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### Explaining the Role of Sociological Factors in Students' Tendency to Abuse Drugs Subject of Study: The Second Year of High School in Khalkhal City



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**ABSTRACT:** The tendency of students to risky behaviors is one of the important social issues that affects social bonds, human capital and social health of students. This research has been done with the aim of explaining the impact of sociological factors on the tendency of students towards high-risk substance abuse behavior, using the theories of Durkheim's anomie, Sutherland's differential bond, Hershey's social control, Simen's social alienation. The research method, survey and data collection tool is a researcher-made questionnaire. The statistical population of the research included all second year high school students in the academic year of 1401-1400 in Khalkhal city, and the sample size was determined using Cochran's formula of 280 people. The findings of the research showed that the students' average tendency towards high-risk substance abuse behavior is lower than the hypothetical average. Inferential analysis of the hypotheses confirmed the effect of socializing with others, use of emerging media, participation in school affairs, parental relationship breakdown, and the feeling of relative deprivation in people's tendency to risky behaviors.

KEYWORD: "risky behavior", "students", "substance abuse", "sociological factors".

### INTRODUCTION

Human capital is one of the components of the development of societies; If it is not trained properly, the social health of the society will be threatened. Abnormal actions and social conflicts, which often appear from adolescence, cause social solidarity to face challenges and waste human capital. In our country, due to various issues and phenomena, including the existence of transitional characteristics, the growth of the young population in the society, and as a result, unemployment and migration to cities, as well as dozens of other causes and factors, have caused the increasing growth of risky behaviors.

Is Scientific understanding of the features and laws governing the evolution of injuries and abnormalities and the application of scientific findings in the planning process, to prevent injuries and risky behaviors among students, who make up the vast majority of the country's young population. It is necessary.

Risky behavior is one of the most important issues that has always been the focus of social experts due to its effectiveness on the health and vitality of society, self-fulfillment and happiness of individuals. Risky behaviors are those behaviors that cause failure and victory, happiness and unhappiness of a person, and as a result, social obligations or alienation and social indifference. Substance abuse is one of the most dangerous behaviors that leads to many social and personal problems. Studies show that substance abuse, especially drugs, leads to deviant behaviors, illicit sexual relations, family disintegration, and the risk of AIDS (Brown, 2013; Briner et al., 2017; Williamson et al., 2020). Addressing the issue of high-risk behavior, especially substance abuse among students, is important because the school itself is one of the main guardians of socialization. In case of prevalence of drug use among students, the society will have a pessimistic view of school functions and on the other hand, due to the students socializing with each other as a group of peers, this ominous phenomenon will be transferred between them more and more. Therefore, this research seeks to answer the question that; What is the effect of sociological factors on students' tendency towards high-risk behaviors (drug abuse)?

### **RESEARCH BACKGROUND**

Due to the importance of the topic, in recent decades, many researches have been conducted on the etiology of high-risk behaviors and various factors have been introduced in its occurrence. The most important influencing factors in the tendency of people to abuse drugs can be divided into three categories of individual, social and environmental factors, in this regard, research results indicate that factors such as personality problems and characteristics (Magalon et al., 2015; Lacono et al., 2008; Castellanes et al., 2013; Belcher et al., 2014); family factors (Pergamit et al., 2011; Luke and Wang, 2010; Brown et al., 2010; Barz et al., 2011; Tabler et

al., 2012; Fu et al., 2012); the influence of friends (Tabler et al., 2012; Gernard et al., 2006; Parker et al., 2014; Simon and Farhat, 2010; Fu et al., 2012); the use of mobile and Internet media (Kendler et al., 2013; Linsky et al. colleagues, 2012; Harden et al., 2018; Beshrpour et al., 2012); Individual factors (Vasilova et al., 2012, Simon and Farhat, 2010; Tabrizi and Sharaft, 2012; Shatrian, 2012) are effective in the tendency of people to abuse drugs.Research literature High-risk behaviors 1 are a set of behaviors that result in anti-social, norm-breaking behaviors that generally threaten the health of society and the individual. Risky behaviors are behaviors that endanger the health and social well-being of people in the society. Risky behaviors include substance abuse, violence, wrong lifestyle, alcohol and alcohol abuse (Mohsani Tabrizi, 2011). Materials ; It includes all compounds whose consumption causes changes in behavior and disturbances in consciousness and judgment of a person. Drug abuse refers to cases where a person consumes drugs without need and without medical permission; But the intensity of consumption is not so high that the person is considered dependent and addicted.From a sociological point of view, the tendency towards risky behaviors is rooted in social conditions and factors and is explained by Durkheim's theory of anomie, Parsons' social action, Hirschi's social control, Alexander's social success and Cohen's subculture. On the other hand, psychologists have analyzed the causes of tendency to risky behaviors in personality, psychological and emotional characteristics. Simen's theory of alienation, Adler's lifestyle, Freud's theory of repression are from this category. Therefore, the theoretical foundations of the research can be divided into two categories: sociological and psychological, and some of these theories will be discussed below.

Durkheim is one of the founders of sociologists in the theory of anomie for the belief that the absence of laws and guidelines for behavior causes the confusion of society. Such conditions lead to the emergence of deviant and deviant behaviors on the part of people - such as the tendency to use drugs (Abadinski, 2014).Travis Hirschi (1969) is the founder of social control theory. He believes that the individual's belonging and dependence on society's values plays a fundamental role in the emergence of social abnormality (tendency to risky behaviors). (Sadiq Sarostani, 1383: 98).

In the theory of action, Parsons has tried to show that any action, whether normal or abnormal, is created and produced by certain forms of social structures. Therefore, risky behaviors (drug abuse) can also be explained by the individual within the framework of social conditions and structure and means and paths to achieve goals. Good is one of the sociologists who, following Parsons, has investigated the social disorders in the institution of the family as the main institution of people's socialization. According to Good, the family is the center and core of the social organization and as a small social system that provides the foundation of a larger society, and any disorder and disorganization in the family institution is involved in the formation of a delinquent and deviant personality. When the family is affected by factors such as: illegitimacy; termination, separation, divorce and abandonment; empty family; involuntary absence of one of the two spouses; Failure to fulfill financial roles due to member violation or illness leads to anomic conditions and disorganization, the occurrence of deviant behaviors of members seems likely (Tabrizi, 2014)

Edwin Sutherland first published his theory of cultural transmission in 1939. The theory of cultural transfer emphasizes the point that deviant behavior is learned through socializing with unscrupulous friends. This theory emphasizes the process of cultural learning during which behavioral and abnormal behavior is learned (Mumtaz: 89).

Alexander considers involuntary drug dependence as opposed to casual or recreational drug use in a functional way. Addicted behavior is an attempt to face the failure caused by solidarity; It means failure to achieve the types of social approval, competence, self-confidence and personal independence that are the minimum expectations of individuals and society. (Basharpour, 1392).Melvin Seaman, one of the social psychologists in the theory of social alienation, believes that the structural conditions of society lead to the formation of feelings of self-loathing, social isolation, abnormality, meaninglessness, and powerlessness, and in this regard, the person in question is driven towards deviant behaviors such as drug use. (Seaman 2014) )

#### **RESEARCH METHOD**

The research method is descriptive and applied in terms of purpose, and in terms of the data collection method, it is a survey, which was used to collect information using a researcher-made questionnaire. Khalkhal city. According to Khalkhal education, there are 358 female students and 382 male students studying in 7 boys' schools and 6 girls' schools. The sample size was determined using Cochran's formula of 280 people. Also, the data was analyzed using SPSS software.Data description and analysis. It was determined by analyzing the research results; Of the total respondents, 150 (54%) are boys and 130 (%) are girls. Based on the findings of the research, the central and scattered indicators of the high-risk behavior variable (drug abuse) are as described in Table No. (1).

Table Central scattered indicators related 1. and to the high-risk behavior variable (drug abuse) Research variable, type of variable, number of observations, mean, standard deviation, minimum, maximum Dependent risky behavior (substance abuse) 280 23/24 48/4 18

Considering the values in table number (1) and comparing the hypothetical average, the tendency of students towards high-risk drug abuse behavior is lower than average. In other words, the score of students' tendency to abuse substances (16.2%) is higher than the hypothetical average and (84.88%) is lower than the average.

#### **EXPLANATION OF RESEARCH HYPOTHESES**

First hypothesis: socializing with others (friends, peers, relatives) is effective on students' tendency to abuse drugs. A regression test was used to explain the effect of socializing with others on the tendency to abuse drugs. According to the amount of Pearson's coefficient (r = 0.357 and P < 0.01), it can be said that the relationship between these two variables is 35%. In other words, with an increase of one unit in the variable of socializing with others, the tendency to abuse substances increases by 35%. Also, based on the beta value (0.184), socializing with others has 18% ability to predict the tendency of students to abuse drugs.

Second hypothesis: The use of emerging media (smartphones and tablets) is effective on students' tendency to abuse drugs. A regression test was used to determine the role of emerging media in the tendency to abuse substances. Therefore, according to the Pearson coefficient (r = 0.422 and P < 0.01), it can be said that the relationship between these two variables is 42%. In other words, with an increase of one unit in the variable of using emerging media, the tendency to abuse substances increases by 42%. Also, based on the beta value (0.223), the use of emerging media can predict 22% of students' tendency to abuse drugs.

The third hypothesis: participation in school affairs is effective on the tendency of students to abuse substances.

A regression test was used to determine the effect of participation in school affairs on the tendency to abuse substances. Therefore, according to the Pearson coefficient (r=-0.102 and P<0.05), it can be said that the relationship between these two variables is 10%, which means The inverse of the correlation coefficient shows that with the increase in participation in school affairs, the tendency to substance abuse decreases. Also, based on the beta value (0.142), participation in school affairs has 14% ability to predict students' tendency to abuse drugs.

The fourth hypothesis: the disconnection of parents' relationship with each other is effective on the tendency of students to abuse substances.

A regression test was used to measure the effect of parents' communication breakdown on the tendency of students to abuse substances based on the r rate and its significance level (r=0.723 and P<0.01), the relationship between these two variables is 72%. The determined beta value (0.617) shows that the disconnection between parents has 61% ability to predict the tendency of students to abuse drugs.

The fifth hypothesis: the feeling of relative deprivation is effective on the tendency of students to abuse substances. A regression test was used to determine the role of feeling of relative deprivation in the tendency to abuse substances. Therefore, according to the Pearson coefficient (r = 0.547 and P < 0.01), it can be said that the relationship between these two variables is 54%. In other words, with an increase of one unit in the relative deprivation feeling variable, the tendency to abuse substances increases by 54%. Also, based on the beta value (0.314), the feeling of relative deprivation has 31% ability to predict students' tendency to abuse drugs.

Table 2. Regression test of influencing variables on students' tendency to abuse substances R coefficient model, coefficient of determination, coefficient of determination, standard degree of freedom, sum of squares, F coefficient of significance levelAt the same time, 561,314,303

Model of unstandardized coefficients, standard coefficients, T coefficient, significance level of collinear coefficients

			,			,								
Coefficient	B is	the	estimation	error	of	beta,	the	coeff	icient	of	toleranc	e for	inflation	variance
Width	value		from		origin			25.979		4.008		6.483		.000
socializing	with	n	others	Nabab	3	6.654	.55	6	.184		6.567	.000	.945	1.036
Using	emerging		media	8.033		1.852		.422		4.338 .		.000	.553	1.049
Participation	in	ı	school	affairs	4	.740	.05	50	.142		7.139	.006	973	1.438
Parental communication				breakdown				617.617				101.682		
Feeling of relative deprivation. 137.664.314 2.723.000 668.1033														

Teening of relative deprivation. 157.004.514 2.725.000 000.1055

As shown in table number (2); The correlation coefficient of the regression test is 0.561, the determination coefficient of the model is 0.314 (standard coefficient: 0.30) has been reported; In other words, the set of research variables have been able to predict 0.30% of the variance of students' tendency to abuse substances. Also, the beta coefficients reported for the variables included in the analysis show that the best variable predicting students' tendency to abuse substances, respectively, is parental communication breakdown (0.617), use of emerging drugs (0.422), feeling Relative deprivation (0.314), socializing with others was poor (0.556) and participation in school affairs (0.142).

#### DISCUSSION

Risky behaviors, including substance abuse, have been the focus of social science and psychology experts due to the disintegration of society and the erosion of human resources. This research was conducted with the aim of explaining the high-risk behavior of drug abuse among students of Khalkhal region with sociological variables (association with others, use of new media, participation in school affairs, disconnection between parents, feeling of relative deprivation). The results of the findings showed that the average

tendency of students towards high-risk drug abuse behavior is at a low level. Also, the analysis of the research hypotheses, which was carried out using the regression test, confirmed the role of the research variables in explaining the tendency towards high-risk drug abuse behavior, which will be discussed in the following.

The first hypothesis of the research, which was formulated with the aim of explaining the tendency to abuse drugs by socializing with others, the analysis of this hypothesis showed that with the increase in the number and duration of communication and interactions with friends, relatives and peers, the tendency to abuse drugs increases. The consistency of the results of this research with the results of Tabler et al., 2012; Gernard et al., 2006; Parker et al., 2004; Simon and Farhat, 2010; Fu et al., 2012 and Shatrian 2012; Sutherland's theory of cultural transfer is also related. At present, the use of smart media, including phones, tablets and personal computers, has become the most important tool of socialization in inducing messages to be communicated by familiar and unfamiliar people. Based on the results obtained from the second hypothesis of the research, with the increase in the use of emerging media tools, the tendency to abuse substances increases. The consistency of the results of this research with the results of the research of Brown et al., 2010; Barz et al., 2011, Tabler et al., 2012; Fu et al., 2012, Beshrpour et al., 2012 Hamsoost. Participation and cooperation with others is a sign of social health and responsibility towards oneself and others. The third hypothesis of the research is to explain the tendency to abuse drugs with the variable of student participation in school affairs. The results of the analysis of this hypothesis showed that with the increase in student participation in school affairs, the tendency to abuse drugs decreases. In other words, cooperation and participation of students in the implementation of educational and educational programs of the school reduces their tendency to risky behaviors. This research is consistent with the research results of Gernard et al., 2006; Parker et al., 2004; Simon and Farhat, 2010; Fu et al., 2012 is similar. The family is the first and most effective institution of socialization in Iranian society. The way of interactions within the family, the degree of solidarity and cohesion of this institution, are influential factors in raising children. The traumatic effects of a family that has a tense and tense atmosphere and is full of conflict puts children at risk much more than the separation of parents. The fourth hypothesis was formulated and analyzed in order to determine the effect of parents' communication breakdown on the tendency towards high-risk drug abuse behavior. The results of the research showed that the disconnection of parents with each other is effective in determining the degree of substance abuse tendency with 99% certainty; As the experience of divorce in the family increases, the absence of a father or mother, lack of guardianship, parents' indifference to each other (emotional divorce), the tendency of children to abuse drugs increases. Luke and Wang, 2010; Brown et al., 2010; Barz et al., 2011, Tabler et al., 2012; Fu et al., 2012 and Tabrizi and Sharaft, 2010; It is aligned. Individual characteristics and experiences of people in their lived experience are among the factors that have received more attention in psychological studies. In this research, by setting the fifth hypothesis, the degree of explanation of the tendency to risky behaviors was analyzed with the variable of feeling of deprivation. The findings of this research indicate that as the feeling of relative deprivation increases (academic failure and dissatisfaction with life), the tendency to abuse substances increases. Also, by matching the findings of this research with the results of the studies of Linsky et al., 2012, Simon and Farhat, 2010; Tabrizi and Sharaf, 1390; Shatrian 2012; It is aligned

In short, it can be said that according to their age, children and teenagers imitate their peers and friends more than adults, even their parents. In addition to direct learning of inconsistent values and behavioral patterns, differential reinforcement is effective in consolidating high-risk behaviors; Because in case of non-conformity, it will cause him to be rejected by his friends or cause the formation of aggression and hostile relations. In addition, the school, as the first official institution that formulates and applies disciplinary regulations for students, has a prominent role in the socialization of children and adolescents. Giving responsibility and making the necessary arrangements to promote their participation in school affairs, in addition to external control, will induce usefulness for students, which will be effective in preventing the tendency to abuse drugs and other behavioral disorders. The eye-catching and attractive features of the Internet and providing the possibility to escape from reality and failures are the causes of teenagers' tendency towards emerging media. Due to the low level of media literacy, a person in this context becomes a captive of destructive messages and tends to risky behaviors and other deviations. According to Coleman, the feeling of relative deprivation causes a person to engage in abnormal behavior to cover up his failures. According to the findings of the research, students who have a tendency towards high-risk drug abuse behavior in today's drama society feel more deprived and tend to drugs. In order to take preventive measures on the student's surroundings that play a role in his socialization process, based on the findings of the research, it is suggested:

\* School officials and students' parents should consider the components of democratic management in their interactions with students.\* Workshops should be held to increase the media literacy of parents for the optimal use of emerging media. \*In family education classes and meetings of parents' and school teachers' associations and textbooks, the prevention of drug abuse and other high-risk components should be strictly followed.

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