

COMPARING SOCIO – ECONOMIC STATUE, SENSATION - SEEKING AND PERSONALITY TRAITS OF ADDICTS AND NON- ADDICTS IN THE CITY OF IZEH

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to evaluate the socio-economic and personality factors and sensation-seeking and drug addiction in the Ize city. The sample is consisted of 18 individuals that were divided on the basis of drug addiction and normal in both groups (9 people with addiction and 9 normal people). This is a causal-comparative study. The research tool was a questionnaire MMPI short form questionnaire and Zuckerman Sensation Seeking Scale.

Hypotheses include:

1. Between psychological and personality characteristics (hypochondriasis, depression, hysteria, psychopathy, paranoia, mental weakness, schizophrenia and Hypomania) in addicted and normal people, there is a significant difference.
2. Between sensation seeking of addicted and normal people, there is a significant difference.
3. Between socio-economic status of addicted and normal people, there is a significant difference.

To test the hypotheses of t test, independent groups were used. The study results showed that between psychological characteristics of addicted and normal people, there is a significant difference in the level of $p < 5\%$.

Keywords: *socio-economic status, personality traits, sensation seeking, addicted, Izeh*

İZEH İLİ İÇİNDE BAĞIMLILARI VE BAĞIMLI OLMAYANLARIN SOSYOEKONOMİK DURUM, DUYUM VE KİŞİLİKLERİNİN KARŞILAŞTIRILMASI

ÖZ

Bu çalışmanın amacı, Ize kentinde sosyo-ekonomik ve kişilik faktörleri ve duyu-arayışı ve uyuşturucu bağımlılığı değerlendirmektir. Numune iki grupta (bağımlılığı ile 9 kişi ve 9 normal insanlar) uyuşturucu bağımlılığı temelinde bölünmüş ve normal edildi 18 birey oluşmaktadır. Bu nedensel-karşılaştırmalı bir çalışmadır. araştırma aracı anket MMPI kısa form anket ve Zuckerman Heyecan Ölçeği Aradığınız.

Hipotez şunlardır:

bağımlısı ve normal kişilerde psikolojik ve kişilik özelliklerinin (hipokondriyazisin, depresyon, histeri, psikopati, paranoya, akıl zayıflığı, şizofreni ve Hipomani) arasında 1., anlamlı bir fark yoktur. bağımlısı ve normal insanların arayan hissi arasında 2. anlamlı bir farklılık yoktur.

bağımlısı ve normal insanların sosyo-ekonomik statü arasında 3., anlamlı bir fark yoktur.

t testi hipotezleri test etmek için, bağımsız gruplar kullanıldı. Çalışma sonuçları bağımlısı ve normal insanların psikolojik özellikleri arasında, $p < 5\%$ seviyesinde anlamlı bir farklılık olduğunu göstermiştir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: *bağımlı, sosyo-ekonomik durum, kişilik özellikleri, duyum, Izeh*

INTRODUCTION

Drug addiction is one of the most important social problems that leads the degeneration of human societies and the collapse of the core warm of family, divorce, murder, suicide, theft, orphaned children, AIDS, and other social pathologies. Drug addiction endangers health and mental, political and economic and social and security in the society, but addiction to drugs is a multi-factorial phenomenon that many factors may be involved in its creation:

Psychological factors (psychosis, anxiety, sensation seeking, emotional and personality disorders, lack of assertiveness, shyness, extreme emotional dependence on others, loneliness and feeling of helplessness, feeling of inadequacy and inferiority, need attention), social – economic factors (poverty, unemployment and family problems) and biological factors are some factors may be associated with the spread of drug addiction.

In this study, we try to identify psychological, emotional and social - economic factors that probably may be more associated with drug addiction that by identifying the causes and their psychological factors, we determine those at risk and damage, thus we can present scientific strategies for prevention and treatment of this devastating problem in the future.

Research about investigating the socio-economic causes and psychological characteristics of drug addicts, not only has importance in terms of social and scientific matters, but as economic terms, is also cost-effective, because by identifying mentioned factors, we can provide requirements for the prevention and treatment and prevent from the consequences of the drug addiction, such as murder, theft, divorce, loss of labor and national resources, parenting, divorce and women without sponsors, sexual deviations caused by drugs, prostitution, AIDS and etc.

Psychologists and sociologists believe that mental and personality weakness and disorders such as neurotic and psychotic disorders along with social and family conditions and the lack of proper human relations gradually lead individuals with mental health problems, thus suffering mental weakness and for escaping from problems, they use drugs.

Since drugs, due to disrupting the normal function of the brain and also stimulation of nerve cells leads to the release of more dopamine and serotonin. By releasing dopamine and serotonin, the person has sense of peace and relief. In this situation, people with stress, anxiety and mental problems, are attracted to drugs for more temporary happiness and peace more than normal people.

REVIEWING CONDUCTED STUDIES:

A; addiction and socio – economic statue

Researches of Borsik and Webb (1982), Farrington et al. (1990) showed that the adverse socio-economic status, such as poverty, overcrowding and poor housing conditions are associated with increased risk of behavioral problems in children and delinquency. Researches of Bachmann, Lloyd and O'Malley (1981) showed that there is a positive correlation between education and marijuana use among high school youth (Hawkins, Catalano, and Miller, 1992). Robbins and Ratcliff (1979) showed that extreme poverty is one of three factors that increase the risk of antisocial behavior, such as alcoholism and drug abuse in adulthood among those who were antisocial in childhood greatly (Hawkins, Catalano, and Miller, 1992). According to Loos (1970), some teenagers and young adults in poor families desperately look to the future. In response to any attempt to poverty and economic problems, these people ignore trying to find their identity in general and go to the world of forgetfulness and unawareness of drugs.

Salehi Jouneghani (1379), in a study titled as Evaluation of socio - economic factors affecting addicts based in Shahrekord, concluded that results of the study show that the majority of users have the low socio - economic status. Meanwhile, about 40 percent of them are unemployed.

This study shows that the among level of education, income, family structure, the amount of goals achievement, the isolation amount, the failure amount in life, hope amount to the future and membership in the subculture of delinquency and addiction there is significant relationship.

Mansour (1376), in a study titled as Evaluation of the impact of socio - economic factors on drug addiction in rehabilitation center in Kerman, the findings show that the majority of drug users are in low-income families and the socio - economic status is low and that more than 60 percent of their fathers were bereft of the gift of literacy. This study showed that among employment status, criminal record of parents, father's education and socio - economic status of families with addiction, there is a significant relationship, but among socio - economic status and the family rupture and socio - economic status and the type of drug, there is no significant relationship.

Ghanbarzadeh Makoooye (1354) in a study entitled as Addiction, features, and its problems along with a research among a group of addicts in Tehran, the results showed that, in classifying the quality of works in addicts, drug users constitute the largest group of the working class. The highest frequency is related to drug addicts who are illiterate and in the second degree of importance, we have those with the average level of education.

Most of those who use heroin have education of third elementary school and those who have opium are often illiterate. Among 100 people, only 9 people do not live with their spouse due to death or divorce. About the location of addicted to narcotics, the people who live in Tehran are more than the other cities in the cities. Among other cities, Borujerd with 12 admitted addicts, have the highest prevalence.

Most addicted people monthly income is between 700 to 1401 tomans, also we have a percent difference with those who have 12000-1701 tomans. Among hundred addicts, those who spend 300-251 rials for their addiction, have the highest prevalence and among them, only 78 percent of the parents are alive, out of which 36 have a dispute with each other. About the type of disagreement between parents, moral disagreement has the highest percentage as compared to the total population are the parents as 27 percent and among subjects who their father was addicted, constitute the highest frequency and 8 of the children with addicted fathers, have the highest prevalence and in the classification of factors contributing to the addiction, high prevalence is related to the group of friends and among other factors on addiction, one's own curiosity is more important than other factors.

B, mental traits and addiction

People with severe depression may try to reduce depression and anxiety with drugs and as using drugs for the first time is likely to cause false joy, happiness and peace in person, maybe depressed and neurotic people who have negative behavior, use drugs to reach a positive mood. Research of Robbins (1978), Lerner and Vikary (1984), Knight, Shepoosh Bryson (1974), Patton and Kandel(1978), Smith and Fugue (1978) and Schedler and Block (1990) confirmed the relationship between depression and neurotic disease with tendency to addiction (Hawkins, Catalano, and Miller, 1992).

People with aggressive mood or anxiety and restlessness, and delinquent behavior are likely to use drugs. Research of Kalam and Brown (1982), Lewis, Robbins and Rice (1985), Nailandar (1979), Lower (1988) and Sirak (1983) confirm the relationship between anxiety and aggression with addiction.

Feelings of exclusion, loneliness, isolation and low self-esteem are associated with drug use. Research of Cui(1987), Coppersmith and Dodge (1990), Parker and Asher (1987), Hawkins, Lishner, Jensen and Catalano (1987), Simon (1980) and Hann and White (1991), confirm the relationship between exclusion, isolation and self esteem with the tendency to addiction (Hawkins, Catalano, and Miller, 1992).

Lack of love and emotional poverty is one of the important factors for the tendency of young people to drugs. Those with a lack of affection and emotional poverty are often frustrated, anxious and worried and to relieve pain and reduce stress may be attracted to drugs.

Research of Buick, Lucov and Whitman (1980), Ravkht, Kirby and Barry (1978) showed that a lack of love and emotional needs is one of the main factors for drug tendency (Zandi Dare Gharibi, 1381). According to Robbins (1978), the greater of antisocial behavior in the childhood, probability that in adulthood, individual tends drug use, is higher. Also Brook et al (1996) suggest there are two strong predictors of drug use in adolescence: 1. aggression in childhood 2.communication with peer adolescent who has substance abuse (Keramati, 1380).

The research results of Jasour (1977), Kandel (1982) and Ping and Barnes (1982) showed that people with mental problems and have alienation, there is an absurd and meaningless world for them and the spirit of rebellion, and to reduce anxiety, may use their drugs.

Shayesteh (1375) in a study entitled as comparison of the characteristics of youth in drug addicts and normal people (non-addicted) in the age group of 14-12 years in Isfahan province, the results showed that the groups, in terms of wretched characteristic, have significant difference together and the null hypothesis was rejected with 99% confidence and the research hypothesis was confirmed.

In the second hypothesis of research, no significant difference was observed between the two groups and the hypothesis was rejected in both confidence levels. Third hypothesis was confirmed (99%) in which depression of the addicted youth was more than normal youth. Significant difference between two groups in terms of hypochondriasis, hysteria and F scale (99%) was confirmed and hypotheses for

this research were confirmed. This means that the addicts in these three areas have a higher rate than normal people. The significant difference between the two groups in mental fatigue (95%) was confirmed. So mental fatigue of addicted were higher than normal rates. In mania and scales of L and K, no significant difference was observed between the two groups and therefore, the hypothesis was not confirmed in these three areas. Information obtained from the regulated questionnaire (including items in the personal, family and social areas of addicts group) were analyzed using descriptive statistics methods and significant information in individual areas (such as level of education, occupation or activity, how to spend leisure time and the type and frequency of drug use and the number of try to leave addiction), and family background (such as family economic status, parents' education, emotional relationships in the family, existence of other addicts in the family, controlling the addict by the family and other issues) and social conditions (accommodation, access amount to drugs, access to safe recreational facilities, etc.) were obtained from drug addict and also by ranking them, impact of causes and risk factors in youth drug addiction, was determined.

Ameri (1381) in a study entitled as Evaluation of personality traits in the Cloninger and Eysenck Personality System in addicted and non-addicted group, the results show high novelty seeking, neuroticism and psychosis in drug group but as introversion dimension, in avoiding tease and dependence bonus, there is not a difference in addicts and non-addicts groups. According to the results, the age of onset of smoking is higher among married couples and people with higher incomes have a later start of smoking. Consumption type is associated with income. By increasing the educational level, we see the greater the costs for the drug. The increased interest in the use of drugs is associated with low levels of education. The amount of using drug is associated with the type of drug used.

Haj Hosseini (1382) in his study concluded that among pessimistic personality states, learned helplessness and drug addiction are related.

In a study of Danehkar (1379) on 83 people aged 14 to 22 in Tehran, the results of the Minnesota inventory (MMPI) showed significant difference between addicts and non-addicts groups. Addicted group in terms of psychopath factors, depression, self-concept, mental weakness, hysteria and schizophrenia had higher average than non-addicted group.

C. sensation seeking tendency to addiction

According to Cloninger (1988) and Schedler and Block (1990) psychologically sensation-seeking people need for change, novelty, emotion and complex experiences and satisfaction of gaining social and physical risks and for these items, refuge drugs.

THEORIES:

1. Between psychological and personality characteristics of addicts and non-addicts, there is a significant difference.
2. Between the sensation –seeking of addicts and non-addicts, there is a significant difference.
3. Between socioeconomic status of addicts and non-addicts, there is a significant difference.

RESEARCH METHOD:

According to the research goal that is determining casual relationships between the variables and researcher cannot manipulate psychological characteristics variable artificially and as trial can and ponder its impact o the dependent variable, the best way to the researcher that can investigate the causal relationships under the condition that test manipulating is impossible is causal - comparative research project.

Thus, in this study, causal-comparative design is used. According to the research design and its hypothesis, to analyze the data, independent t test was used.

Community and statistical sample: The study population includes all male abusers who due to the problems caused by drug addiction, referred addiction treatment center of the Ize city from first to the twentieth of Tir, 1386.

The statistical sample: The sample consisted of 18 subjects based on drug addiction and non-addiction, were divided as the control groups with 9 addicted and 9 normal individuals.

Method of data collection: to collect the required information, these questionnaires are used:

1. Short-Form 71-item MMPI which is one of the most useful tools in the diagnosis of psychopathology.

2. Zuckerman Sensation Seeking Scale
3. Researcher made socio – economic statue questionnaire

THE RESEARCH RESULTS

Results: Statistical analysis showed the results as following:

A; descriptive findings:

Table 1 show distribution statistics of test sore groups in the following clinical scales.

| Standard deviation | Average | Number | Categories | Variables |
|--------------------|---------|--------|----------------|----------------------------|
| 4.40 | 52.72 | 9 | Normal group | Hypochondriasis |
| 27.43 | 42 | 9 | Addicted group | |
| 8.45 | 50.55 | 9 | Normal group | Depression |
| 10.89 | 68.33 | 9 | Addicted group | |
| 5.27 | 50.55 | 9 | Normal group | Hysteria |
| 9.01 | 46.66 | 9 | Addicted group | |
| 4.02 | 46.22 | 9 | Normal group | Perversion and psychopathy |
| 4.33 | 70 | 9 | Addicted group | |
| 5.65 | 47.22 | 9 | Normal group | Paranoia |
| 5 | 56.73 | 9 | Addicted group | |
| 4.16 | 43.89 | 9 | Normal group | Mental weakness |
| 4.33 | 65 | 9 | Addicted group | |
| 8.81 | 44.44 | 9 | Normal group | Schizophrenia |
| 5 | 63.33 | 9 | Addicted group | |
| 8.66 | 48.33 | 9 | Normal group | Hypomania (mania) |
| 6.61 | 56.67 | 9 | Addicted group | |
| 3.24 | 5 | 9 | Normal group | Sensation seeking |
| 2.17 | 7 | 9 | Addicted group | |
| 0.86 | 17.66 | 9 | Normal group | Socioeconomic status |
| 0.86 | 15 | 9 | Addicted group | |

As seen in this table, the average score for depression, sociopathy deviation, paranoia, mental weakness, schizophrenia and hypomania in addicts are higher than normal, but the average score of hypochondriasis, hysteria and social-economic status is higher in normal than addicts.

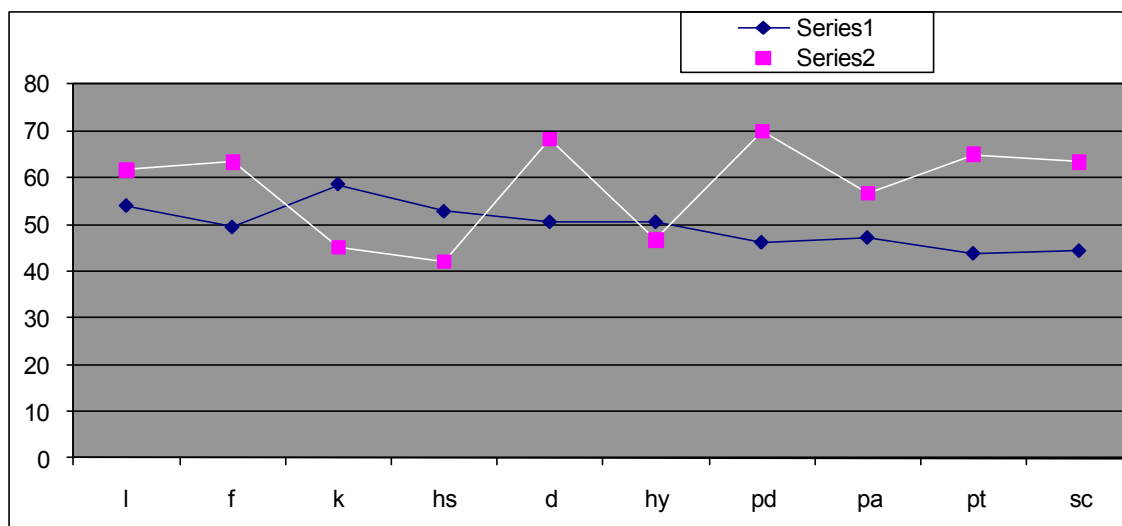


Figure 1 compares the psychological characteristics of the normal group (group 1) and addicted group (group 2).

As shown in Figure 1, group 1 (normal) is lower in scales of L, F, D depression, PD sociopathy, PA paranoia, Pt mental weakness and SC schizophrenia than in group 2 (addicts); but in the scales of K, Hs hypochondriasis, Hy, Hypomania have higher T scores. Also, the addicts in the scales of depression, psychopathy, mental weakness and schizophrenia have a higher score indicating a tendency to ill mood of this group in mentioned measures.

B. The findings of the research hypotheses: the results of the test of research hypotheses are shown in Tables 2 and 3 below.

Table 2 shows comparison of MMPI scales averages in two groups using independent t test.

| The significance level | T | Df | Variables |
|------------------------|-------|----|----------------------------|
| p<0/26 | 1.67 | 16 | Hypochondriasis |
| p< 0/01 | 3.86 | 16 | Depression |
| p<0/28 | 1.11 | 16 | Hysteria |
| p<0/001 | 12/60 | 16 | Perversion and psychopathy |
| p<0/02 | 3/75 | 16 | Paranoia |
| p<0/001 | 10/53 | 16 | Mental weakness |
| p<0/01 | 5/59 | 16 | Schizophrenia |
| p<0/03 | 2/29 | 16 | Hypomania (mania) |
| p<0/09 | 1/79 | 16 | Sensation |
| p<0/01 | 6/53 | 16 | Socioeconomic status |

Table 3 shows comparison of mean psychological characteristics of the two groups by Mann-Whitney U.

| P | Z | W Wilcoxon | U Mann - Whitney | Variables |
|--------|------|------------|------------------|-----------------|
| P<0/77 | 0/29 | 82.5 | 37.5 | Hypochondriasis |
| P<0/02 | 3/1 | 51 | 6 | Depression |
| P<0/40 | 0/84 | 76.5 | 31.5 | Hysteria |

| | | | | |
|--------|------|------|------|----------------------------|
| P<0/01 | 3/61 | 45 | 000 | Perversion and psychopathy |
| P<0/04 | 2/87 | 54 | 9 | Paranoia |
| P<0/01 | 3/61 | 45 | 000 | Mental weakness |
| P<0/01 | 3/3 | 51 | 6 | Schizophrenia |
| P<0/01 | 1/67 | 67.5 | 22.5 | Hypomania (mania) |
| P<0/07 | 1/77 | 66 | 21 | Sensation |
| P<0/01 | 3/64 | 45 | 000 | Socioeconomic status |

As shown in Tables 2 and 3, the difference among the average scores of the two groups in depression variables with $86/3 = t$ and $1/3 = z$, sociopathy with $84/6 = t$ and $47/4 = z$, paranoia with $75/3 = t$ and $87/2 = z$, mental weakness with $53/10 = t$ and $63/3 = z$, schizophrenia with $59/5 = t$ and $30/3 = z$ and social status economic with $53/6 = t$ and $64/3 = z$ at $05/0 > p$ is significant; But the difference between the average scores of the two groups in hypochondriasis variables is not significant with $66/1 = t$ and $29/0 = z$, Hypomania of two groups of $29/2 = t$ and $67/1 = z$, hysteria with $11/1 = t$ and $84/0 = z$ and sensation with $79/1 = t$ and $11/1 = z$ at $05/0 > p$.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

According to information obtained from data analysis, we can conclude that psychological factors such as depression characteristics, hysteria, psychopathy, paranoia, mental weakness, schizophrenia, and socioeconomic status were effective on drug addiction and variables of hypochondriasis, sensation-seeking, hysteria and Hypomania have no significant effect on drug addiction;

Thus, the results of this research hypotheses tests are consistent with the researches of Borsic and Web (1982), Farrington et al. (1990), Bachmann, Lloyd and O'Malley (1981), Robbins and Ratcliff (1979), Los (1970), Salehi Jouneghani (1379), Mansour (1376), Ghanbarzadeh Makooye (1354), Robbins (1978), Lerner and Vikari (1984), Knight, Shepoosh Bryson (1974), Patton and Kandel (1978), Smith and Fugue (1978) Schedler and Block (1990), Kalam & Brown (1982), Louis Robbins and Rice (1985), Naylandar (1979), Lower (1988) Vesirak (1983) Cui (1987), Coppersmith and Dodge (1990), Parker Asher (1987), Hawkins, Lishner, Jensen and Catalano (1987), Simon (1980) and Hann and White (1991), Brooke, Lukov and Whitman (1980), Ravkht, Kirby and Barry (1978), Robbins (1978), Brook et al. (1996), Courage (1977), Kandel (1982) and Ping and Barnes (1982), Shayesteh (1375), Ameri (1381), Haj Hosseini (1382); But are inconsistent with researches of Cloninger (1988) and Schedler and Block (1990).

According to the results of the above studies, drug abuse is social problem and disorder rooted in biological, psychological, social, economic and emotional factors and these factors, especially psychological, and socio-economic aspects have a key role in its creation, but the results of a study cannot identify all the causes of the deviation, because many factors should be studied in the etiology of addiction that by providing a scientific understanding of the causes and risk factors, we can present appropriate strategies for the prevention and treatment of addiction. In the end, according to the findings of this study, the following proposals are offered:

- According to the researcher, addiction is a pathological phenomenon that should not be seen merely as a criminal act, but should be looked at addiction as a disease and it is necessary for treatment and prevention.
- Identifying those at risk and preventive measures through reduce and treat mental illnesses in the individuals in question.
- Provide counseling and psychological services to people with drug addiction and vulnerable with the correct way in a respectful mood and without the punishment, accountable and humiliation.
- The establishment and expansion of drug treatment centers aimed not to surviving a specific group of people with the intention of personal gain.
- Expanding research centers to identify the exact causes of individuals tendency to drugs.

- One of the socio-economic causes of drug problems is unemployment, so it is necessary to investigate this important issue.
- Several factors, such as mental health problems, family, emotional, economic and social problems, that if diagnosed early, can prevent this deviation.
- Identifying those at risk and taking the necessary action to prevent AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases other informing in this regard.
- Raising public awareness against drugs.

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