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Addiction Behind the American Dream: A Case for Harm Reduction among Upper and Middle Class

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Addiction Behind the American Dream: A Case for Harm Reduction among Upper and Middle Class

By: Sean Marc Sanga, N.S

Abstract

Background

With the drug epidemic continuing to be a long-standing problem among all social classes, alternative sources of care must be devised in order to prevent the rising cases of drug associated mortality. Harm reduction programs aim to fill that role by offering progressive treatments that can hinder drug associated consequences. However, there are a multitude of problems that people who deserve this treatment experience during their search to remedy this spreading disease.

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to help bring awareness to the significant lack of information revolving around the idea of harm reduction interventions. This study will mainly focus on the upper and middle class, therefore, the end goal is to gain insight on what exactly deters or dissuades this specific population from gaining care. In addition, I hope it will provide some solutions to the growing drug problem among Middle America.

Study Methods & Setting

A mixed method study will be chosen for this research due its ability to attain exact statistical data (quantitative portion) and to expound answers that are otherwise unattainable in other studies (qualitative portion). A survey will be constructed that contains questions regarding multiple themes. These themes include: sociodemographic information, barriers, ways to improve harm reduction programs, etc. The setting for this proposal is at least 2 or more drug rehabilitation facilities located in Marin County. A sample size (n) of 30 subjects that come from many backgrounds would be preferable. Of course, with ethical considerations in mind, paperwork that assures subjects privacy, confidentiality and anonymity will be provided.

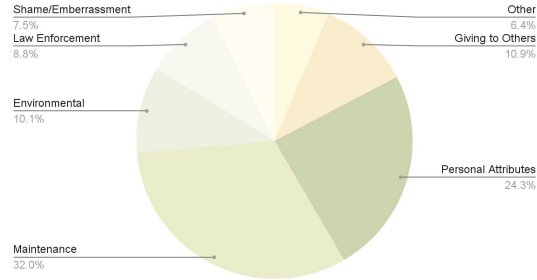
Hypothesis

What are causing upper and middle class drug dependents to dismiss harm reduction interventions as options for care and what are some solutions to said barriers?

Keywords:

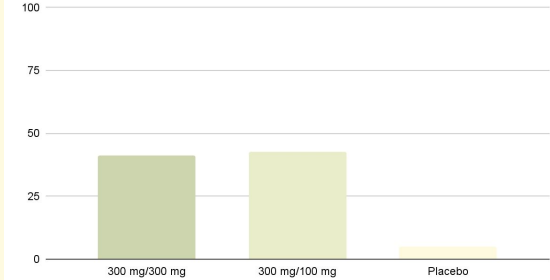
Harm Reduction, Drug Dependents,, Interventions, Socioeconomic Classes

Perceived Barriers to Needle Return



(Spaulding & Canady., 2020)

Buprenorphine Abstinence %



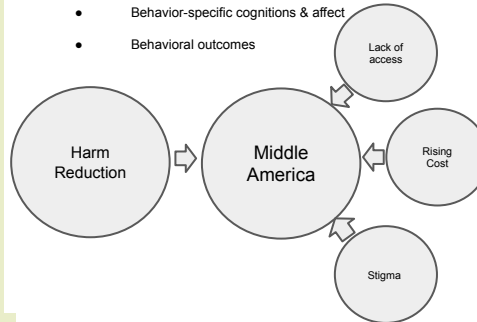
(Haight et al., 2019)

Conceptual Framework and Nursing Theory

This study will use principles derived from Nola Penders Health

Promotion Model. These include:

- Individual characteristics and experiences
- Behavior-specific cognitions & affect
- Behavioral outcomes



Clinical Implications

We anticipate prospective subjects to respond with answers that fill in the gap associated with harm reduction care among the middle class. Answers such as rising costs or lack of resources. Solutions like lowering costs, greater access and widespread education of harm reduction programs.

Acknowledgements

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