

Social Relations of Drug Abusers (A Study on Alumni and Students of The University of North Sumatra)

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Abstract

The phenomenon of drug abuse that occurs in the younger generation is increasingly worrying, not only occurs in ordinary people but has also spread to various professions and involves students or students. Previously there was a case of arrest and raids carried out in the USU campus environment and found two suspects BS and NK who carried 740 grams and 850 grams of marijuana. The purpose of this study is to see how relationships are formed in cases of drug abuse that occur in alumni and students of the University of North Sumatra, and to see what factors cause drug abusers to use drugs. This research method is qualitative with in-depth interviews with key informants and ordinary informants. The results show that there are factors of drug use among alumni and students caused by the influence of friends and seniors. This aims to make it easier to enter the friendship environment on campus. So that the formation of relationships among drug abusers is always changing, utilizing friendships to get drugs, and friendship relationships that are always in conflict. Alumni or students who still use drugs will use their income to obtain drugs, while those who do not have income, for example students, will lie to their families by using the pocket money left by their parents to obtain drugs.

Keywords Drug Use, Social Relations, Alumni and Students

INTRODUCTION

In Indonesia, drug abuse cases are increasingly rampant, this can be seen from the many news reports in the media that contain cases of drug abuse. The phenomenon of drug abuse that occurs in the younger generation is also increasingly worrying. Drug abuse cases not only occur among adults but have also penetrated among adolescents, not only involving people from various professions but also involving students. Data shows that North Sumatra is currently the highest contributor to drug addiction cases, out of 14 million people in North Sumatra, almost 1 million people are drug users, this means that around 7% of the population of North Sumatra are drug users. Previously, a 21-year-old student of the USU Faculty of Humanities named Okto Berlin Siahaan was secured by BNN officers. He became a marijuana dealer in the USU campus environment. This was revealed during the destruction of marijuana which totaled 16,532.03 grams. From the suspect, Berlin Siahaan and his partner Nefo Kaban, aged 27, at the North Sumatra Province National Narcotics Agency office on Friday, April 9, 2021. From the two suspects, BNN North Sumatra managed to confiscate 740 grams of marijuana while from his colleague 850 grams of marijuana were confiscated. The USU student suspect is a student, it is stated that he is still a USU student in semester 6 and is an accomplice of his colleague, Nefo Kaban, who is a USU alumni who graduated in 2018.

Furthermore, on October 9, 2021 the National Narcotics Agency of North Sumatra Province (BNNP) North Sumatra conducted a raid at the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, University of North Sumatra. As a result of the raid, 47 people were secured and 31 of them



tested positive for drugs. This is based on a report from the head of the North Sumatra BNNP, Brigadier General Pol Toga Panjaitan, the raid was carried out based on a report from the rectorate. Higher education institutions are one of the places that are obliged to produce a young generation with integrity, in this case the campus is one of the places to create the next generation of the nation that is intelligent, rich in knowledge and high discipline, so the campus plays an important role in realizing the ideals of the nation's interests, namely saving students from the influence and danger of drugs.

The campus is actually the most effective place in shaping the character of its students to be able to avoid the dangers of drug abuse, because of the amount of knowledge and activities that are skilled in shaping the student's personality into an ideal generation, because the campus environment is a positive environment that is required as a gathering place for the academic community. However, the campus environment which is one of the gathering places for students, of course this place can also have a high potential in influencing student life not only in positive but also negative ways. This is certainly related to drug abuse because of the association with peer groups in the campus environment, it does not rule out the possibility that there can be an exchange of information, buying and selling, or just an introduction to drug abuse which is quite effective. This is what is utilized by drug dealers who intend to make alumni or students to play a role in distributing drugs on campus.

The existence of drug abuse that occurs among students can actually damage the image of students themselves, because generally students are considered as someone who has high knowledge and has their own intellectual value among community groups. In addition, drug abuse that occurs among students actually proves that this behavior has ignored the values of the rules and legal norms that apply in the midst of community life as well as robbing, stealing, killing, and other psychological disorders.

Drug abuse in the student group is a problem that must be followed up seriously, considering that the student group is the younger generation as the nation's successor. As a contributor to the highest number of drug cases, North Sumatra increases every year, this is of course related to students. Research conducted by BNN shows that drug use behavior in students, among others, is generally students get drugs from fellow friends. The types of drugs that are often used are marijuana (75.6%), heroin (56.6%) and ecstasy (45.6%). Students tend to use drugs in rented houses, boarding houses or in groups in the university environment. In this case, universities need to worry about students because of the rampant cases of drug abuse in students.

For this reason, drug abuse among students and alumni is an important study in this research because of the large impact of the resulting losses, both from universities and related to the future of the students themselves as the next generation of the nation. The magnitude of the impact of losses made by students involved in drug abuse has also become intense monitoring among students. Therefore, this research becomes interesting by looking at the relationships that exist in students and the factors that cause students to be encouraged to abuse drugs.

Based on the explanation above, it can be seen that lifestyle will affect drug abuse among the community, especially among students who are just entering the education period

on campus will be different from school. There are many factors that can influence a person to abuse drugs, as well as what happens in the alumni or student environment, so that it can be seen how the relationships formed between drug abusers. This is the background before the next question can be raised in this research, namely "Social Relations of Drug Abusers Among Students (Study on Alumni and Students of the University of North Sumatra)". How are the social relations of students who are indicated to abuse drugs at the University of North Sumatra?

METHOD

The research that will be used by researchers to obtain data in accordance with the problems that have been formulated is a qualitative research method. Qualitative research is a social science research method that collects and then analyzes data in the form of words, both oral and written, from human actions. Through in-depth interview techniques, the researcher will describe the phenomenon of drug abuse committed by students and alumni and see the relationships that exist between the two.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Motives for Drug Abuse Among Alumni and Students

In this section, the research looks at the motives that encourage students to abuse drugs, which later this motive itself will affect several things, such as observing experiences and shaping the perceptions of these students in seeing phenomena which will also affect the actions that later become their own experiences. This is what will later be seen in the form of the cause and effect and purpose of these students who abuse drugs.

1. The influence of friends

Most of the students who abuse drugs prove that there is still unstable thinking in these students, then the intention of self-proving, and the self-esteem they want to show to the new campus environment. This certainly causes them to become addicted to drugs, which were initially only offered by friends, then there is a feeling of motivation to prove themselves that they are able to do what they want to do like adults who look cool. At this time, it is a fact that someone who is naughty will find naughty friends too, just as when a good person befriends a naughty child there will certainly be an influence between them. However, the tendency towards bad influences is generally more common than good ones.

2. Self-evidence

Students who consume drugs generally recognize and consume drugs because of the influence of their friends, but many of these students actually just want to prove to their friends that they are able and brave to do the same thing. This can happen because their friends try to influence their other friends, either in the form of direct invitations or by mocking their friends who do not use.



3. Wanting to Enter a New Environment

In this section shows that in order for them to more easily enter and be accepted into an environment that they consider suitable for themselves, self-adjustment to a new environment will be adjusted where they are, when they are not comfortable with the environment they will withdraw or leave the environment, but in this case most of them actually feel comfortable with the environment and bad friendships that eventually cause them to make decisions, namely by abusing drugs together, even after they no longer use, they will be tempted back to abuse drugs to get into the environment they want.

4. Shyness towards friends/seniors

Among the student informants or alumni who have abused drugs that the researchers have interviewed, all information recognizes and knows the bad effects of the drugs they use, they know very well that drugs are very bad not only for health but also for their social life, but they still do it. This is because among the informants interviewed admitted that they continued to use drugs even though they had completed their studies as students, then continued to use them just because they wanted to respect their group of friends and there was a sense of shame towards friends or seniors they met. This is due to the shyness felt by a person if he refuses an invitation from his friends or seniors.

The purpose of drug abuse among alumni and students

1. Addiction

Drug abusers certainly have a sense of addiction due to frequent and very long use, on average from the informants from whom researchers took data they have known drugs since school, some have used from high school, then stopped using and then used again during college, some have used from high school without stopping using until entering college, and some have used from the beginning of entering university until graduating from university. This is a problem because they have become dependent on drugs so that they will continue to use drugs even though they have become alumni. In this case, several informants stated that they continued to use drugs because they were addicted to them, although some of them did not use them very often but occasionally still used them because they wanted to relieve their longing for them.

2. Drugs as an Escape

Some of the informants below explained other facts that they abused drugs due to the many pressures in their lives, such as economic pressure, a broken family, and a bad social environment. The amount of pressure they face makes them use drugs to get peace of mind. In fact, the peace of mind obtained is not lasting, but only temporary, that is, only when the effects of the use react on their bodies.

3. Criminal Actions

For those who are still students, of course they cannot fulfill their own needs, because it is very rare for students who also work while still studying, but for those who have worked, it is certainly difficult to control their finances when they are still actively using drugs. The

excess needs that must be spent to buy drugs will cause them financial difficulties. As a result of drug addiction, a person can commit criminal acts such as stealing money or items that can be sold to buy drugs, but in cases of drug abuse committed by alumni or students, they generally only use pocket money or monthly money given by their families, and steal their relatives' money at home, while those who have worked usually use their salary money to buy drugs. In these cases, those who abuse drugs are only unable to control their spending due to drug use.

The Formation of Social Relations among Drug Abusers

1. Changing Friendship Relationships

The interview results show that individuals who abuse drugs are more interested in forming friendships with people who are similar in taste and attitude. They often use their friendships to exchange drug-related information or just for fun. So that there is a tendency to be fickle in friendships, they often choose friends who only take advantage of each other in every relationship related to drugs or other matters. that the fact that drug abusers often change the friendships they make with fellow drug abusers is due to relationships that are often not suitable for each other. In addition, there are unstable friendships that occur in each group, and often experience fights in friendship. This is due to aggressive behavior, irritability, and other bad behavior caused by drug use. Drug users will also find it difficult to establish healthy relationships with others, because they have a bad attitude and do not easily trust others. As a result, friendships are often based on an uncomfortable and unsatisfying environment with each other. This kind of relationship often occurs because of the similarity of bad behavior that results from each individual's misbehavior.

2. Friendship Relationships are Only a Tool to Get Drugs

Researchers see that there is a fact that friendship relations will be wider when they succeed in getting information or they can provide drugs for each other fellow users. Not only using in the campus environment but also in the neighborhood where they live, drug users use their friendships to get drugs and use them together in certain environments. Their friendship relations are also getting wider not only between friends or peers but also between seniors and alumni, this happens when they use drugs together.

3. Conflicted Social Relationships

Conflicts experienced by drug abusers do not only occur between their friends or groups but can also occur in the environment around them, especially families who initially did not know they were using drugs but were eventually found out by the family. researchers concluded that those who use drugs have unstable emotions, are more easily angered and have temperamental emotions. This could be due to the effects of drug use, namely the emergence of aggressive behavior, low self-confidence in themselves and the different values they apply. In this case, drug abusers who are unable to adapt to the campus friendship environment, they will choose other friendship environments, many of the friendship relationships they live in cannot last long due to frequent conflicts in these relationships.



They are completely unaware that their social environment is gradually changing for the worse due to drug use, which previously had a good relationship with family, or the surrounding environment finally turned bad due to drug use.

CONCLUSION

In the process after consuming drugs, the alumni or students found that the environment and new friends provided new views and experiences on drugs, which initially were just a sense of trial and error, and there was fear in using them, until finally they dared to try and give certain effects and cause a sense of addiction. There is a connection between the environment and new friendship patterns between peers, which began in the neighborhood from school, until finally returning to using drugs with new friends after entering university. There are factors such as individual, environment, and culture that eventually shape alumni or students to have a habit of abusing drugs, such as the habit of gathering together and abusing drugs together. The social relations formed by drug abusers tend to be the same and function as a tool to get drugs only. The relationships built are also generally only temporary and have conflicts in them, because of the easy friction between those who use drugs and the people around them, this is due to the effects of drug use.

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