

Drug Abuse among Immigrant Youth in Canada

Authors : Qin Wei

Abstract : There has been an increased number of immigrants arriving in Canada and a concurrent rise in the number of immigrant youth suffering from drug abuse. Immigrant youths' drug abuse has become a significant social and public health concern for researchers. This literature review explores the nature of immigrant youths' drug abuse by examining the factors influencing the onset of substance misuse, the barriers that discourage youth to seek out treatment, and how to resolve addictions amidst immigrant youth. Findings from the literature demonstrate that diminished parental supervision, acculturation challenges, peer conformity, discrimination, and ethnic marginalization are all significant factors influencing youth to use drugs as an outlet for their pain, while culturally competent care and fear of family and culture-based addiction stigma act as barriers discouraging youth from seeking out addiction support. To resolve addiction challenges amidst immigrant youth, future research should focus on promoting and implementing culturally sensitive practices and psychoeducational initiatives into immigrant communities and within public health policies.

Keywords : approaches, barriers, drug abuse, Canada, immigrant youth, reasons

Conference Title : ICSW 2021 : International Conference on Social Work

Conference Location : Zurich, Switzerland

Conference Dates : September 16-17, 2021