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ASSESSMENT OF KNOWLEDGE, PREVALENCE, AND PATTERNS OF PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AMONG UNDERGRADUATES OF ADEYEMI FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, ONDO STATE

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ABSTRACT
Substance abuse among undergraduates is a growing public health concern with significant implications for individual wellbeing, academic performance, and national development. This study assessed the knowledge, prevalence, and patterns of psychoactive substance abuse among undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo, Ondo State. A descriptive survey research design was employed, and data were collected from a sample of 327 students through a structured questionnaire. Data were analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics, including Chi-square and independent t-test techniques. The findings revealed varying levels of knowledge about psychoactive substances, with notable prevalence in the use of alcohol, cannabis, and prescription medications for non-medical purposes. Chi-square analyses indicated no significant relationship between psychoactive substance abuse and variables such as gender, ethnicity, academic performance, residence, and monthly allowances. However, significant associations were found between psychoactive substance abuse and age as well as parental living arrangements, suggesting that maturity level and family structure play important roles in influencing drug use behaviour. The study concludes that while most socio-demographic factors do not strongly predict drug abuse, parental living arrangements and age are critical determinants. It recommends increased parental involvement, preventive education programs, and strengthened counseling services within tertiary institutions to curb the rising trend of substance abuse among undergraduates.

Keywords: Psychoactive Substance, Prevalence, Knowledge, Undergraduates, Parental Living

Introduction
The current trend of substance abuse among youth is a major national concern, it is troubling, and has derogatory effects on youth such as health and behavioral problems, or even death. Falco (1988); as cited by Yusuf (2010), viewed that "chronic use of substance can cause serious, sometimes irreversible damage to adolescents' physical psychological development.

Therefore, the issue of substance abuse has become a worrisome phenomenon, because

youth are dying morally, socially, psychologically and physically. Currently, drugs ranging from alcohol, cigarettes, marijuana. cocaine, heroin to hashish and many others are readily available to youth in Nigeria and this has made many youths to be perpetrators of social vices in the society.

Mensy (2003), was reported as described, substance abuse as problematic use of alcohol, tobacco, or illicit and for prescription drugs and it has been referred to as nation's number one health problem. While, David, Derald & Stanley (1990), refers to substance abuse as a pathological pattern or excessive use, intake of a substance even though it may be causing physical damage, jeopardizing safety (such as driving a car while intoxicated) or impairing social relationships and occupational functioning. Need for substance may lead to a pre-occupation with its acquisition and use substance abuse may reduce undergraduate chances of graduating from school or of landing and holding a steady job, it may also be causing student unrest in the campus which will disturb academic calendar and this may also lead to poor academic performance According to Hawkins, Cataland and Miller (1992), described a low level of commitment to education and higher truancy rates appear to be related to substance use among adolescent. Bureau of Justice Statistics (1992). cited in Yusuf (2010), as posited that cognitive and behavioral problems experienced by alcohol and drug-using youth may interfere with their academic performance and also present obstacles to learning for their classmates.

Epidemiological surveys conducted in the last 30 years on substance use among undergraduates in Nigerian Universities have reported diverse findings. Among the pioneering studies in this area were those of Ogunremi and Okonofua (1977), Novadomsky (1985), Ebic and Pela (1981) and Inezue (1988). For example, Ogunremi and Okonofus (1977), in the 1970s, investigated the extent of drug abuse among a group of undergraduates at the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife (formerly University of Ife). They found that at least 26% of their respåndents had during their secondary school period used amphetamine and cannabis. Nevadomsky (1985), in a survey conducted in 1985, reported on the prevalence of self-reported use and attitude to use of drugs among 295 students of the University of Benin. Benin City. He found that alcohol, hypnosedatives, cigarettes, cannabis and mild stimulants were the most commonly used substances. These findings were largely similar to those reported by Ebic and Pela (1981), in another group of undergraduates in the same university. lhezue (1988). surveyed drug use among medical students of University of Nigeria, Nsukka in 1983. He found that substances most commonly abused were alcohol (60%) minor tranquilizers (48%), tobacco (35%) and narcotics (29%).

Whilst the above studies provided the much need baseline data on substance use among Nigerian undergraduates, all of them employed the one-point snapshot cross-sectional design. This design does not allow for monitoring of trends. However, a group of researchers based at the University of Ilorin, Nigeria began a series of substance

epidemiological surveys among undergraduates of the institution in 1988. The idea was to eat such cross-sectional surveys among the same study populations at 5-yearly intervals with the aim of predicting trends.

For example, there was a significant decrease in the current use rate of alcohol, salicylate analgesics, stimulants and cigarettes in 1993. The reduction was observed equally in both genders. They also noted a significant increase in the current 10-medical use of antibiotics, and in the lifetime use of organic solvents However, usage rates were stable for the low-use substances such as cannabis, cocaine and heroin. The pattern of use for the commonly used substances remained largely occasional, with a shift towards less frequent smoking in 1993.

Drug abuse in Nigeria in the contemporary time has become one issue that casts a gloomy shadow to the entire Nigerian society especially among University undergraduates. The height of drug trafficking in Nigeria was witnessed in 1985 under the military regime. During this period, it was mostly the University undergraduates that were caught and the first to be executed for drug offences under the "special tribunal (Miscellaneous Offences, Degree No. 20 of 1954. However, the abuse of drugs is not only limited to the University undergraduate.

We live in a society where excessive consumption of substance is the order of the day. Study has shown that substance like alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana became commonly abused by youths (Idowu and Abolarin,1996). Research finding also indicated that these substances negatively affect the health and behaviors of the users. It is also worthy of mentioning that substance abuse cut across ages, socio economic status, race, religion and gender, though recent findings indicate that the use of substance is higher among the males. Study has also shown that under the influence of substance abuse, many youths embark on criminal behaviors and bad activities. No wonder, Annan (2003) noted that "drugs are tearing apart our societies, spawning crime, spreading disease such as HIV and killing our youth and their future. This is probably the reason why 26 June of every year is declared as United Nations International Day against Drug Abuse and illicit trafficking while 31 May of every year is declared as No Tobacco Smoking Day worldwide". This probably informed the warning by the Federal Ministry of Health Nigeria that tobacco smokers are liable to die young (Nigerian Tribune, 2007).

Passive smokers that are none smokers living with smokers are not free, they experience what the real smokers experience. Because the adolescents are more vulnerable to substance abuse, and the fact that adolescents who are not involved substance abuse are more likely to be involved in one or more act of indiscipline like forgery, truancy and stealing in schools, and no responsible parents, authorities or society should watch these leaders and workforce of the future Nigerians waste away through substance abuse.

Nevertheless, the usage of drug either by university undergraduates or other members of the larger society in all its ramifications appears to be a social problem. This problem

is widely spread and it affects all and sundry. In other words, this wide spread use and abuse entice people from all walks of life and beyond the human destruction caused by drug dependence is the damage to traditional values and lifestyles. Studies have also shown that drug abuse wrecks individual. shatter families and weakens entire society with its burden of economic loses, health cost and increased lawlessness and crime. Also, drugs seem to undermine the ability of university undergraduates to learn. Drug also appears to contradict the values of physical wellbeing People experiment with drugs because they seem to hold the promise of fulfillment. But the fulfillment is generally elusive, greater and greater quantities are consumed and ultimately the person suffers both physical and psychological deterioration. The drug abuser also experiences problems of interaction and this interactional problem encountered both inside his immediate family and stress invariably is created in the family situation of drug abuse (Hoffman, 1990). To add to this, drug abuse may entail a lot of social problems ranging from lateness to lectures, family neglect, deviant behaviours, involvement in crimes etc (Ear, 2000). In terms of economic cost, it includes the more money required to deal with undesirable effects of the drug abuse, the less money for services and programs that enhances the quality of life (Earl, 2000).

To this end and judging from the problems outlined, this research aims at assessing the prevalence, trends and pattern of psychoactive substance abuse among undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo, Ondo State.

Literature Review

Theoretical Literature

Social Learning Theory (SLT)

The Social Learning Theory (SLT), propounded by Albert Bandura (1977)**,** posits that human behavior is largely learned through observation, imitation, and modeling within a social context. It emphasizes that individuals do not only learn through direct experiences but also by observing the behavior of others and the consequences of those behaviors. This theory explains that behaviors such as psychoactive substance abuse are learned through observation, imitation, and reinforcement. In the context of undergraduates, students may adopt substance use when they observe peers, role models, or even media personalities engaging in it, especially if such behavior appears to bring social acceptance, stress relief, or other perceived benefits. SLT emphasizes the role of peer influence, environmental exposure, and perceived rewards in shaping attitudes toward drug use. This makes it particularly relevant for understanding psychoactive substance abuse among undergraduates.

Empirical Literature

Empirical research on psychoactive substance abuse among undergraduates has expanded in recent years, reflecting the growing concern about its health, social, and academic consequences. Evidence across Africa and beyond shows that substance use among university students remains both prevalent and complex, with alcohol, cannabis, stimulants, and prescription drugs constituting the most frequently reported categories.

In Nigeria, a recent multi-centre study revealed that a considerable proportion of university students reported lifetime and current use of psychoactive substances, with alcohol and cannabis dominating the consumption pattern. Peer influence, social gatherings, and accessibility of drugs were identified as major drivers of initiation and continued use (Odukoya et al., 2023). Similarly, a survey among medical and pharmacy students in South-eastern Nigeria found high levels of substance experimentation and misuse, often linked to academic stress and the pressures of clinical training. The study highlighted knowledge gaps about the harmful effects of drug use, suggesting that awareness alone may be insufficient without targeted preventive interventions (Eze et al., 2022).

Beyond Nigeria, comparable findings have been reported in other African settings. In Ethiopia, prevalence rates among university students have been estimated at between 25% and 32%, with alcohol consumption leading, followed by khat chewing and cannabis use. Socioeconomic background and residential status were shown to significantly influence prevalence and usage patterns (Haile & Yimer, 2022). In Cameroon, a study conducted among students in Yaoundé indicated that one in four undergraduates reported current drug use, and this was strongly associated with male gender, depressive symptoms, and the presence of substance-using peers (Ngono et al., 2023).

Studies outside the African context reinforce these findings. A recent multi-institutional online survey across universities reported widespread experimentation with psychoactive substances, stressing that easy access and peer supply were major determinants of student use (Dawson et al., 2024). National survey data in the United States also highlighted alarming levels of alcohol and cannabis consumption among college students, with a significant proportion meeting criteria for substance use disorders yet rarely accessing treatment services (SAMHSA, 2023).

Regional reviews further emphasize variations in substance preferences. For example, a West African synthesis revealed an emerging trend of tramadol and stimulant misuse among students, while in East Africa, khat use remains culturally entrenched, particularly among males in university environments (Adeleke & Meles, 2022). In Kenya, a survey among undergraduates demonstrated high prevalence of psychoactive substance abuse, noting that weak enforcement of campus drug policies and inadequate health education contributed to the persistence of the problem (Otieno & Wanjiru, 2023).

Taken together, these studies demonstrate a consistent pattern: psychoactive substance use among undergraduates is prevalent, socially mediated, and often rationalized as a coping mechanism for academic and psychological pressures. Despite increasing knowledge of the risks, awareness does not always translate into behavioral change. Furthermore, the persistence of peer influence, cultural acceptance of certain substances, and weak institutional support mechanisms perpetuate the problem across contexts. A key gap evident in the reviewed literature is the lack of longitudinal and

intervention-based studies, which would allow researchers to better understand causal pathways and the effectiveness of prevention strategies.

Method

Research Design

A cross sectional survey research method was used as the design. According to Bless and Higson-Smith (2000), they stated a cross sectional survey design offers information about a population at a given point in time (snap shot). The research design is therefore considered appropriate for this study as it was intended to gain immediate information on the knowledge, prevalence and pattern of psychoactive substance abuse among the undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo, Ondo State.

Population of the Study

The total sample used in this study comprised of 327 undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education drawn from all the twelve (12) departments. The initial sample size obtained was determined using single population proportion (Julie, 2004), and cross-sectional study/prevalence study formular gave a value of 303, and was approximately 1% of the total population of undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education (Table 1) since with additional available participants and flexibility.

Subsequently two respondents, were added to each department for convenience to have total of 327. At the faculty level during the selection of respondents, slips were prepared and yes or no was written on each slip of paper up to the required number based on 1% for each faculty. The slips were then folded and put into a container. After thorough reshuffling, the research assistant then asked the intended participant to dip his/her hand and pick one slip at a time. Those who picked yes were recruited to participate and those who picked no were not allowed to participate. This process was repeated until required number of participants reached 1% that is required was gotten for each department.

Research Instruments

A structured self-reporting questionnaire was used. Twelve research assistants were trained on how to administer and retrieve the questionnaire from the students. One of the research assistants was allocated to each department. A total of 50 copies of the questionnaire were used. The data collected were statistically analyzed using Guttman Split Half, and Spearman Brown reliability coefficient to determine internal consistency and reliability of the instrument and the result indicated a reliability coefficient of 0.56 which is usable.

Validity and Reliability

In order to ensure face and content validity of the instrument, a copy of the structure questionnaire was submitted to seven professionals in the fields of Health Education, Exercise and Sports Science, Community Medicine and Guidance and Counseling for vetting Their comments and suggestions were taken into consideration and reflected on the final questionnaire. To ascertain the reliability of the instrument, and familiarize the researcher with sample technique procedure, instrument for data collection and data analysis. The researcher

tested the instrument at the Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo that had similar characteristics and background with the sample interest to the study. (Only undergraduate students were studied).

Sprege and Steven (1986) stated that an instrument is reliable if the reliability coefficient falls between 5 and +1. They further stated that the closer it is, the more the reliability of the instrument while the lesser it is to I the lower the reliability Since the reliability for the study was close to +1, the instrument could be adjudged to be reliable for this study.

A total of 327 copies of the questionnaire to the twelve departments in main campus of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo were distributed. The distribution of copies of the questionnaire was based on 19 of the total number of the registered students from each department.

Result and Discussion

The table 1 below shows the distribution of students in each faculty, 1% of total number of each department as well as the number of questionnaires required for each department and an additional twenty-four copies of questionnaire were distributed equally across the twelve departments

Table 1: Distribution of students in each department based on 1% of total number of each department as well as the number of questionnaires required for each department.

S/N	Department	Total number of students in each department	1% of the total population from each department	Number of questionnaires required for distribution per department based on 1%	Total number of questionnaires used per department
1	Business Education	3624	36	2	38
2	English Studies	455	5	2	7
3	Music	2490	25	2	27
4	Social Studies	4014	40	2	42
5	Yoruba	3817	38	2	40
6	Human Kinetics	2235	22	2	24
7	Economics	1386	14	2	16
8	Guidance and Counselling	1377	14	2	16
9	Geography	838	8	2	10
10	Accounting	6314	63	2	65
11	Mathematics and Education	3246	33	2	35
12	Biology/ Integrated Science	517	5	2	7
	Total	**30,312**	**303**	**24**	**327**

Source: Author's Compilation

The statistical techniques that were used in analyzing the data collected for the study were: Descriptive statistics of frequencies, percentages, mean, and standard deviation to analyze the socio-demographic data of the respondents, as well as inferential statistics of

chi-square was used to test the hypotheses at 95% confidence interval 0.05 alpha level of significance.

Table 2: Distribution of the Respondents by their Demographic Characteristics

Variables	Variable options	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Ages	16-20 yrs	74	22.6
	21-25 yrs	159	48.6
	26-30 yrs	79	24.2
	31-35 yrs	9	2.8
	36-40 yrs	6	1.8
	Total	327	100.0
Sex	Male	222	67.9
	Female	105	32.1
	Total	327	100.0
Ethnicity	Ondo Indigene	152	46.5
	Yoruba	77	23.5
	Igbo	2	0.6
	Others	96	29.4
	Total	327	100.0
Residence	Living on campus	211	64.5
	Living off campus	116	35.5
	Total	327	100.0
Religion	Christian	201	61.5
	Muslim	121	37.0
	Pagan	5	1.5
	Total	327	100.0

Source: Author's Compilation

The respondents were found to be between 21-25 years which accounted for 48.6%. On sex, 222 of the respondents representing 67.9% students while the rest 105 representing 32.1% were female students. Majority of the respondents were male which account for 67.9%. On the ethnic group of the respondents, 46 5% of the respondents were Hausa/Fulani, 23.5% others were Yoruba, 0.6% were Igbo and the rest 29.4% were from other ethnic groups. Majority of the respondents were Hausa/Fulani which account for about 46.5%.

The table revealed that 64.5% lived on campuses, 35.5% live off-campus Therefore majority of the respondents lived within the University campuses which account for 64.5%. The table further above showed that 61.5% were Muslims by religion, 37.0% were Christians and the rest 1.5% were of other religion. Therefore, majority of the respondents were Muslims which accounts for 61.5%。

From the table 2 above, majority of the respondents 184 representing 56.3% of the total population indicated that they received between 0-N5000 from their parents/guardians on monthly bases as allowance. Another 61, 25, 30, 9 and 15 other respondents representing 18.7% 7.6%, 9.2% 2.8% and 4.9% respectively revealed that they received between N50001 N30000 on

monthly bases, while 4 other respondents representing 1.2% indicated that they received between N30001-N50000 on monthly bases.

Tables 3: Types of Psychoactive Substances Abused by Undergraduate Students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo.

S/N	Types of Psychoactive Substances used by the Undergraduate students	Response Categories	
		Yes	No
1	Alcohol	62 (19.0%)	265 (81.0%)
2	Marijuana	30 (9.2%)	297 (90.8%)
3	Heroine/cocaine	10 (3.3%)	317 (96.7%)
4	Hallucinogen	7 (2.1%)	320 (97.9%)
5	Hypno-sedative (LSD, PCD)	29 (8.9%)	298 (91.1%)
6	Tobacco (snuff, cigarette)	43 (13.1%)	284 (86.9%)
7	Stimulant (coffee, kola)	112 (34.3%)	215 (65.7%)
1	Alcohol	62 (19.0%)	265 (81.0%)

Source: Author's Computation

The table 3 above revealed the level of the different types of drug abuse by students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo, Ondo State. The frequencies and percentages of each psychoactive substances abused were calculated. Accordingly, 112(34.3%) of students abuse stimulant drugs like coffee, kolanuts, which were the most abused psychoactive substances by students. The second most abuses psychoactive substance was alcohol as detailed analysis show that 62(19%) of the undergraduate students were into alcohol abuse while 265 (81%) do not abuse alcohol.

Tobacco (snuff and cigarette) were the third most abused psychoactive substance as detailed analysis showed that 43 (13.1%) of the students abuse this substance while the remaining 284 (86.9%) do not Marijuana was the fourth most abused psychoactive substance as detailed analysis showed that 30(9.2%) of the respondents indicated that they abuse this substance whole the rest 297(90.8%) do not.

The hypo-sedative (LSD. PCD) were the fifth most abuse psychoactive substance as letailed analysis showed that 29(8.9%) abuse the substance while the rest 298(91.1%) do not Heroine/cocaine were the six most abused psychoactive substance as detailed analysis showed that 10(33%) do while the remaining 317(96.7%) do not. The least most abused psychoactive substance by undergraduates of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo was hallucinogen as detailed analysis showed that 7(2.1%) were into the practice while the rest 320(97.9%) do not.

Table 4: Regularity of Psychoactive Substance Abused by Undergraduate Students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo.

How often drugs are abused	Frequency	Percentage%
No response	151	46.2
Very often	19	5.8
Often	25	7.6
Sometimes	132	40.4
Total	327	100.0

Source: Author's Computation

The table 4 above revealed the distribution of the undergraduate Adeyemi Federal University of Education students responded on how often they abused psychoactive substances. Accordingly. 46.2% did not respond to this question. A total of 5.8% abuse psychoactive substance very often as against 7.6% others that abuse psychoactive substance often and the remaining 40.4% abuse psychoactive substance sometimes.

Table 5: Reasons that Cause Undergraduate Students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo to Abuse Psychoactive Substances

Reasons	**Drugs**	**Frequency**	**Percentage%**
Depression	Depressants	180	55.0
Failure	Alcohol	31	9.5
Peer Pressure	Marijuana	34	10.4
Mental Health Issues	Heroine/cocaine	15	4.6
Low Self-Esteem	Hallucinogen	11	3.4
Financial Stress	Inhalants	10	3.1
Boredom	Tobacco (snuff, cigarette)	5	1.5
Trauma	Stimulant (coffee, kola)	18	5.5
Emotional Isolation and Loneliness	Injections	5	1.5
Overconfidence	Hypno-sedative (LSD, PCD)	18	5.5
Total		**327**	**100.0**

Source: Author's Computation

A total of 180 student respondents did not respond to this question. A breakdown of those who responded showed that 10.4% do so to keep awake, while 9.5% others do so during parties or festival event as against 5.5% that abuse psychoactive substance on prescription. Another 4.6% others abused psychoactive substance to overcome tiredness. Also, some 3.4% of the respondents abuse psychoactive substance in order to stimulate their moods, while 3.1% others use it for curiosity as against 1.5% who abuse it to be alert and during sad events. The rest 5.5% of the undergraduate respondents abuse student psychoactive substance for other reasons other than the above mention reasons.

Hypothesis 1: No significant relationship between knowledge of psychoactive substance abuse and drug abuse status of undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo, Ondo State.

Table 6: Chi-Square Analysis

Variations	Value	Df	Sig(p)	Observed Chi-square value (obtained value)
Pearson Chi-Square	7.046*	12	.855	7.046
Likelihood Ratio	7.999	12	.785	
Linear-by-Linear Association	1.120	1	.290	
No of Valid Cases	327			

Source: Author's Computation **$X^2(12)$ 7.046 P >0.05* *not significant **significant**

Results of the Chi square statistics table above revealed that there was no significant association knowledge between psychoactive substance and the abuse of drugs. Reason being that the observed chi-square value was less than the critical chi-square and also the calculated Pearson Chi square p (significant) value of 0.855 was higher than the 0.05 alpha level of significance. Consequently, the null hypothesis was hereby accepted and retained. This implies that although many students may possess knowledge or awareness about psychoactive substances, such knowledge does not necessarily influence or determine their actual drug use behaviour.

Hypothesis 2: No significant relationship between age and psychoactive substance abuse among undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo, Ondo State.

Table 7: Chi-Square Analysis

Variations	Value	Df	Sig(p)	Observed Chi-square value (obtained value)
Pearson Chi-Square	15.682**	8	.047	15.682
Likelihood Ratio	20.461	8	.009	
Linear-by-Linear Association	.731	1	.392	
No of Valid Cases	327			

Source: Author's Computation **$X^2(8) = 15.682$ P <0.05** *not significant **significant**

According to the Chi square statistics from the table above, there was significant association between age and the abuse of psychoactive substances. Reason being that the observed chi-square value was greater than the critical chi-square value and also calculated Pearson Chi square p(significant) value of 0.047 is lower than the 0.05 alpha level of significance. This implies that age has Significant relationship with psychoactive substance abuse among the students. Therefore, the null hypothesis was hereby rejected.

Hypothesis 3: No significant relationship between gender and psychoactive substance abuse among undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo.

Table 8: Chi-Square Analysis

Variations	Value	Df	Sig(p)	Observed Chi-square value (obtained value)
Pearson Chi-Square	5.991*	2	.869	5.991
Likelihood Ratio	.274	2	.872	
Linear-by-Linear Association	.012	1	.914	
No of Valid Cases	327			

Source: Author's Computation **$X^2(2) = 5.991$ P >0.05* *not significant **significant**

Results of the Chi square statistics table above revealed that there was no significant relationship between gender and the abuse of psychoactive substances. Reason being that the observed chi-square value was less than the critical chi-square value and also the calculated Pearson Chi square p(significant) value of 0.869 is higher than the 0.05 alpha level of not significance. Therefore, the null hypothesis was hereby accepted and retained. This implies that gender does not significantly influence the psychoactive substance abuse status of students at Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo.

Hypothesis 4: No significant relationship between ethnicity and psychoactive substances abuse among undergraduate students, Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo.

Table 9: Chi-Square Analysis

Variations	Value	df	Sig(p)	Observed Chi-square value (obtained value)
Pearson Chi-Square	4.451*	6	.616	4.451
Likelihood Ratio	5.110	6	.530	
Linear-by-Linear Association	.281	1	.596	
No of Valid Cases	327			

Source: Author's Computation **$X^2(6) = 4.451$ P >0.05* *not significant **significant**

The results of the Chi square table above revealed that there was no significant ethnicity and relationship between the abuse of psychoactive substances, Reason being that the observed chi-square value was less than the critical chi-square value and also the calculated Pearson Chi square p(significant) value of 0.616 was higher than the 0.05 alpha level of significance. abuse and the monthly allowances of the undergraduate students. Therefore, the null hypothesis was hereby accepted and retained. This finding indicates that ethnicity has no significant association with psychoactive substance abuse among the students**.**

Hypothesis 5: No significant relationship between psychoactive substance and Monthly Allowances of the Undergraduate Students**.**

Table 10: Independent t-test Statistics on the Relationship between Psychoactive Substance Abuse and Monthly Allowances of the Undergraduate Students

Variable	Do you abuse drugs	N	Mean	S.D	S.E	Df	t calculated
Average Monthly Allowance	No	153	7923.86	9592.625	775.518	312	.716
	Yes	161	7166.01	9172.679	722.908		

Source: Author's Computation **t (312) = 1.96 P > 0.05* *not significant **significant**

The result of the table above of the independent t-sample statistics revealed that there was no significant relationship between those who abuse psychoactive substances and those who do not on the basis of their average monthly Allowances. was because the t-calculated value of 0.716 was lower than the 1.96 t critical value at df 312, and also calculated p value of 0.475 was higher than the 0.05 alpha level of significance. Their mean average monthly allowances were 7923.86 and 7166.01 by those who do not abuse psychoactive substances and those who abuse psychoactive substances respectively. This means that both of them had almost the same level of monthly allowances. Consequently, the null hypothesis which states that there was no significant relationship between those who abuse psychoactive substances and those who do not in their monthly allowances and the null hypothesis was hereby accepted and retained.

Hypothesis 6: No significant relationship between student current academic performance rating and psychoactive substance abuse status among undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo.

Table 11: Chi-Square Analysis

Variations	Value	Df	Sig(p)	Observed Chi-square value (obtained value)
Pearson Chi-Square	9.871*	10	.452	9.871
Likelihood Ratio	10.106	10	.431	
Linear-by-Linear Association	.714	1	.398	
No of Valid Cases	327			

Source: Author's Computation **X^2(10) =9.871 P >0.05* *not significant **significant**

Result of the Chi square table above revealed that there was no significant relationship between current rating of student academic performance and the abuse of psychoactive substances. Reason being that the observed chi square value was less than the critical chi-square value and also the calculated Pearson Chi square p (significant) value of 0.452 was higher than 0.05 alpha level of significance Consequently, the null hypothesis was. hereby accepted and retained. This suggest that academic performance ratings are not significantly associated with psychoactive substance abuse among undergraduates of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo.

Hypothesis 7: No significant relationship between parental living and drug abuse status of undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo.

Table 12: Chi-Square Analysis

Variations	Value	Df	Sig(p)	Observed Chi-square value (obtained value)
Pearson Chi-Square	3.699[a]	4	.048	3.699
Likelihood Ratio	5.711	4	.022	
Linear-by-Linear Association	1.249	1	.064	
No of Valid Cases	327			

Source: Author's Computation **$X^2(4) = 9.488$ P >0.05* *not significant **significant**

Outcome of the Chi square table above revealed that there was significant relationship between student-parent being alive or not and the abuse of psychoactive substances. Reason being that the observed chi-square value was less than the critical chi-square value and also the calculated Pearson Chi square p(significant) value of 0.048 was lower than the 0.05 alpha level of significance. This implies that parents alive have significant with relationship significant psychoactive substance abuse among the students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo. Therefore, the null hypothesis was hereby rejected.

Hypothesis 8: No significant association between student place of residence and psychoactive substance abuse and status of undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo.

Table 13: Chi-Square Analysis

Variations	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Observed Chi-square value (obtained value)
Pearson Chi-Square	.459[a]	2	.795	0.459
Likelihood Ratio	.461	2	.794	
Linear-by-Linear Association	.09	1	.762	
No of Valid Cases	327			

Source: Author's Computation **$X^2(4) = 9.488$ P >0.05* *not significant **significant**

Reason being that the observed chi-square values was less than the critical chi square value and also the, calculated Pearson Chi square p(significant) value of 0.795 was higher than the 0.05 alpha level of significance. Consequently, the null hypothesis was accepted and retained

Discussions

In this research majority of the respondents were found to fall between the ages of 10-30 years of age. However, in study carried out by Oshikoya and Alli (2006), found that majority of students were aged 19-30 years

(that is adolescents and young adults who are very vulnerable to experimentation and using drugs of abuse) hence, this, result was consistent with the research findings in this study. The hypothesis tested showed that there was no significant relationship between age of respondents and, psychoactive substance abuse among the respondents which was consistent with the study carried out by Oshikoya and Alli (2006).

In this study, mihorts of the respondents were male which accounted for 67.9% From the analysis and hypothesis tested revealed that there was no significant relationship between gender of the respondents and psychoactive substance abuse which was contrary to the result obtained by Okatachi (2003), who showed that there is significant difference between male and female undergraduate students on drug abuse. The study showed that there was no significant relationship between parental living (alive) and psychoactive substance abuse among the undergraduate students while in the study carried out by Okatachi (2003), revealed that children having single parents were most likely to engage in psychoactive substance abuse. This was because of lack of adequate care and supervision given to such children. Conger, (1994), also reported that lack of parental support. monitoring and communication have been significantly related to frequency of drinking, heaving drinking and drunkenness among adolescents which was consistent to what was found in the present study.

The finding in this study showed that there was no significant relationship between ethnicity and psychoactive substance abuse by the respondents. This was contrary to the study carried out by NIDA (2003), which reveals that there was clarity changing epidemiological patterns the prevalence of drug use among student. with estimate for Hispanics substantially increasing and decreasing since 1970s relative to estimate for non-Hispanic whites. Whites and Hispanics often have larger prevalence estimate with non-Hispanic black having lower prevalence estimates for many illegally used drugs, alcohol and Tobacco. Therefore, this was contrary to the researchers' findings.

This study revealed that there was no significant relationship between those who abuse psychoactive substances and the monthly allowances of the undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo. This was contrary to the study carried out by Phares (2003), which revealed that family environment particularly in the area of financial constrains influence children and adolescent into psychoactive substance abuse, this study was also supported by the study of Faloye and Morakinyo (2002), that found that students who abuse drugs in Western Nigeria arc mostly from the rural areas and from ow socio-economic status, equally from slum areas of the urban areas

The research found out that there was no significant relationship between knowledge about substance abuse and psychoactive substance abuse. The major source of knowledge as seen in this research was television which was also consistent with the study carried out by Oshikoya and Alli (2006), where television, radio and bill board advertisement were the students' major sources of awareness about psychoactive

substance abuse. The current study also revealed that there was no significant relationship between psychoactive substance abuse and academic performance rating of undergraduate students of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo. This study appeared a little surprising as one would have expected that the academic performance of psychoactive substance abusers would be substantially hampered although (Joel and Alice, 2010), agreed that drug abuse have negative social and academic implications in the victims but Majo (2005), still asserted that academic pursuit of the undergraduate who engage in drugs jeopardized.

Conclusion

The findings of the study revealed that stimulants were the most commonly abused psychoactive substances among undergraduates of Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Ondo, while hallucinogens were the least used, with many students admitting to occasional stimulant use primarily to remain awake. Analysis of age distribution showed that most students who engaged in substance abuse were between 16 and 30 years, whereas those aged 31 years and above reported little or no involvement in drug use. Interestingly, the study established that knowledge about the dangers of substance abuse did not significantly influence actual drug-taking behavior, suggesting that awareness alone may not deter students from experimenting with psychoactive substances. Similarly, there was no significant difference between male and female students in their patterns of drug use, indicating that psychoactive substance abuse is not gender-specific. Ethnicity also showed no meaningful relationship with substance abuse, implying that drug use cuts across cultural and ethnic backgrounds within the university community. Contrary to expectations, students' average monthly allowances did not significantly influence their engagement in drug abuse, highlighting that financial capacity was not a strong determinant. Furthermore, psychoactive substance abuse was not significantly associated with academic performance, as many students reported occasional stimulant use without perceiving major academic setbacks. However, a significant relationship was observed between parental living arrangements and substance abuse, showing the role of family structure in shaping behavior. Finally, students' places of residence were not found to influence their involvement in drug use. The study however concludes that while most socio-demographic factors do not strongly predict drug abuse, parental living arrangements and age are critical determinants

Recommendations

It is recommended that greater awareness on the meaning and dangers of psychoactive substance abuse should be incorporated into the university system through structured courses, guidance and counseling units, and visible sensitization platforms such as billboards. This is crucial given that many students demonstrated inadequate understanding of psychoactive substances and their associated risks. In addition**,** students who have lost one or both parents require special counseling attention and support services from the school authorities, as they are more vulnerable to substance abuse due to the absence of parental guidance

and supervision. By combining targeted awareness programs with tailored counseling interventions for at-risk groups, the university can strengthen its preventive measures and reduce the prevalence of psychoactive substance abuse among undergraduates.

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