathdee et al. (2015) is echoed by Blaustein, McLay, and McCulloch (2017) through a 'secondary harm mitigation' framework, which aims to improve the conduct of international drug law enforcement agencies, so as to align with accepted human rights codes. Policies aimed to confront commercialization and transportation of illicit drugs should be in accordance with harm reduction principle. Analysis done by the authors point to the conclusion that many drug law enforcements are practically counterproductive. Delving deeper into humanitarian concerns reveal that most drug law enforcements are problematic, in that they do not place particular emphasis on the risk factors surrounding traffickers. Like consumption, trafficking of drugs usually involve vulnerable individuals who most probably have limited means of living. Additionally, the authors argue that it is important to consider that

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individuals who partake in drug trafficking may come from such disadvantaged conditions as poverty, coercion and gendered submission to authority.

Moreover, these circumstances may render said individuals inadvertently complicit in not only trafficking, but often, consumption of illicit drugs. Enforcement without considering these dimensions' risks inflicting secondary harm to said individuals. A further analysis on the dichotomy between drug law enforcement ("laws in practice") and formal provisions of the law ("law on the books") is lucidly presented by Belackova, Ritter, Shanahan, and Hughes (2017). Comparing three disparate jurisdictions with various stringency level on drug law namely, Czech Republic, New South Wales (NSW), Australia and Florida, the United States, the authors find differing levels of "laws in practice". Adjusting for population, the authors find that enforcements, represented by criminal arrests, in somehow more stringent in Czech Republic and NSW despite decriminalization in "law on the books". Such apparent inconsistency needs to be addressed so as not to render the multi-faceted effort to overcome drug abuse ineffectual.

2.4 Peer Influence

Collegial sway may also hold more gravity in cases where potential abusers are plagued with low self-efficacy (Blevins, Stephens, Walker, & Roffman, 2014). In the usual social construct of young adults, one may feel the need to prove self-worth, in order to be considered entry into the social circle. With a low sense of self-efficacy, a subject may be more inclined to heed the instructions from members of the social circle, without much regard to the cost and benefit of doing so. As such, it is common to find that abusers fit this psychological profile. However, there are nuances to this psychological-substance abuse relationship. That is, scientists have discerned the frequency of usage with psychological profile of users. In a study conducted by Buckner, Ecker, and Cohen (2010), young college students with some form of psychological impairment are associated with less frequent substance abuse. On the other hand, subjects with academic difficulties are associated with more frequent substance abuse. Based on these findings, we expect that intoxication has more to do with pressure than it has with psychological disorder. This is an important observation as this paper does not delve into psychological impairment effect in its analysis and place greater emphasis on external influences instead. Nevertheless, an interesting finding reported by Buckner et al. (2010) that could be of great influence to this study is that abusers with higher frequency of intoxication display a greater interest in treatment and management of addiction. This suggests that despite heavy external pressure and peer pressure, abusers may be willing to engage in rehabilitative procedures, given assurances that their decision will not result in dire repercussion is offered. Otherwise, it would be a hindrance for abusers to seek treatment in the first place.

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3. Methodology

This study was carried out using purposive sampling method. A total of 180 questionnaires were distributed to one of the Cure & Care Rehabilitation Centre (CCRC) in the state of Kedah and only 151 are usable. Self-administrated questionnaire was applied that comprised two parts of questions. The first part identifies the demographic profile of the respondents and the second part examines the four potential factors of drug addict. A five-point Likert scale ranging from “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree” was utilized.

Factor analysis is applied in the study to classify the factors of drug addict. Factor analysis is used to identify a relatively small set of factors which can be used to symbolized relationships among variables. Factor analysis presents a geometrical illustration that allocates a visual description of behavior relationships (Raven, 2004). Furthermore, multiple regression analysis was applied to analyze the relationship between the explanatory factors (i.e. religion, law awareness, peer influence and lifestyle) and drug addicts.

3.1 Analysis Results and Discussion

The demographic characteristics of the respondents in this study are presented in Table 1. All respondents are male. Most of the respondents are Malay (96.70%). One hundred thirty-seven (90.73%) had secondary education level.

Table 1Demographic characteristics of the respondents (n = 151)

Characteristics	n	%
Ethnic		
Malay	147	96.70
Chinese	1	0.01
Indian	3	0.02
Religion	147	96.70
Islam	1	0.01
Buddha	3	0.02
Hindu		
Education		

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Primary school	14	9.26
Secondary school	137	90.73
Diploma and pre-university	1	0.01

Based on Table 2, 146 respondents responded to the question pertaining to the ability to do without drugs and knew about the danger of the drugs. From the 146 respondents, only 108 respondents (74.0) per cent of the respondents are able to go through the days without drugs since there are at the rehabilitation centre and getting treatment for their addiction. However, 22.6 per cent still rely on drugs. Table 3 reveals that 93.2 per cent knew about the danger of drugs addiction and only 6.8 per cent said that they do not knew about the danger of it. Neither nor

Table 2 Days without drugs (n = 151)

Characteristics	n	%
Yes	108	74.0
No	33	22.6

Table 3 Know the danger of drugs (n = 151)

Characteristics	n	%
Yes	136	93.2
No	10	6.8

The 17 items of questions on 151 respondents were analyzed using principal component analysis (PCA) with a Varimax (orthogonal) rotation. An examination of Kaiser-Mayer-Oklin measure of sampling adequacy (KMO = 0.666) and the Barlett's Test of Sphericityis significant indicates that the sample was sufficient for factorable of the correlation matrix.

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Table 4 presents the results of orthogonal rotation. Following Hair et al. (2010), four-factor matrix were identified with a simple structure for factor loadings more than 0.50. PCA revealed the presence of four components with eigenvalues more than one. The identified four components are measures of religion, law awareness, peer influence and lifestyle.

The Factor 1, Religion, was comprised of five items that explained 12.946% of the variance with factor loadings ranged from 0.660 to 0.856 and eigenvalue of 4.790. There were six items in factor 2, Law Awareness, in which it explained 12.099% of the variance and eigenvalue of 4.477 with factor loadings from 0.512 to 0.733. Factor 3 represents Peer Influence comprised of four items that explained by 8.844% of variance with eigenvalue of 3.727 and the factor loadings were ranged from 0.512 to 0.713. Two items were grouped under factor 4, Lifestyle that explained 5.204% of the variance and eigenvalue of 1.925 with factor loadings of 0.567 and 0.606. The values of Cronbach Alpha for the four factors that have been identified were 0.895, 0.774, 0.693 and 0.901.

Table 4 Rotated Component Matrix

Items	M	SD	Component			
			1	2	3	4
Religion						
I live my life according to the God's command.	3.233	1.217	0.856			
I pray to God every day.	3.320	1.228	0.829			
I uphold my religion faithfully	3.033	1.172	0.824			
I consider myself a religious person.	3.400	1.274	0.745			
I live a lifestyle that blessed by God	3.330	1.202	0.660			
Law awareness						
The government has made enough effort to educate society on drug issues	4.340	0.895		0.733		
I know where to report if I have drug abuse information.	4.252	0.942		0.711		
I will report to authority if I witness any drug abuse case.	4.068	1.083		0.668		
I fully support any anti-drug abuse campaign.	4.449	0.812		0.661		

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I know that drug abuse is illegal	4.435	0.759		0.615		
Law enforcement in this country is sufficient to curb drug abused	4.116	1.162		0.512		
Peer influence						
I always borrow money to accommodate to my everyday spending.	2.548	1.355			0.713	
I can easily get drugs when I am with my friends	3.386	1.157			0.675	
I enjoy smoking or vaping with my friends	3.980	1.027			0.547	
Many of my friends enjoy smoking or vaping	4.322	0.894			0.512	
Lifestyle						
I regularly go to places such as clubs, disco & bar to meet my friends.	2.667	1.436				0.606
I regularly hang out to places such as clubs, disco & bar with my friends at night.	2.660	1.418				0.567
% of variance			12.946	12.099	8.844	5.204
Total of Eigenvalues			4.790	4.477	3.272	1.925
Cronbach alpha			0.895	0.774	0.693	0.901

Table 5 Results of boostrapped multiple regression analysis

	Beta	S.E	t	p-value	BCa 95% CI	VIF
Constant	0.447	0.0432	1.035	0.302	(-0.494, 1.279)	
Religion	0.002	0.051	0.032	0.975	(-0.115, 0.103)	0.112
Law awareness	0.408	0.081	5.031	0.000	(0.230, 0.290)	0.054
Peer influences	0.268	0.069	3.899	0.000	(0.146, 0.414)	0.112
Lifestyle	0.096	0.041	2.318	0.022	(0.014, 0.174)	1.193
F = 14.527 (0.000)						
R_2 = 0.286						

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Multiple regression analysis was then carried out to investigate the effects of explanatory factors of religion, law awareness, peer influence and lifestyle on drug addict. The test of normality, Shapiro-Wilk test ($p < .000$) indicates that data distribution is not normally distributed. As the assumption of normality was not met, therefore, the bootstrapped multiple regression 95% bias corrected confidence interval based on 1000 replications was used for robustness of the sample. The results of bootstrapped multiple regression results were shown in Table 4.

The model of this study is fit as the model is significant with F-value of 14.527 ($p < 0.01$). The R_2 value 0.286 indicates that the 28.6% of variations in drug addict is explained by the explanatory factors chosen in this study. Results shows that law awareness ($b = 0.408$, $p < 0.05$, BCa 95% CI 0.230, 0.290]), peer influences ($b = 0.268$, $p < 0.05$, BCa 95% CI [0.146, 0.414], and lifestyle ($b = 0.096$, $p < 0.05$, BCa 95% CI [0.014, 0.174]) have significant and positive effect on drug addict. While, religion has no significant effect on drug addict.

Peer influence as a factor that led to drug abuse among the respondents is consistent with studies by Lian (2013) and Saad et al (2015). Subsequently in 2018, Saad et al conducted a research on college students which portray similar views on the factors leading to drug abuse. Most of the respondents blamed on 'influence by friends' or 'peer influence' caused them to take drugs. In this study, peer influence is still pertinent in influencing the factors that lead to drug addiction in the rehabilitation centre. Irrespective of one's age and background, peer influence seems to be a vital factor in influencing a person decisions to take drugs.

Lifestyle is significant in influencing youth in taking drugs. This is supported by Spooner and Hetherington (2004), and Bloechliger et al (2016). Lifestyle among the youth who enjoy being with friends, partying and entertaining could expose them to be in the wrong circle of people who might push them into taking drugs.

Although the majority of the respondents are Malay and Islam, religion is not a factor that deters them from taking drugs. This might probably due to the lack of practice and understanding of the religion that cause them to go against the teaching of Islam which forbids one from causing harm on oneself. Thus religion is not an influential factor for drug addicts.

4. Conclusions

Findings show that law awareness, life style and peer influence could be the factors to drug abuse among youth in the rehabilitation centre. Although law awareness is significant which means that respondents are aware of the enforcement carried out by the government, they are still not able to detach themselves from the substance used. Therefore, regular activities and campaign relating to the danger and consequences of drug addictions should begin at a very young age. A lifelong and continuous campaign to create and raise awareness and concern among the young should remain an upmost agenda to the government.

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A stricter regulation on drug addicts and their family members might be needed to deal with the problem. Family members should be involved as they are the one closest that one relies on whenever they are face with problems. Lack of parental guidance as a factor for the increase in abuse among teenagers need to be further study. Drug addiction as a form of escapism, which predominantly affects those who are impoverished and living under the poverty line need to be addressed.

There might not be one solution to curb the problem of drug addiction but the involvement of the society at all level is crucial. As the majority of drug addicts are youths, government moves to ensure drug addiction is decriminalised could be put forward at the soonest because criminal conviction on drug addicts will destroy a youth's future as it will lead to a cycle of drug addiction. The scourge of drug addicts must be addressed by rehabilitation, which is a proactive approach to solve the issues relating to drug addictions. Drug is a youth problem and a society ravaged by the scourge of drug addictions especially among its youth would be a hazard to a nation. Therefore, it is the responsibility of all to change the people's hearts and minds on the social stigma.

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