

Comparative study of substance abuse disorders in both Egypt and United States of America

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Two different places, one of them governmental center and the other is private center in both Egypt and USA, were selected for this study. The study was conducted during 1989-91. It aimed to compare a drug abuse sample from both Egypt and United States of America to discover the different factors which may affect and or alter the magnitude of the drug abuse problem in both countries. A total of 1200 substance abusers in both Egypt and U.S.A. were assessed using a semi-structured interview technique to evaluate this sample. The results showed that cigarette smoking was much more apparent in the Egyptian sample, but it was associated with the problem of drug abuse in both countries. Hashish and alcohol were the most widely substance abused by the Egyptian sample ; while marijuana, alcohol and cocaine were the most widely substance abused by the American sample. It was concluded that drug abuse problem is multi-factorial. The addictive behavior may present itself in many different ways according to the acceptance or refusal of the society to certain behavior. So, the approach of the problem must be multidimensional.