

A Study on Drug Abuse on Juveniles and Role of Justice System in Chennai

P. Harini¹ and J. Christina Gladys²

BA. LLB(Honours), 2nd Year^{1,2}

Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science, Chennai

harini72014@gmail.com and christinagladys130@gmail.com

Abstract: *This study explores the pervasive issue of drug abuse among juveniles and examines the role of the justice system in addressing this problem. Through a comprehensive review of existing literature, statistical analysis, and case studies, the research identifies the primary factors contributing to substance abuse in youth populations, including socio-economic conditions, family dynamics, and peer influence. The study further evaluates the effectiveness of current justice system interventions, such as rehabilitation programs, juvenile detention, and community-based initiatives. Findings suggest that punitive measures alone are insufficient and highlight the need for a more rehabilitative approach that includes mental health support, educational opportunities, and community engagement. Our analysis suggests that a rehabilitative approach, integrating mental health services, educational opportunities, and community-based support, is crucial for fostering long-term recovery and successful reintegration of affected youths into society. The study advocates for policy reforms that emphasize prevention, early intervention, and comprehensive support systems. By adopting these strategies, the justice system can better serve as a catalyst for positive change, reducing recidivism rates and improving overall outcomes for juveniles struggling with drug abuse. The study concludes with recommendations for policy reforms and integrated strategies aimed at reducing juvenile drug abuse and promoting long-term recovery and reintegration into society.*

Keywords: Drug, Abuse, Juvenile, Justice, Reforms, Rehabilitation.

I. INTRODUCTION

The landscape of juvenile drug abuse has evolved significantly over the decades, influenced by changing social dynamics, availability of substances, and shifts in cultural attitudes. In the mid-20th century, substance abuse among youth was relatively limited and often centered around alcohol and tobacco. However, the 1960s and 1970s saw a dramatic rise in the use of illicit drugs, such as marijuana, LSD, and heroin, partly driven by the counterculture movement. By the 1980s and 1990s, the proliferation of crack cocaine and the subsequent "War on Drugs" led to a more punitive approach toward drug offenses, including those involving juveniles. This era saw an increase in the incarceration of young offenders, with little emphasis on rehabilitation or addressing the root causes of substance abuse. The justice system's focus was primarily on deterrence through punishment, leading to overcrowded juvenile detention centers and high recidivism rates. The early 2000s marked a shift towards recognizing the limitations of punitive measures and the importance of rehabilitation. This period saw the implementation of more diversion programs, drug courts, and community-based interventions aimed at providing support rather than punishment. The opioid crisis of the 2010s further underscored the need for a comprehensive approach, integrating mental health services, addiction treatment, and preventive education. In recent years, there has been a growing emphasis on restorative justice and trauma-informed care within the juvenile justice system. These approaches seek to address the underlying issues contributing to drug abuse, such as trauma, mental health disorders, and socio-economic disadvantages. Programs that combine therapy, family involvement, and educational opportunities have shown promise in reducing substance use and promoting long-term recovery. The role of the justice system continues to evolve, with a clear trend towards more holistic and rehabilitative strategies. The focus is increasingly on prevention, early intervention, and providing juveniles with the tools and support they need to overcome substance abuse and reintegrate successfully into society. This evolution reflects a broader understanding that addressing juvenile drug abuse requires a multifaceted approach,

encompassing legal, social, and health dimensions. There has been a notable increase in the misuse of prescription medications among juveniles, particularly opioids, stimulants (like ADHD medications), and anti-anxiety drugs. Easy access to these medications, often through family members or friends, contributes to this trend. The use of vaping devices and e-cigarettes has surged among teens, with many using them to consume nicotine and, increasingly, THC (the psychoactive component of marijuana). The perception that vaping is safer than smoking traditional cigarettes has fueled this rise. Marijuana remains one of the most commonly used substances among juveniles. With the legalization and decriminalization of marijuana in many areas, its use has become more socially acceptable, leading to increased consumption among teenagers. The use of synthetic drugs, such as synthetic cannabinoids (e.g., Spice, K2) and synthetic cathinones (e.g., bath salts), has been observed among juveniles. These substances are often marketed as legal alternatives to traditional drugs but can be more dangerous and unpredictable. There is a growing trend of polysubstance use, where juveniles combine multiple drugs simultaneously, increasing the risk of severe health consequences. This trend complicates treatment and intervention efforts. The internet and social media platforms have become significant avenues for juveniles to access drugs. The anonymity and ease of online transactions make it easier for young people to purchase illicit substances. There is an increasing recognition of the link between mental health issues and substance abuse. Many juveniles use drugs as a coping mechanism for conditions such as depression, anxiety, and trauma, highlighting the need for integrated mental health and substance use treatment.

OBJECTIVES:

- To know the main reason for drug abuse among juveniles
- To study the resources in the community to help juveniles struggling with drug abuse
- To explore the collaboration between schools, families, and community organisations in reducing drug abuse
- To study the effectiveness of the juvenile system to combat drug abuse

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

(Fauzi Anshari Sibarani, 2024) Law No. 35/2009 on Narcotics explains that drug abuse is considered a crime without victims. In handling children who are involved in drug cases, the main principle that must be considered is the best interest of the child. This principle is contained in the Juvenile Justice System Law, which emphasizes that every decision must consider the welfare of the child's life and development. The legal protection of children caught up in drug abuse causes the boundaries between perpetrators and victims to become blurred, because according to the law, drug abuse is considered a criminal offense.

(Mirseda, Shehdula, 2024) The study explores how vices like drugs influence juvenile crime. It emphasizes parental roles, social policies, and education for young offenders, advocating for prevention and rehabilitation within the justice system.

(Nabilah 2023) In this paper, the authors investigated how the Juvenile criminal justice system is implemented in the process of investigating children who abuse narcotics at the Simalungun Police Resort. But, in its implementation, investigators encountered many obstacles in carrying out the SPPA Law.

(Paula N Goldman 2023) This review examines literature published over a 10-year period and summarizes evidence-based practices for screening, treatment, and linkage to care for justice-involved youth as well as barriers and facilitators that may arise during implementation.

(Yu Jeong Choe, 2023) The purpose of this study is to find out the effect of adolescents' initial drinking age and first smoking age on adolescents' drug abuse. Various prior studies have been conducted on violent delinquency such as school bullying in adolescents or status delinquency such as runaway, drinking, and smoking. However, there are relatively few previous studies on drug abuse in adolescents.

(Bernat Panjaitan, 2023) In the Juvenile Justice System Law, what is called a child in conflict with the law, hereinafter referred to as a child, is a child who is 12 (twelve) years old, but not yet 18 (eighteen) years old who is suspected of committing a crime. Meanwhile, children who are victims of criminal acts, hereinafter referred to as child victims, are children under the age of 18 (eighteen) years who experience physical, mental, and/or economic losses caused by

criminal acts. With the existence of the Juvenile Justice System Act, juvenile justice is distinguished from general justice so that law enforcement against children is not the same as that of adults/general courts.

(Russian Law Journal, 2023) Juvenile drug abuse is influenced by social, psychological, and familial factors. The justice system plays a crucial role in integrating services for prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of young offenders.

(Alfonse James Odour 2022) In this paper, the authors explored instances of abuse of juveniles in the juvenile justice system and recommended that there should be a special police unit, trained on how to deal with children in conflict with the law to reduce cases of police brutality and violence against juveniles.

(Steven Belenko, 2022) Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts (JDTCs) have shown small to moderate effectiveness in reducing substance use, improving mental health access, and lowering recidivism rates among high-risk youth in the justice system.

(Hasnah 2022) The widespread prevalence of drug abuse has reached various segments of society, penetrating even remote villages and influencing children whose cognitive abilities are still developing and are easily susceptible. This research aims to achieve two objectives: firstly, to investigate and analyze legal protection efforts for children involved in drug abuse, and secondly, to understand and analyze the forms of legal protection within the juvenile justice system.

(Ali M. Yurasek, 2021) In this paper, the authors examined factors associated with identified problematic substance use and treatment referral using two screening tools, the MAYSI-2 alcohol/drug use subscale and the CRAFFT.

(Megan L. Steele, 2021) The research explores substance use among justice-involved young people aged 14-17, highlighting high drug use rates and low help-seeking behaviors, emphasizing the need for tailored support services.

(Chelsea W. Harris, 2021) The research focuses on drug testing in juvenile justice programs, aiming to predict successful outcomes for youth in pretrial diversion programs, especially early system-involved juveniles.

(Paulo Cesar Pontes Fraga, 2020) The research analyzes drug trafficking cases involving adolescents in Petrolina-PE, focusing on judicial sentencing disparities and the use of punishment as a tool for control and transformation.

(Allyson L. Dir, 2020) Patterns of drug screen results and court-ordered substance use treatment referrals and completion among justice-involved youth are explored in the study, shedding light on drug abuse among juveniles in the justice system.

(Carolina M. Herrera, 2019) Gender moderates the relationship between risk factors and substance use among justice-involved youth. Understanding this role aids in designing gender-sensitive interventions for juveniles in the justice system.

(Luzania Barreto Rodrigues, 2018) The research analyses legal processes of juvenile drug trafficking cases, highlighting disparities in sentencing and the justice system's role in perpetuating social inequalities through punishment as a control technique.

(Christopher J. Sullivan, 2016) The study on Juvenile Drug Courts (JDCs) found them generally ineffective in reducing recidivism among juveniles. It emphasizes the need to enhance adherence to effective intervention principles in JDCs.

(Amanda J. Neubauer, 2016) The study examines juvenile drug use trends by race and gender. Research suggests disparities in law enforcement focus on minority drug users, potentially influenced by socioeconomic factors.

(Tisha R. A. Wiley, 2015) The study focuses on implementing evidence-based substance abuse services for juveniles in the justice system using the EPIS model to enhance service delivery and reduce unmet needs.

III. METHODOLOGY

Research method:

The research method used here is Empirical research

Sampling method and size:

The sampling method done by the researcher is Convenient sampling with a sample size of over 200 responses collected in and around Chennai.

Independent variables:

The Independent variables are age, gender, educational qualifications, occupation, monthly income

Dependent variables:

The dependent variables are adequate resources in the community to help juveniles struggling with drug abuse, collaborations between schools, families, and community organisations can reduce juvenile drug abuse.

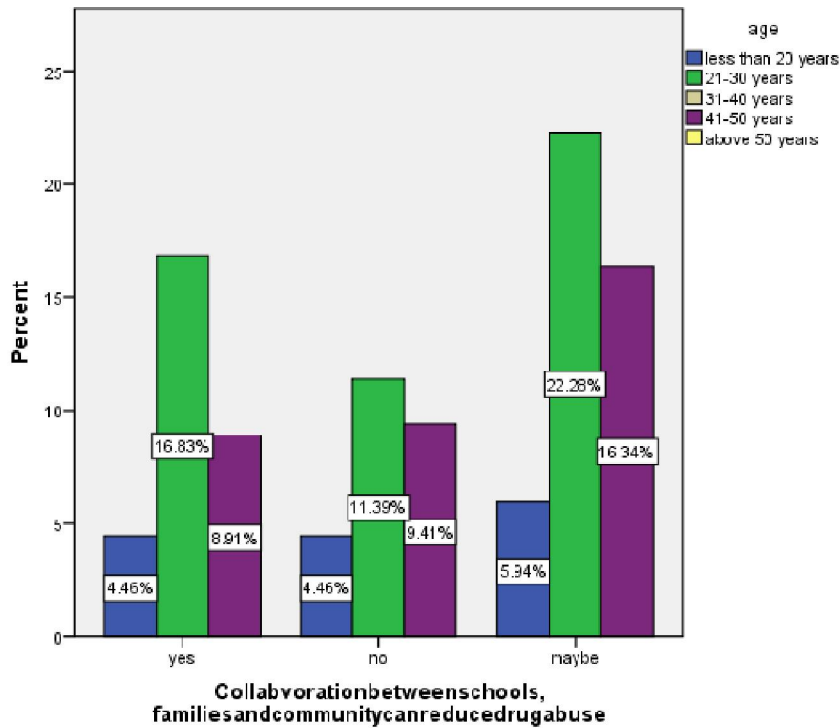
Statistics used :

The Statistics used here by the researcher is SPSS.

Study setting: 2 months

IV. DATA ANALYSIS:

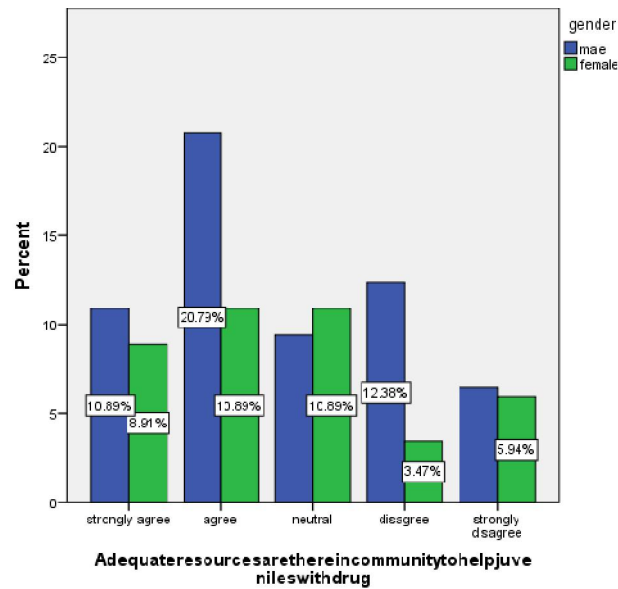
Figure 1:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between age and collaboration between schools families and community in reducing drug abuse.

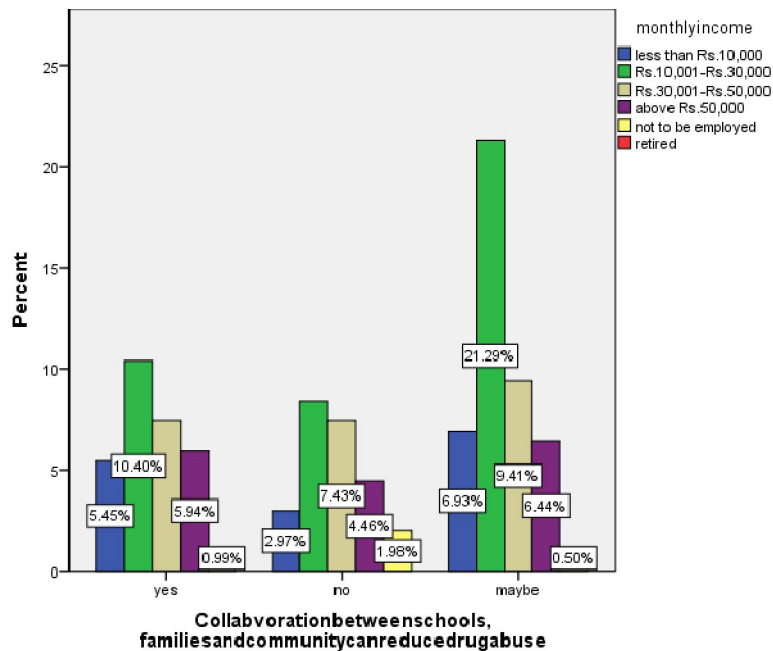
Figure 328:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between gender of the respondents and their agreeability on adequate resources helping the juveniles with drug abuse

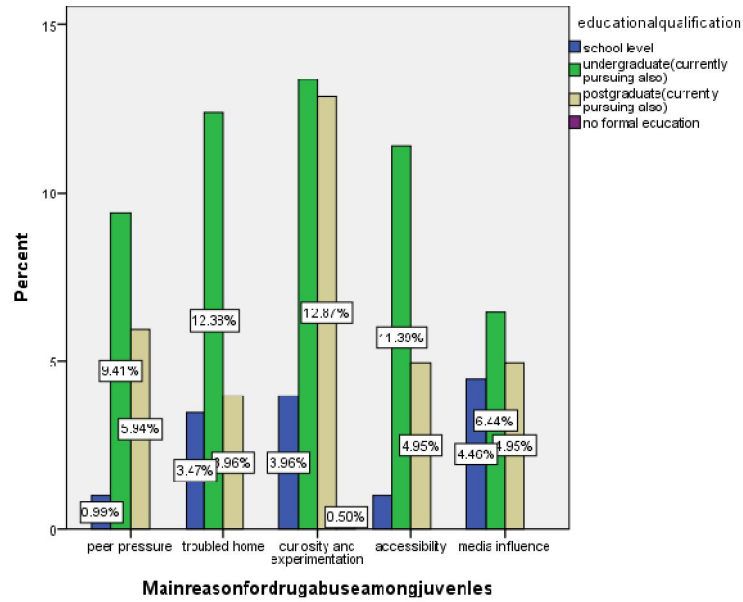
Figure 3:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between monthly income of the respondents and collaboration between schools, families and community in reducing drug abuse.

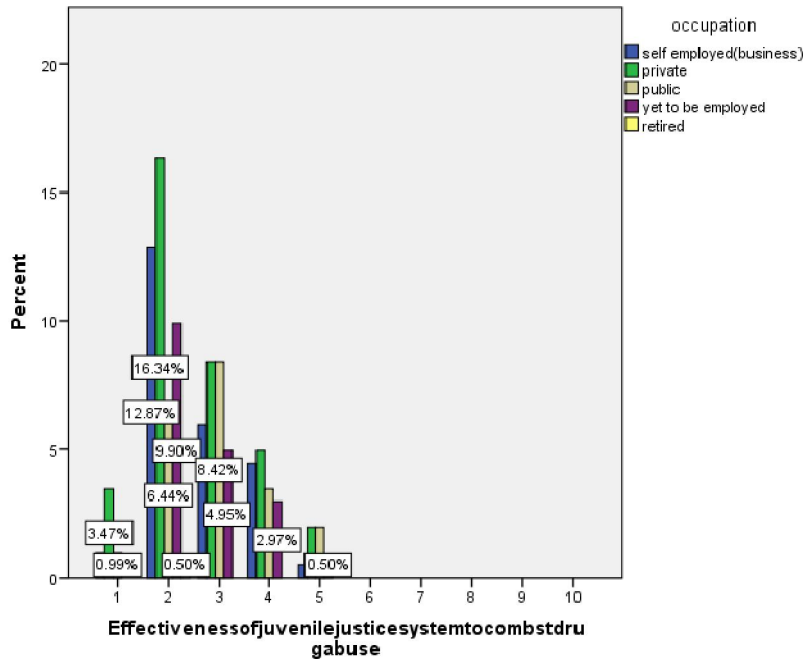
Figure 4:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between educational qualification of the respondents and main reason for drug abuse among juveniles

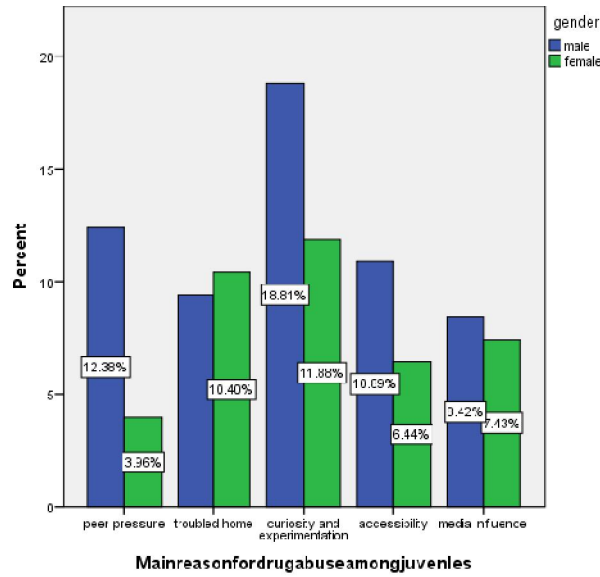
Figure 5:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between occupation and effectiveness of juvenile justice system to combat drug abuse

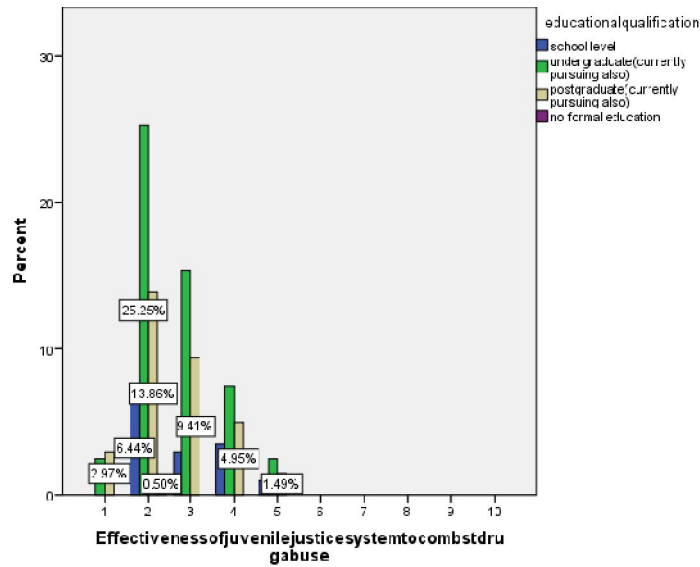
Figure 6:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between gender of the respondents and main reason for drug abuse among juveniles

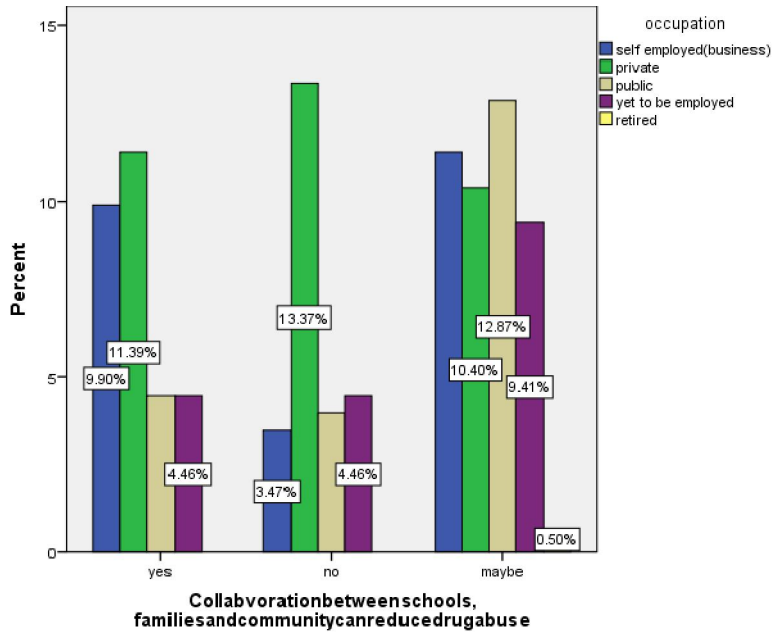
Figure 7:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between educational qualification of the respondents and effectiveness of juvenile justice system to combat drug abuse

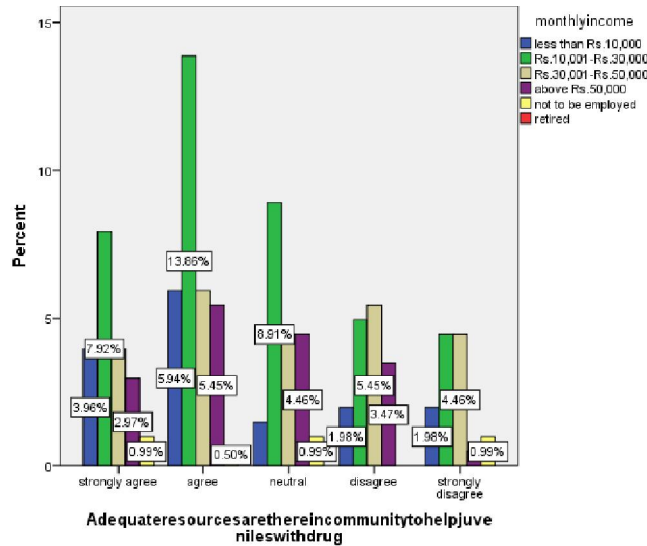
Figure 8:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between occupation of the respondents and collaboration between schools, families and community in reducing drug abuse.

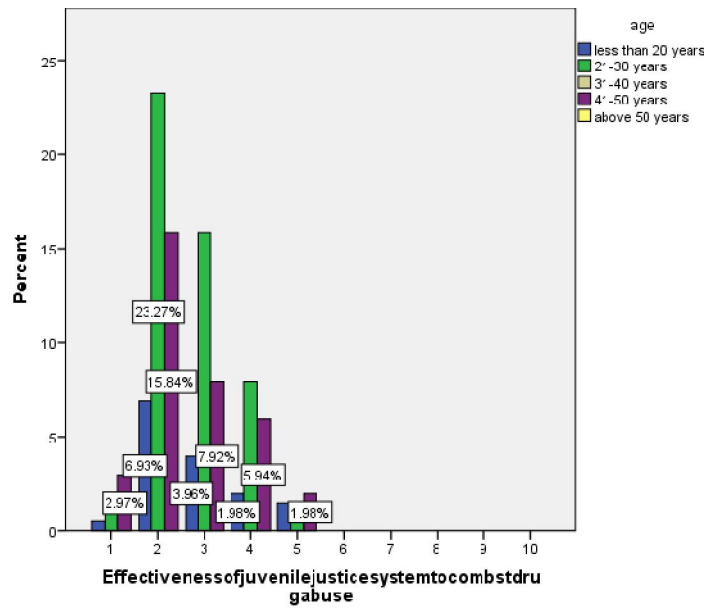
Figure 9:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between monthly income of the respondents and their agreeability on adequate resources are there in the community to help juveniles with drug

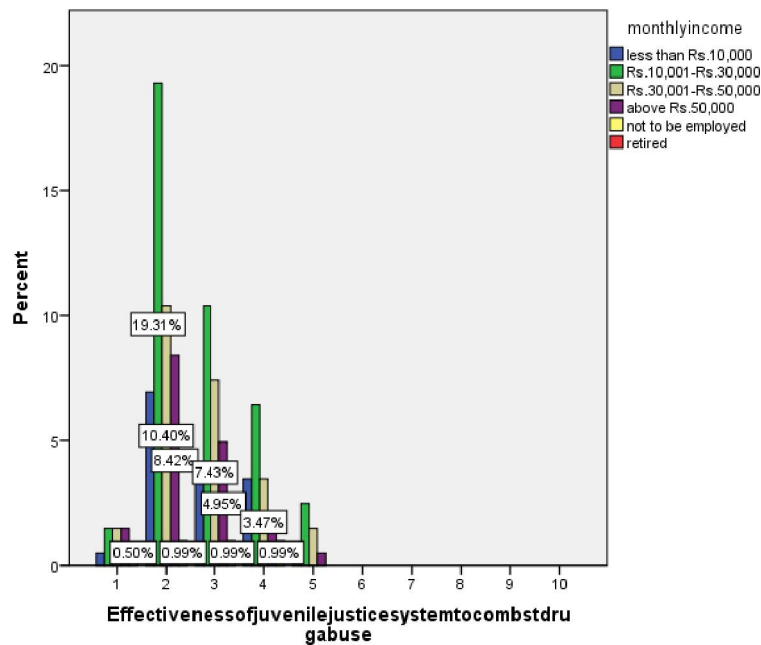
Figure 10:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between age of the respondents and effectiveness of juvenile justice system to combat drug abuse

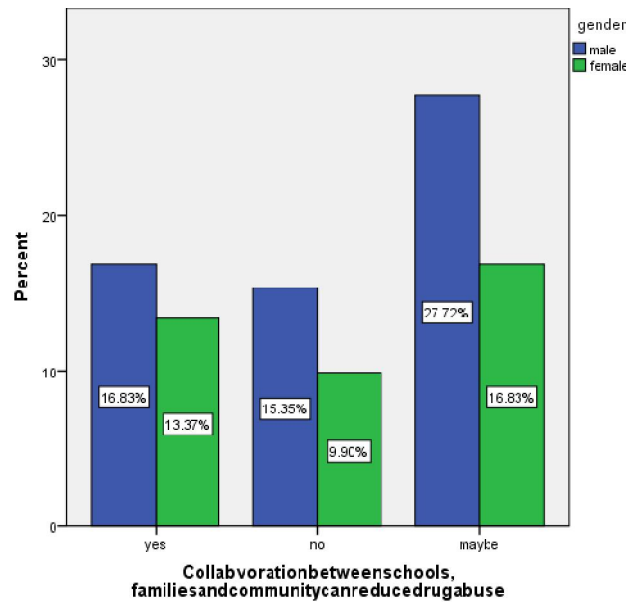
Figure 11:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between monthly income and effectiveness of juvenile justice system to combat drug abuse

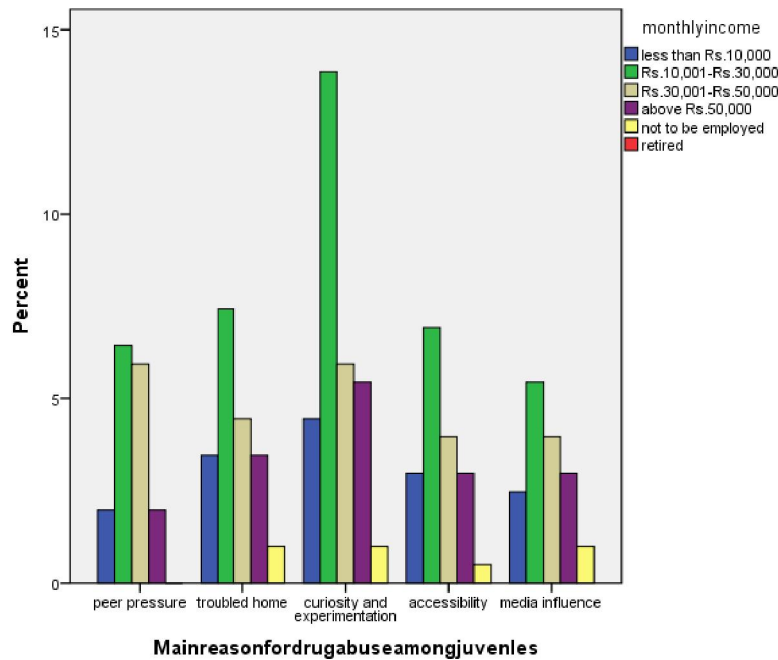
Figure 1333:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between gender of the respondents and collaboration between schools, families and community in reducing drug abuse.

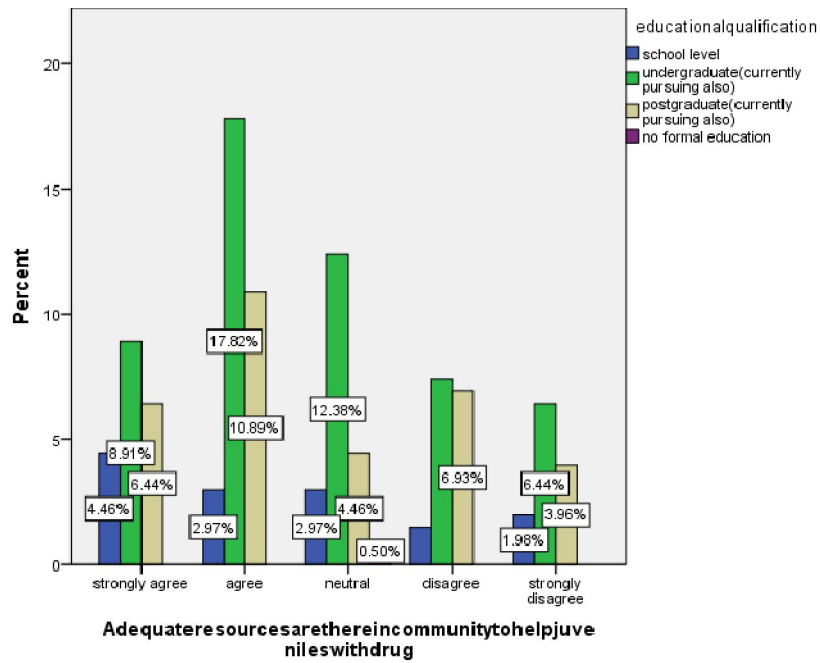
Figure 13:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between monthly income of the respondents and main reason for drug abuse among juveniles

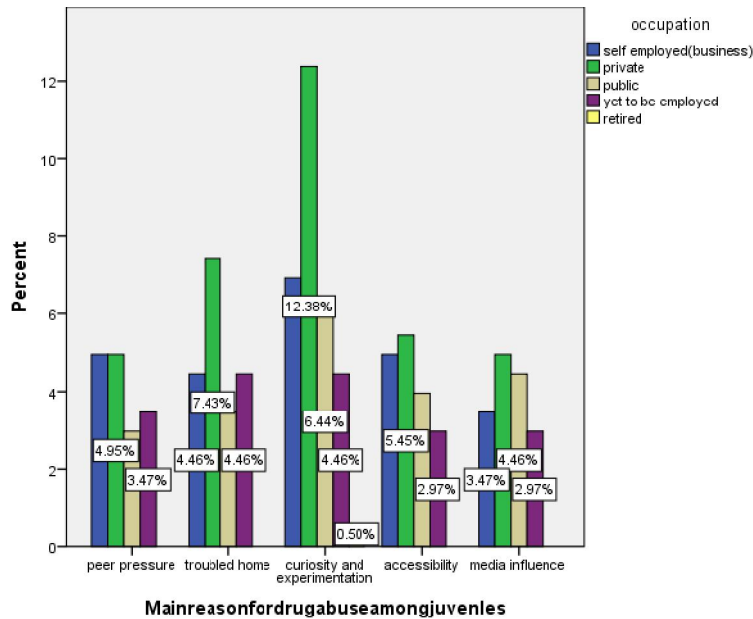
Figure 14:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between educational qualification of the respondents and their agreeability on

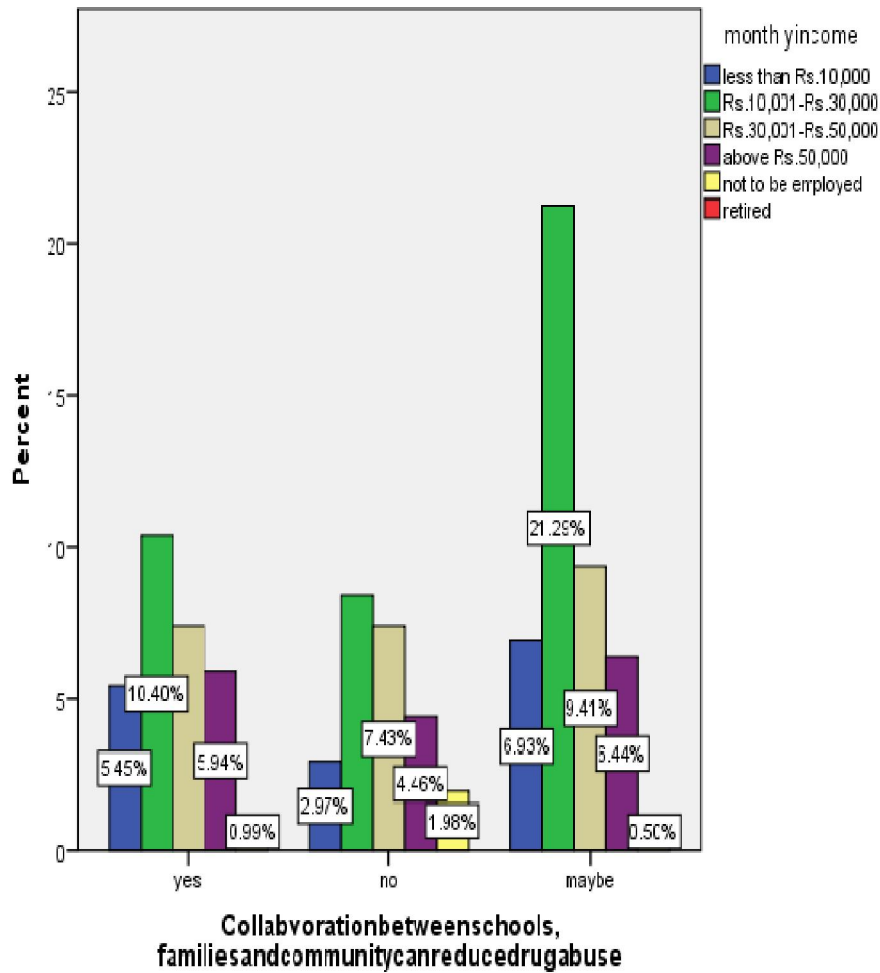
Figure 15:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between occupation and main reason for drug abuse among juveniles

Figure 16:



Legend:

The above graph shows the relation between monthly income of the respondents and collaboration between schools, families and community in reducing drug abuse.

Table 336: Hypothesis:

H0: There is no significant association between age and the collaboration between schools, families and community in reducing drug abuse

H1: There is a significant association between age and the collaboration between schools, families and community in reducing drug abuse

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
age * Collaboration between schools, families and community can reduce drug abuse	202	100.0%	0	0.0%	202	100.0%

**age * Collaboration between schools, families and community can reduce drug abuse
Crosstabulation**

Count

	Collaboration between schools, families and community can reduce drug abuse			Total
	yes	no	maybe	
age less than 20 years	9	9	12	30
21-30 years	34	23	45	102
41-50 years	18	19	33	70
Total	61	51	90	202

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	1.710 ^a	4	.789
Likelihood Ratio	1.720	4	.787
Linear-by-Linear Association	.688	1	.407
N of Valid Cases	202		

a. 0 cells (0.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 7.57.

Legend:

It is a chi square test between age and the collaboration between schools, families and community in reducing drug abuse

Table 2: Hypothesis:

H0: There is no significant association between gender and adequate resources in helping juveniles with drugs

H1: There is a significant association between gender and adequate resources in helping juveniles with drugs

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
gender * Adequate resources are there in community to help juveniles with drug	202	100.0%	0	0.0%	202	100.0%

gender * Adequate resources are there in community to help juveniles with drug Crosstabulation

Count

		Adequate resources are there in community to help juveniles with drug					Total
		strongly agree	agree	neutral	disagree	strongly disagree	
gender	male	22	42	19	25	13	121
	female	18	22	22	7	12	81
Total		40	64	41	32	25	202

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	9.486 ^a	4	.050
Likelihood Ratio	9.784	4	.044
Linear-by-Linear Association	.056	1	.813
N of Valid Cases	202		

a. 0 cells (0.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 10.02.

Legend:

This is a chi square test between gender and adequate resources in helping juveniles with drugs.

Table 3: Hypothesis:

H0: There is no significant association between occupation and main reasons for drug abuse among juveniles

H1: There is a significant association between occupation and main reasons for drug abuse among juveniles

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
occupation * Mainreasonfordrugabuse amongjuveniles	202	100.0%	0	0.0%	202	100.0%

occupation * Mainreasonfordrugabuseamongjuveniles Crosstabulation

Count		Mainreasonfordrugabuseamongjuveniles					Total
		peer pressure	troubled home	curiosity and experimentation	accessibility	media influence	
occupation	self employed(business)	10	9	14	10	7	50
	private	10	15	25	11	10	71
	public	6	7	13	8	9	43
	yet to be employed	7	9	9	6	6	37
	retired	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total		33	40	62	35	32	202

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	6.431 ^a	16	.983
Likelihood Ratio	6.471	16	.982
Linear-by-Linear Association	.052	1	.819
N of Valid Cases	202		

a. 5 cells (20.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .16.

Legend:

This is a chi square test between occupation and main reasons for drug abuse among juveniles

Table 4: Hypothesis:

H0: There is no significant association between monthly income and effectiveness of the juvenile justice system to combat drug abuse.

H1: There is a significant association between monthly income and effectiveness of the juvenile justice system to combat drug abuse.

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
monthlyincome * Effectivenessofjuvenilejusticesystemtocombstdrugabuse	202	100.0%	0	0.0%	202	100.0%

monthlyincome * Effectivenessofjuvenilejusticesystemtocombstdrugabuse Crosstabulation

Count

		Effectivenessofjuvenilejusticesystemtocombstdrugabuse					Total
		1	2	3	4	5	
monthlyincome	less than Rs.10,000	1	14	8	7	1	31
	Rs.10,001-Rs.30,000	3	39	21	13	5	81
	Rs.30,001-Rs.50,000	3	21	15	7	3	49
	above Rs.50,000	3	17	10	3	1	34
	not to be employed	1	2	2	2	0	7
Total		11	93	56	32	10	202

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	7.510 ^a	16	.962
Likelihood Ratio	7.613	16	.960
Linear-by-Linear Association	1.166	1	.280
N of Valid Cases	202		

a. 14 cells (56.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .35.

Legend:

This is a chi square test between monthly income and effectiveness of the juvenile justicesystem to combat drug abuse

V. RESULTS

From figure 1, it is inferred that 22.82% of the respondents belonging to the age group 21-30 have responded with maybe there is some collaboration between school, families and community in combating drug abuse among juveniles. From figure 2, it is inferred that, 20.79% of the male respondents have agreed that there are adequate resources in the community to combat drug abuse. From figure 3, it is inferred that 21.29% of the respondents with monthly income

₹10,001-20,000 have stated that maybe there is some collaboration between school, families and community in combating drug abuse among juveniles. From figure 4, it is inferred that 12.38% of the respondents in UG level have stated troubled homes are the main reason for drug abuse among juveniles. From figure 5, it is inferred that 16.34% of the respondents belonging in the private sector have rated 2 on the scale of 10 for the effectiveness of the juvenile justice system in combating drug abuse. From figure 6, it is inferred that 18.81% of the male respondents have stated curiosity and experimentation are the main reason for drug abuse among juveniles. From figure 7, it is inferred that 25.25% of the respondents in the UG level have rated 2 on the scale of 10 for the effectiveness of the juvenile justice system in combating drug abuse. From figure 8, it is inferred that 12.87% of the respondents belonging to the private sector have responded with maybe there is some collaboration between school, families and community in combating drug abuse among juveniles. From figure 9, it is inferred that, 13.86% of the respondents receiving monthly income of ₹10,001-₹20,000 have agreed that there are adequate resources in the community to combat drug abuse. From figure 10, it is inferred that 23.27% of the respondents in the age group 21-30 have rated 2 on the scale of 10 for the effectiveness of the juvenile justice system in combating drug abuse. From figure 11, it is inferred that 19.38% of the respondents receiving monthly income of ₹10,001-₹20,000 have rated 2 on the scale of 10 for the effectiveness of the juvenile justice system in combating drug abuse. From figure 12, it is inferred that 27.72% of the male respondents have responded with maybe there is some collaboration between school, families and community in combating drug abuse among juveniles. From figure 13, it is inferred that 18.81% of the male respondents have stated curiosity and experimentation are the main reason for drug abuse among juveniles. From figure 14, it is inferred that 17.82% of the respondents in UG level have agreed that there are adequate resources in the community to combat drug abuse. From figure 15, it is inferred that 12.38% of the respondents in the private sector have stated curiosity and experimentation are the main reasons for drug abuse among juveniles. From figure 16, it is inferred that 21.29% of the respondents receiving monthly income of ₹10,001-₹20,000 have responded with maybe there is some collaboration between school, families and community in combating drug abuse among juveniles.

VI. DISCUSSION

The data gathered from the survey provides valuable insights into perceptions and attitudes regarding juvenile drug abuse and the effectiveness of various interventions across different demographics.

Collaboration Between Schools, Families, and Community

A significant proportion of respondents, particularly those in the 21-30 age group (22.82%) and those with a monthly income of ₹10,001-₹20,000 (21.29%), expressed uncertainty ("maybe") about the collaboration between schools, families, and communities in combating juvenile drug abuse (Figures 1, 3, 16). This indicates a perceived lack of clear and effective coordination among these crucial sectors. Additionally, 12.87% of respondents from the private sector shared this sentiment (Figure 8). Interestingly, 27.72% of male respondents also indicated uncertainty about such collaborations (Figure 12). These responses suggest a need for more visible and communicated efforts to enhance and showcase the collaborative measures in place.

Adequacy of Community Resources

Regarding the adequacy of community resources, 20.79% of male respondents agreed that sufficient resources are available to combat drug abuse (Figure 2). Similarly, 17.82% of respondents at the undergraduate (UG) level also agreed (Figure 14). However, the relatively low percentage of agreement highlights a potential gap in resource availability or awareness. Ensuring that communities are well-equipped and that information about these resources is effectively disseminated could address this issue.

Effectiveness of the Juvenile Justice System

There is a clear indication of dissatisfaction with the juvenile justice system's effectiveness in combating drug abuse among juveniles. Respondents in the private sector (16.34%) and those in the 21-30 age group (23.27%) rated the system poorly, with a score of 2 out of 10 (Figures 5, 10). Additionally, 25.25% of UG-level respondents and 19.38% of those with a monthly income of ₹10,001-₹20,000 also gave a low rating of 2 (Figures 7, 11). These results suggest a

widespread perception of inefficacy within the justice system, indicating a critical need for reforms and improvements to increase its effectiveness in addressing juvenile drug abuse.

Reasons for Drug Abuse Among Juveniles

The study identifies several perceived primary reasons for drug abuse among juveniles. Troubled homes were cited by 12.38% of respondents at the UG level (Figure 4), while curiosity and experimentation were highlighted by 18.81% of male respondents and 12.38% of those in the private sector (Figures 6, 13, 15). These findings suggest that both environmental factors and intrinsic motivations play significant roles in juvenile drug abuse. Interventions should thus address both the improvement of home environments and the provision of safe outlets for curiosity and experimentation.

Gender and Income Disparities

Gender and income disparities are evident in the perceptions and experiences of juvenile drug abuse. Male respondents show a higher tendency to attribute drug abuse to curiosity and experimentation (18.81%), while income level also influences perceptions of community collaboration and resource adequacy (Figures 2, 3, 9, 14, 16). These disparities indicate the need for targeted interventions that consider the specific needs and perspectives of different demographic groups

Overall, the data underscores the necessity for a multi-faceted approach to combat juvenile drug abuse. Enhancing collaboration among schools, families, and communities, ensuring adequate resources, reforming the juvenile justice system, and addressing the root causes of drug abuse are crucial steps. Targeted efforts considering gender and socio-economic disparities can further strengthen the effectiveness of these interventions.

VII. CONCLUSION

This study underscores the multifaceted and evolving nature of juvenile drug abuse, highlighting significant variations across different countries and the critical role the justice system plays in addressing this issue. The analysis reveals that socio-economic factors, family dynamics, peer influence, and mental health issues are primary contributors to substance abuse among juveniles globally. The findings indicate that punitive approaches traditionally favored by justice systems are insufficient in effectively mitigating juvenile drug abuse. Instead, there is a clear need for a shift towards more rehabilitative and restorative justice models. These models emphasize mental health support, educational opportunities, and community engagement, aiming to address the root causes of substance abuse and facilitate long-term recovery. Furthermore, international comparisons reveal that countries with integrated strategies, combining legal, social, and health interventions, tend to have more success in reducing juvenile drug abuse rates. Effective programs are those that involve comprehensive prevention efforts, early intervention, and tailored rehabilitation services.

Policy recommendations arising from this study include: Adopting a Holistic Approach: Integrating mental health, education, and social services with the justice system to provide comprehensive support for juveniles. Enhancing Community-Based Programs: Developing and expanding community initiatives that engage families and local resources in prevention and rehabilitation efforts. Focusing on Early Intervention: Implementing early detection and intervention programs to address substance abuse before it escalates. Promoting Restorative Justice: Shifting from punitive measures to restorative practices that focus on rehabilitation and reintegration into society. Improving Access to Resources: Ensuring equitable access to mental health and substance abuse treatment services, particularly in underserved communities. In conclusion, addressing juvenile drug abuse requires a coordinated and multifaceted approach that transcends traditional punitive measures. By embracing rehabilitative strategies and fostering collaboration across various sectors, the justice system can play a pivotal role in reducing substance abuse among juveniles and supporting their path to recovery and productive citizenship.

REFERENCES

- [1]. Fauzi, Anshari, Sibarani., Erwin, Asmadi. (2024). Harmonizing Law Enforcement Officials Against Child Victims of Narcotics Abuse. *Justisi: Jurnal Ilmu Sosial*, doi: 10.33506/js.v10i2.2834

- [2]. Mirseda, Shehdula., Joniada, Musaraj. (2024). Juveniles Between Crime and Justice. Interdisciplinary journal of research and development, doi: 10.56345/ijrdv11n1s123
- [3]. Nabilah, Siregar., Zaid, Alfauza, Marpaung. (2023). Penyidikan terhadap Anak Penyalahguna Narkotika Menurut Undang-Undang Sistem Peradilan Pidana Anak di POLRES Simalungun. Religion, Education, and Social Laa Roiba Journal (RESLAJ), doi: 10.47467/reslaj.v5i6.3738
- [4]. Hasnah, Aziz., Imam, Rahmaddani., Kuntadi, Kuntadi. (2022). Child Perpetrators of Drug Crimes: Legal Protections and Effectiveness in Indonesian Juvenile Justice. doi: 10.58829/lp.9.2.2022.102-117
- [5]. Paula, N, Goldman., J., D., Wilson. (2023). Implementation of Substance Use Services to Justice-Involved Youth: Examining Barriers, Facilitators, and Best Practices.. Journal of Correctional Health Care, doi: 10.1089/jchc.22.05.0040
- [6]. Alfonse, James, Oduor., Vivian, Moraa, Nyaata. (2022). To uncover instances of abuse of juveniles in the juvenile justice system. Journal of law and jurisprudence, doi: 10.51317/jlj.v1i1.306
- [7]. Bernat, Panjaitan., Risdalina, Risdalina., Kusno, Kusno. (2023). The balance of the monodualistic principle in diversion effort at the level of investigation on child performers of criminal acts of narcotics abuse attached to law no. 35 year 2009 and law no. 11 year 2012. JPPI (Jurnal Penelitian Pendidikan Indonesia), doi: 10.29210/020232280
- [8]. Ali, M., Yurasek., Kathleen, Kemp., Jessica, Otero., Marina, Tolou-Shams. (2021). Substance use screening and rates of treatment referral among justice-involved youth. Addictive Behaviors, doi: 10.1016/J.ADDBEH.2021.107036
- [9]. Yu, Jeong, Choe., So, Ra, Shin. (2023). A Study on the effect of juvenile's initial delinquency age on the drug abuse. 안전문화연구, doi: 10.52902/kjsc.2023.23.193
- [10]. Paulo, Cesar, Pontes, Fraga., Luzania, Barreto, Rodrigues., Rogéria, Martins. (2020). Justicia juvenil, drogas y sentencias judiciales: el menor de edad como categoría política. doi: 10.24201/ES.2021V39N115.1804
- [11]. Steven, Belenko., Michael, Dennis., Matthew, L., Hiller., Juliette, R., Mackin., Chelsey, Cain., Doris, Weiland., Barbara, D., Estrada., Raanan, G., Kagan. (2022). The Impact of Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts on Substance Use, Mental Health, and Recidivism: Results from a Multisite Experimental Evaluation. Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research, doi: 10.1007/s11414-022-09805-4
- [12]. Allyson, L., Dir., Richelle, L., Clifton., Lauren, A., Magee., Annalee, V., Johnson-Kwochka., Sarah, E., Wiehe., Matthew, C., Aalsma. (2020). Patterns of drug screen results and court-ordered substance use treatment referrals and completion among justice-involved youth.. Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment, doi: 10.1016/J.JSAT.2020.108095
- [13]. Luzania, Barreto, Rodrigues., Paulo, Cesar, Pontes, Fraga. (2018). Justiça e variáveis legais: Processos contra adolescentes varejistas do tráfico de drogas. doi: 10.30553/SOCIOLOGIAONLINE.2018.18.3
- [14]. (2023). Juvenile justice in india – the changing face of crimes by youth. Russian Law Journal, doi: 10.52783/rlj.v11i5s.917
- [15]. Megan, L., Steele., Megan, L., Steele., Carla, Meurk., Carla, Meurk., Jaclyn, Schess., Jaclyn, Schess., Lorraine, Yap., Jocelyn, Jones., Scott, Harden., Sophie, Davison., Tony, Butler., Ed, Heffernan., Ed, Heffernan., Ed, Heffernan. (2021). Substance use and help - seeking among justice - involved young people in Queensland and Western Australia: A cross - sectional survey of 14 - 17 - year - olds. Drug and Alcohol Review, doi: 10.1111/DAR.13238
- [16]. Christopher, J., Sullivan., Lesli, Blair., Edward, J., Latessa., Carrie, Sullivan. (2016). "Juvenile Drug Courts and Recidivism: Results from a Multisite Outcome Study". Justice Quarterly, doi: 10.1080/07418825.2014.908937
- [17]. Carolina, M., Herrera., Paul, Boxer. (2019). The role of gender in risk for substance use among justice-involved youth. Children and Youth Services Review, doi: 10.1016/J.CHILDYOUTH.2019.03.023
- [18]. Amanda, J., Neubauer. (2016). Race, Drug Use, and the Justice System. The Journal of Undergraduate Research,

- [19]. Vanshika, Singh. (2022). Role of Juvenile Justice System in India. Journal of Legal Subjects, doi: 10.55529/jls.25.1.4
- [20]. Chelsea, W., Harris., Lindsey, E., Wylie. (2021). Drug Testing Policies and Practices: Predicting Successful Outcomes among Juveniles Participating in Pretrial Diversion Programs. doi: 10.21428/CB6AB371.A793B0C2