



Psychological and Social Variables Indicative of Drug Abuse and Their Relationship to Religious Commitment (A Descriptive Study Among Students of the College of Education at Sudan University of Science and Technology)

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Citation:Chirag Mavani, et al (2024), Psychological and Social Variables Indicative of Drug Abuse and Their Relationship to Religious Commitment (A Descriptive Study Among Students of the College of Education at Sudan University of Science and Technology), *Educational Administration: Theory and Practice*, 30(2), 1810 -1822

Doi: 10.53555/kuey.v30i2.9160

ARTICLE INFO

Received :12-06-2023

Revised :02-11-2023

Accepted : 13-01-2024

ABSTRACT

This study aims to identify the psychological and social variables indicative of drug abuse and their relationship to religious commitment. The researcher employed the descriptive method, selecting a sample of (100) students from the College of Education at Sudan University of Science and Technology through a stratified random sampling technique, focusing on students from the 2022 academic year. The study utilized a questionnaire designed by Nizar Al-Saleh and others (2005) to assess the psychological and social variables across both genders. Data were statistically analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), applying both descriptive and inferential statistical methods. The key findings of the study are as follows: There are statistically significant differences in the perspectives of the study sample regarding psychological and social factors indicative of drug abuse, based on gender classification among College of Education students. A strong positive statistical correlation exists between psychological factors and the level of religious commitment in the study sample's perspectives. There is a statistically significant correlation between social factors and drug-related thoughts and beliefs among College of Education students. A strong positive and statistically significant correlation exists between psychological and social factors indicative of drug abuse and the level of religious commitment in the study sample's perspectives. The researcher offered several recommendations, including the urgent need to implement scientific awareness programs about the harms of drug use, starting with first-year students and gradually expanding to others, and raising awareness about the importance of religious commitment.

Keywords: Addiction, Dependence, Mood, Students.

Introduction:

Drug abuse is a global and complex issue that involves several intersecting factors, including cultural, psychological, social, political, economic, financial, and security-related elements, among others. While it is important to consider all of these factors, psychological and social analyses of drug abuse tend to offer the most in-depth understanding compared to other types of analysis. The core of the drug abuse problem resides within the individual, encompassing their mind (thoughts, beliefs, judgments, and estimations), emotions (feelings, reactions, and mood), and behavior (or intent), which first negatively impact their psychological well-being and then their social life. Anwar Al-Sharqawi (1991: 32) emphasizes this, stating that family life conditions are among the most significant psychological and social factors that predispose individuals to drug abuse. Field research has shown that most drug users come from fragmented and troubled families. Any attempt to mitigate this issue must focus primarily on the individual.

The severity of this phenomenon lies in its direct and indirect impact on the human capital of any society, particularly affecting university students of both genders. This, in turn, damages a critical part of a society's workforce, regardless of its level of development. Drug abuse thus harms the present and future of these societies, influencing their natural and human resources, and hindering efforts toward comprehensive development. Drugs are substances capable of altering one or several psychological functions (behavior, sensations and emotions, mood). Each drug can potentially lead to physical or psychological dependence (Hatem Khuzali, 2006: 6).

According to a report by IFNGO (2002), there were approximately 4.9 million deaths related to cigarette smoking, with 50% occurring in third-world countries. This number is expected to rise to 10 million by 2020, with 70% of the deaths occurring in third-world countries (IFNGO, 2003; INGCAT, 2003).

The current study will explore a range of psychological and social factors related to drug abuse and indicative of its use. Estimating the negative effects of drug use on individuals and its impact on Sudanese society is a challenging task, made more difficult by the secrecy surrounding the distribution and consumption of drugs, as well as a lack of accurate statistics and monitoring. Thus, the research problem centers on revealing the phenomenon of drug abuse in light of the psychological and social variables that indicate drug use among youth, as perceived by the students themselves. The researcher attributes this to a lack of religious commitment, which has led to the spread of drug abuse, especially among young people. Drug use is one of the major sins forbidden by God, as stated in the Qur'an: "He allows them as lawful what is good and pure and prohibits them from what is bad and impure" (Al-A'raf: 157). Undoubtedly, the harmful effects of drug use extend beyond the individual to society at large. Drug users become unproductive members of society, unable to earn a living at an acceptable level, and may pose a threat through corruption and crime. Similarly, societies with high rates of drug use experience decreased productivity, weakened economies, and increased social fragmentation, becoming a breeding ground for problems and difficulties caused by users.

Research Problem:

Studies confirm a link between psychological and social disorders and drug use. All such studies are based on data from drug-using samples, gathered through direct observation. But do the psychological and social disorders observed in individuals indicate drug use? The researcher seeks to clarify this issue through the perceptions of students by answering the following research questions:

- Are there statistically significant differences in the perspectives of the study sample regarding psychological and social factors indicative of drug use when classified by gender among College of Education students?
- Is there a relationship between psychological factors and the level of religious commitment, according to students' perceptions at the College of Education?
- Is there a relationship between social factors and the beliefs and ideas indicative of drug use, according to students' perceptions at the College of Education?
- Is there a relationship between the level of psychological and social factors indicative of drug use and the level of religious commitment, according to students' perceptions at the College of Education?

Significance of the Study:

The significance of the study lies in the following points:

- It addresses an important segment of society—university students. Today's youth are the men and women of tomorrow, the foundation of society. Any harm that befalls them will affect the nation's future, especially since they represent the majority in Sudanese society. The researcher approaches the issue from three perspectives:
 - From a theoretical perspective, the current research sheds light on the issue of drug use, which many young people suffer from, providing important information on this topic. Additionally, this research could serve as a starting point for future studies in this field.
 - From an applied perspective, the results of this study could be useful in efforts to prevent drug abuse, especially after it has been shown that preventive programs targeting vulnerable groups or at-risk populations (Risk Groups) yield much better results than treatment programs. This has been demonstrated by Zaher Al-Din Al-Amin's study (2013), which highlighted the difficulties of treatment and the high failure rates in many drug addiction cases. The current study can also shed light on the factors that facilitate or hinder the spread of drug use.
 - Regarding the foundation of psychological studies: This study adds to the theoretical framework in the ongoing revolution of grounding psychological studies in the exploration of psychological and social factors indicative of drug use and their relationship to religious commitment.

Research Objectives:

- To investigate the existence of differences, as perceived by the study sample, in the psychological and social factors indicating drug use based on gender among students in the College of Education.
- To examine the relationship, according to the study sample's perspective, between psychological factors and the level of religious commitment among students in the College of Education.

- To explore the relationship, as perceived by the study sample, between social factors and beliefs associated with drug use among students in the College of Education.
- To assess the relationship, according to the study sample's views, between psychological and social variables indicating drug use and the level of religious commitment among students in the College of Education.

StudyHypotheses:

- There are no statistically significant differences, as perceived by the study sample, between psychological and social factors indicating drug use based on gender among students in the College of Education.
- There is a positive correlation between psychological factors and the level of religious commitment among students in the College of Education.
- There is a statistically significant correlation, as perceived by the study sample, between social factors and beliefs indicating drug use among students in the College of Education.
- There is a significant correlation, according to the study sample's perspective, between psychological and social factors indicating drug use and the level of religious commitment among students in the College of Education.

Research Methodology:

The descriptive method was employed in this study, as it is suitable for its nature.

StudyBoundaries:

- **Spatial boundaries:** The College of Education at Sudan University of Science and Technology.
- **Temporal boundaries:** 2022.
- **Human boundaries:** Students of the College of Education at Sudan University of Science and Technology.

Key Terms:

- **Drug Abuse:** A literal translation of the term "abuse" in English, referring to the repeated use of a narcotic substance in a manner that causes harm to the user, or results in social or economic harm due to its consumption (Mustafa Sweif, 1996: 19).
- **Narcotic:** Linguistically, the term refers to something that causes lethargy or numbness in the body (SerwanKamil Ali, 2004: 1). Pharmacologically, it refers to any chemical substance that affects basic human cells and induces drowsiness, sleep, or unconsciousness accompanied by pain relief (Adel Al-Damrashi, 1982: 8-9). In medical encyclopedias, a narcotic is defined as a substance that causes varying degrees of unconsciousness, potentially leading to coma and death (SerwanKamil Ali, 2004: 1).
- **Social Factors:** Refers to the social circumstances surrounding an individual from birth, influencing personality development and behavior, such as family, friends, university environment, work, leisure time, and demographic and economic factors (Nasser Al-Hakeem, 1998: 25).
- **Religious Commitment:** Defined by Saleh Zaki and Ahmed Zaki (1989: 5) as the conscious adherence and application of Islamic teachings by an individual.
- **Operational Definition of Terms:** The psychological, social, and religious commitment factors are defined by the scores obtained through the application of a questionnaire on these variables.

Theoretical Framework:

Drug Use: The problem of drug use among youth and adolescents is associated with several social and health problems, such as deteriorating mental and physical health, poor social adjustment, and increased levels of criminal and aggressive behavior at both the individual and social levels.

Definitions of Drug Use:

- **Linguistic Definition:** The term "narcotics" is derived from the Arabic word meaning numbness and lethargy, which refers to substances that cause heaviness and inactivity in the body (Hussein Shahin, 1989: 3). Narcotics, like alcohol, cloud the mind and impair judgment.
- **Legal Definition:** Refers to a group of substances that cause addiction and toxicity to the nervous system, and are prohibited from trade, cultivation, or manufacturing except for purposes specified by law.
- **Psychological Definition:** Drug use is defined as an unnatural desire by some individuals for drugs or toxic substances that lead to addiction, causing physical, psychological, and social harm (Rashad Abdul Latif, 1412H: 12).

Types of Drugs:

- **Natural Drugs:** Such as opium poppy, cannabis, khat, bangi, and tobacco (Suleiman Al-Daraisa, 1997: 23).
- **Semi-Synthetic Drugs:** Created through simple chemical reactions from natural plants, with products having a stronger effect than the natural substance, such as morphine and heroin.

- **Synthetic Drugs:** Produced through complex chemical reactions, unrelated to natural plants, such as painkillers, sedatives, and cough suppressants (Serwan Ali, 2004: 20-21).
- **Non-Human Consumables:** Such as solvents like gasoline, thinner, and adhesives.
- **Addiction to Alcohol and Tobacco:**
Drugs can also be classified by their effect on the central nervous system, as follows:
 - **CNS Depressants:** Slow down mental activity, such as barbiturates and sedatives (Serwan Ali, 2004: 21).
 - **CNS Stimulants:** Popular in sports, schools, and universities for their stimulating effects (Akram Ibrahim, 1999: 5).
 - **Hallucinogens:** Known for causing hallucinations, such as LSD and PCP.

Stages of Addiction Development:

- **Pre-addiction Phase:** Occasional drug use.
- **Addiction Warning Phase:** Increasing use, with feelings of guilt or anxiety when the drug is unavailable.
- **Addiction Phase:** Loss of control, social dysfunction, and psychological and physical harm (Nizar Al-Saleh, et al., 2005: 7).

Reasons for Drug Use:

Researchers have identified various reasons for drug use, including:

- The country's socio-economic changes and ease of access to drugs.
- Political instability and weak enforcement of drug laws.
- Geographic proximity to drug production areas.
- Lack of effective preventive programs.
- Unemployment and lack of job opportunities, especially among youth (Serwan Ali, 2004: 11).

Other Factors:

- Peer pressure and desire for belonging.
- Easy access to drugs.
- Misconceptions about drug effects, particularly on sexual performance.
- Poor economic conditions and social issues like family breakdown (Osama Abu Sura, 1999).

The behavioral signs indicative of drug use can be observed in the following psychological and social factors:

- Introversion and an unusual tendency to isolate oneself from others.
- Neglect of personal appearance.
- Persistent laziness and continuous yawning.
- Pallor, sweating, and trembling of the limbs.
- Irritability without a clear cause.
- Clear neglect of personal responsibilities, irregularity in studies and work.
- Abandoning hobbies, whether athletic or cultural.
- Resorting to lying, stealing, and deceptive tricks to obtain money for drugs (Ahmed Okasha, 1997: 118).

The researcher believes that the most important psychological and social symptoms for detecting drug use among students are outlined by Khaled Al-Ajlan (1423H) as follows:

Key indicators of drug use:

- Frequent truancy from school or university, morning tardiness, excessive absences without valid reasons, a sudden drop in academic performance, and academic failure.
- Loss of appetite with a sudden deterioration in physical health (an important indicator).
- Mood disorders and sudden changes in behavior (sudden introversion, lying, stealing, aggressiveness, fear, a sense of persecution, or unexplained laughter or crying).
- Sudden changes in relationships with others.
- Unusual redness of the eyes and pupil dilation, sensitivity to light, and frequent nose itching due to the drying of the nasal membrane from drug use.
- Tremors in the hands and excessive sweating.
- Sleep disturbances (insomnia or sleeping much longer than usual), possibly resorting to sleeping pills, which can lead to severe lethargy upon waking and a subsequent need for stimulants.
- Visiting suspicious places and associating with suspicious individuals.
- Neglect of appearance and deterioration in personal hygiene.
- The appearance of scars and sores at injection sites.
- Increased isolation (more severe than typical adolescent withdrawal), secrecy about friends, and anger when discussing drugs.
- Noticeable loss of valuable items and money from home.
- Finding soft drink cans in the trash containing gauze or paper.

- Discovering spoons, empty syringes, or burnt foil in the bathroom or drawers.
- Finding folded papers containing brown or white powder.
- Finding strange substances or different pills (Khaled Al-Ajlan, 1423H: 68).

The researcher asserts that these signs assist families, universities, and individuals in detecting drug use and addiction among children, students, friends, and colleagues through direct observation of behaviors and symptoms. However, it is essential not to rush to judgment regarding drug use or addiction without thoroughly confirming that these signs apply to the individual in question.

Religious Commitment and Drug Use:

The Islamic ruling on drugs can be derived through analogy (Qiyas), as there is no explicit text or unanimous consensus on their ruling. Contemporary jurists, whose opinions are authoritative, agree on the prohibition of drugs. However, earlier jurists differed in their opinions before drug use became widespread and its harmful effects became apparent. The ruling on drugs is derived by analogy to alcohol because both share the same legal reason for prohibition, as drugs fall under the general category of intoxicants that impair the mind, a conclusion confirmed through evidence and research. Islamic law prohibits the use of drugs since their widespread misuse and disregard for divine commands, with the ruling being that both small and large quantities are forbidden, regardless of the method of consumption—whether through eating, smoking, drinking, injecting, inhaling, or any other means. The following evidence supports this prohibition:

Imam Ahmad reported in his Musnad, and Abu Dawood in his Sunan, with an authentic chain of narration, from Umm Salama (may Allah be pleased with her), who said: "The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) forbade every intoxicant and narcotic." Drugs fall under the general category of intoxicants because many scholars and doctors have confirmed that drugs affect the mind similarly to alcohol in terms of intoxication (Hamad Al-Zubd, 1408H: 51). Moreover, the hadith states, "Every intoxicant is alcohol, and every alcohol is forbidden," and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "What intoxicates in large quantities, a small amount of it is also forbidden" (Hamad Al-Zubd, 1408H: 51).

Addressing Drug Abuse:

1. The Role of the Family:

The family plays a crucial role in addressing and preventing drug use. Parents have responsibilities toward their children beyond merely providing financial and material needs. The family is significantly responsible for raising morally upright and well-behaved children who are instilled with correct Islamic values and habits, serving as a preventive measure against deviance and drug use. If a child shows signs of drug use, parents should take their child to the nearest treatment center. Families should take the following steps to prevent drug use:

- Encourage children to use their free time productively. Strengthen their spiritual connection with God through the presence of good role models and proper upbringing.
- Ensure that household helpers are of good character.
- Instill the value of honesty and warn of the serious consequences of lying.
- Monitor the choice of friends both at home, in school, and in social settings.
- Encourage children to consistently attend group prayers at the mosque (Nasser Al-Barrak, 1991: 45).

2. The Role of Universities:

Universities, as centers of higher learning, play a significant role in combating drug abuse through education, research, and student engagement. Universities should offer courses and curricula that address the issue of drug use, highlighting its health and social consequences. Conducting scientific research on the causes and effects of drug use and organizing competitions and seminars can raise awareness and propose solutions to the problem.

3. The Role of Mosques:

Mosques are fundamental in protecting society from vices, including drug abuse, through their educational and moral guidance. They serve as key institutions for the comprehensive spiritual and ethical upbringing of individuals, providing a direct influence on the behavior and attitudes of Muslims. The mosque, as a place of worship, is also a center for community education and moral development, guiding individuals to be righteous members of society (Saleh Al-Shahri, 1987: 15-23).

4. The Role of Media:

Addressing drug use through the media requires a carefully planned strategy that objectively presents accurate information about the phenomenon. Utilizing all available resources and creative talents, media can raise awareness of drug abuse across different social and age groups through various programs and educational initiatives (Nasser Al-Barrak, 1991: 45).

Previous Studies:

1. Study by Youssef Ali Youssef titled "Coping Mechanisms for Psychological Stress Among Families of Addicts and Their Relationship with Certain Variables" (for addicted parents in Khartoum State), Master's thesis (2011). This study aimed to investigate the coping mechanisms for psychological stress among families of addicts and their relationship with certain variables in Khartoum State, as well as to identify the differences in coping mechanisms and those variables. The researcher employed a descriptive methodology and selected a random sample of 50 families of addicted parents. The research tools consisted of a primary data collection form designed by Lotfi Abdel-Basit Ibrahim (1994). Statistical analysis of the study data was performed using a computer and the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). The key findings of the study revealed: parents' inability to cope with the psychological stress due to their children's addiction; statistically significant differences in coping with psychological stress attributed to gender; statistically significant differences in coping with psychological stress related to educational level; and statistically significant differences in coping with psychological stress attributed to age.

2. Study by Suleiman Al-Draisa (1997) on the phenomenon of drug abuse in Jordan, Master's thesis. This social study aimed to analyze the phenomenon of drug abuse in Jordan by gathering information about the issue, identifying the characteristics of users, their reasons for usage, and the circumstances surrounding the user at the onset of drug use. The researcher utilized a purposive sample of 97 respondents from individuals in the Directorate of Public Security's addiction treatment facility and Al-Rasheed Mental Health Hospital. The study relied on a survey methodology for information gathering and employed case studies on five subjects from the sample. The main data collection tools included questionnaires and interviews. Key conclusions drawn from the study indicated that young individuals were more likely to use drugs, with the age group of 20-29 being the most prevalent. The majority of the sample exhibited psychological issues at the onset of use, and many had friends who were drug users. Furthermore, it was evident that most individuals obtained drugs easily, primarily from friends who also acted as dealers or promoters.

3. Study by Afrah Jassim Muhammad (2001) titled "The Use of Narcotic Pills and Hallucinogenic Drugs: Factors and Effects," Master's thesis. This study aimed to achieve several objectives, primarily to uncover the social factors that directly or indirectly contribute to the use of narcotic and hallucinogenic pills by individuals, their families, or society. The study utilized a survey methodology for data collection and employed interviews and simple observations. The researcher utilized a purposive sample of 200 drug users aged 18 and above from the rehabilitation center for adults in Abu Ghraib. The key conclusions from the study indicated that 72.5% of respondents first used pills with encouragement from friends, highlighting the role of bad company as a contributing social factor. It was evident that drug use leads individuals towards criminal behavior, as confirmed by 87.3% of respondents. Moreover, 72% of participants cited weak religious commitment as a contributing social factor to drug use, and the lack of good role models within families was also noted, as affirmed by 37.5% of respondents. Additionally, 61.5% indicated that exposure to movies and television influences their encouragement to use narcotic pills.

4. Study by Nizar Al-Saleh et al. (2007) titled "Some Psychological and Social Variables Associated with Drug Use Among Youth in Saudi Arabia: A Scientific Study." This study aimed to identify some psychological and social variables that may contribute to drug use. A descriptive methodology was used to collect and analyze data regarding drug use to reach generalizations. The study population consisted of adolescents and youth under the age of 29, who were reached through social observation centers, social guidance centers, prisons, and mental health hospitals across the Kingdom. The study sample comprised 416 drug users and 214 non-users for comparison. Three data collection tools were used: a questionnaire for male users, a questionnaire for female users, and a questionnaire for non-using males. The results indicated that the onset of drug use among males occurred at the age of ten, while females began using at age thirteen. Drug use increased during adolescence, with a prevalence rate of 40% among males and 60.8% among females. The study results further revealed that 51.6% of users had dropped out of school due to financial difficulties and a desire to work, while reasons for female dropouts included engaging in deviant behaviors (24.2%), financial struggles (19.8%), and numerous family issues (19.8%).

5. Study by Wallace et al. (2003) titled "The Impact of Religiousness on Drug Use." One of the key findings was that religiosity significantly influenced the non-use of drugs and intoxicants, with religious youth exhibiting much lower rates of drug use compared to their less religious peers.

6. Study by Amey et al. (1996) and John et al. (2003) investigated the impact of religiosity on drug use in the United States. The study found that African Americans were more religious than their European American counterparts, and this religiosity directly contributed to the lower drug use among African Americans compared to European Americans.

7. In a study by Kelly (2003), which aimed to identify the effect of communication between parents and children on family relationships and the avoidance of deviant behaviors, the results indicated that when adolescents were asked whom they turned to for information regarding alcohol and drugs, 31% mentioned their friends of the same age, 27% referred to their mothers, 22% to their fathers, 7% to school counselors, and 6% to some teachers. Additionally, these adolescents confirmed that they had previously discussed the risks of consuming intoxicants or drugs, with conversations with mothers ranking first, fathers second, and teachers third. It was noted that the actual onset of discussions with parents occurred between the ages of 10 and 12.

Commentary on Previous Studies: Despite the importance of the current study's topic, it has not received adequate attention in research and analysis. Most researchers have focused on drug use among different age groups. Consequently, the researcher encountered difficulties in finding relevant prior research or studies directly related to the current topic. Most studies addressed drug use alongside various other variables but did not specifically explore psychological and social variables, except for the study by Nizar Al-Saleh et al. (2007), which aligned with the current research's variables, although it differed in focus on users. Regarding the current study's position among previous studies:

- The current study is considered the first of its kind, addressing the psychological and social variables related to drug use among university students. The researcher did not find any prior comparable studies at the university level in Khartoum State that addressed this topic, to the best of her knowledge.
- The current study, with its variables, represents a significant addition to the Sudanese psychological literature, drawing attention to the psychological and social impact of drug use among university students and its dangers to the individual and those around them. The researcher anticipates that this study will stimulate interest among many researchers to conduct broader and deeper empirical studies on this aspect of knowledge, particularly within Sudan and more generally in the Arab world.

Field Study Procedures:

First: Study Methodology: The researcher employed a descriptive methodology, which focuses on studying the relationship between current phenomena and certain past events that may have influenced the present circumstances (Manion& Cohen, 1990, p. 93).

Second: Study Population: The study population refers to all (objects or elements) that share common characteristics and can be observed (Raja Abu Alam, 2008, p. 149). The original population for the current study consists of male and female students enrolled at the University of Sudan, Faculty of Education, who are registered as regular students pursuing a Bachelor's degree for the academic year (2021–2022).

Table 1 illustrates the number of students in the Faculty of Education for the academic year 2021–2022.

Total	FourthYear		ThirdYear		SecondYear		First Year		Major	μ
	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males		
233	42	14	46	17	39	13	51	11	English	1
234	36	16	43	10	46	17	51	15	Arabic	2
198	31	14	24	17	27	21	36	28	French	3
202	35	16	33	17	31	17	40	13	Mathematics	4
188	48	9	33	9	35	10	36	8	Chemistry	5
202	38	15	31	19	31	24	27	17	Physics	6
254	57	11	42	5	47	21	59	12	Psychology	7
121	26	5	24	6	26	4	23	7	Art Education	8
97	13	24	–	–	11	14	15	21	Civil Technical Education	9
126	11	22	–	–	12	37	4	40	ElectricalTechnic al Education	10
94	3	22	–	–	3	28	2	36	MechanicalTechn ical Education	11
206	58	5	58	2	54	10	63	10	Basic Education	12
2155	561		426		578		624		Total	

B. Justifications for Choosing the Study Population: The researcher selected the Faculty of Education at the University of Sudan for the following considerations: The researcher believes that this faculty serves as an optimal model for all colleges, representing a central hub for educational and cognitive values and acting as the primary reservoir for all cultural values. The University of Sudan was chosen over other universities because it encompasses various segments and classes of Sudanese society, along with its long-standing reputation, high student density, and the evident cultural diversity among the student body.

Third: Study Sample and Selection Method:

A sample refers to a subset (or subsets) of individuals derived from the original population, assumed to represent the original population authentically (HamdiAbū al-Futūh, 2002, p. 272). Concerning the current research topic, the researcher selected the sample from male and female students within the study population at the Faculty of Education at the University of Sudan. The sample was chosen using a stratified random sampling method, which involves dividing the population into strata (sections) based on its characteristics to obtain a stratified random sample that accurately reflects the community's characteristics according to the proportion of each characteristic (Raja Abu Alam, 2008, pp. 163-164). The selected sample comprised 100 students, representing 4.8% of the total population size (2155).

Table 2 illustrates the selection of sample individuals from different academic levels.

Frequencies	Frequencies	Phrase
%37	37	Level 1
%25	25	Level 2
%13	13	Level 3
%35	35	Level 4
%100	100	Level Total

It is observed from the table above that the frequency distribution of the academic levels is as follows: the first level accounts for 37%, the second level for 25%, the third level for 13.5%, and the fourth level for 35%. The ages of the participants range from 18 to 30.

Fourth: Study Tools: In this study, a questionnaire was used as a data collection tool, specifically the "Effects of Psychological and Social Variables and Religious Commitment on Drug Use among Males and Females." This questionnaire had previously been utilized in a study by Nizar bin al-Salih and others. The reliability and validity demonstrated in Nizar's study provided encouragement for its use in the current research. It is noteworthy that the questionnaire serves various purposes, such as observing deviant behavior. The tool included four domains: the first: primary data; the second variable: social conditions; the third variable: psychological conditions; and the fourth: thoughts and religious beliefs.

To verify the psychometric properties of the study tool, procedures for calculating reliability and validity were executed as follows:

Content Validity:

The statements and domains of the questionnaire were thoroughly examined by a group of experts in psychology.

Reliability Calculation:

The reliability of the tool was assessed by applying it to a pilot sample of 50 individuals, selected randomly from the overall study sample (males and females). The correlation of all items was found to be excellent. The reliability was then calculated using Cronbach's alpha coefficient for the items of the third and fourth variables only, which are fixed items in the relevant tools. The responses for these items were converted into quantitative estimates, suitable for extracting the reliability coefficient. However, concerning the first and second domains, calculating reliability in a general sense is not appropriate, as their items pertain to data about the respondents themselves, yielding nominal descriptive data that is challenging to process numerically. Given that the questionnaire does not measure a composite variable leading to a single overall score, reliability can be calculated for each domain individually.

The formula for Cronbach's alpha used to determine the reliability coefficient is as follows:

The reliability coefficient is calculated using the following formula:

The calculated Cronbach's alpha coefficient was found to be 0.980.980.98, indicating a high level of reliability, which confirms the consistency of the measure and its suitability for the study. The statistical validity coefficient is the square root of the reliability coefficient, which was 0.990.990.99. This indicates a high degree of validity for the measure, affirming its appropriateness for the study. The reliability coefficients reached 99%99%\%99%, ensuring that the data obtained will possess a satisfactory level of confidence.

Presentation of Results, Discussion, and Interpretation:

Presentation and Discussion of the First Hypothesis Result:

To verify the validity of the first hypothesis of the current study, which states: "There are no statistically significant differences in the perceptions of the study sample regarding the psychological and social factors indicating drug use when classifying the sample based on gender among students of the Faculty of Education," the researcher conducted a T-test for independent samples. This test was performed on the responses of the students from the Faculty of Education at the University of Sudan to the questionnaire regarding the psychological and social variables indicative of drug use utilized in this study. The following table presents the results of this procedure:

Table 3 displays the results of the T-test for the difference between the means of two independent groups, assessing the level of psychological and social variables indicative of drug use according to gender among students of the Faculty of Education at the University of Sudan.

Conclution	Significant value	Degrees of freedom	T-test	standard deviation	Arithmetic mean	Number	Type
There are larger male mean differences.	0,00	198	13,309	0,194	2,22	50	Males
				0,503	1.50	50	Females

Upon reviewing the above table, it is evident that the value of the T-test is (13.309) with a significance level of (0.00), which is less than the probability value (0.05). This indicates that there are statistically significant differences in the perceptions of the study sample regarding the psychological and social factors indicating drug use when classifying the sample based on gender, favoring males.

The details of the results presented in Table 3 above indicate that the hypothesis proposed by the researcher was not supported. This finding aligns with the study by Yusuf Ali Yusuf, which indicated statistically significant differences in the tolerance of psychological pressures related to drug use attributed to gender. This contrasts with the study by Nizar bin Al-Saleh et al., which noted an increase in drug use during adolescence, with the percentage among males at 40% compared to 60.8% among females. Referring to the literature, it is evident that these variables can help protect individuals from substance use when faced with peer pressure or stressful life events, or when they possess a genetic predisposition that makes them more inclined to use drugs and stimulants, which can weaken the likelihood of developing positive attitudes toward drugs and deviant behaviors in general (Wills et al., 2007).

The researcher believes that the difference in gender serves as an indicator of the positive caution taken regarding the psychological and social signs of drug use. This reflects a favorable mental perception of staying away from any influences, such as a negative paternal image among children, characterized by the father's frequent absence from the family, a volatile temperament, a lack of understanding or respect for the child's desires and feelings, and a tendency to misuse substances, often combined with a lack of religious commitment. In contrast, the image of the mother is typically more positive. It is natural for the average responses of males to be higher, as they are more frequently present in the streets and are more knowledgeable about drug issues, and their engagement with society has provided them with more experience compared to females.

Presentation of the Second Hypothesis Result and Discussion:

To verify the validity of the second hypothesis of the current study, which states: "There is a positive correlation between psychological factors and the level of religious commitment among students of the Faculty of Education," the researcher calculated the Pearson correlation coefficient for the responses of the students from the Faculty of Education at the University of Sudan to the questionnaire regarding the psychological variables indicating drug use utilized in this study. The following table presents the results of this procedure:

Table 4 illustrates the results of the Pearson correlation coefficient to determine the significance of the correlation between the levels of psychological variables indicating drug use and the level of religious commitment among students of the Faculty of Education (sample size = 100).

Conclusion	probability value	Correlation value with the variable of level of religious commitment	Variable
There is a direct correlation.	0,00	0,70	Psychological factors

From the above table, it is observed that the correlation coefficient value is (0.70) with a significance level of (0.00), which is less than the probability value (0.05). This indicates that there is a strong and statistically significant positive correlation in the perceptions of the study sample between the psychological factors and the level of religious commitment. The details of the results shown in Table 4 indicate that the hypothesis proposed by the researcher, according to the perceptions of the sample members, has been confirmed. This finding aligns with the study by Suliman Al-Draisa, which revealed that the majority of the sample members experienced psychological problems at the onset of substance use. Referring to the literature, Abusari (1999) confirms the findings of Al-Draisa, noting that individuals resort to consuming drugs believing that they will bring them pleasant psychological effects or alleviate psychological stress or physical pain. Studies conducted on morphine, a derivative of opium, indicate that the psychological relief provided by substances to the user includes:

- Reducing anxiety levels associated with anticipating painful experiences (Kramlinger, 2002) and decreasing motivation levels. Additionally, Jamil Al-Maiman (1406 AH) emphasized that one of the main motivations leading to drug use is the pursuit of sexual pleasure or the desire to prolong sexual activity or to experience more enjoyment and excitement.

Presentation of the Third Hypothesis Result and Discussion:

To verify the validity of the fourth hypothesis of the current study, which states: "There is a statistically significant correlation in the perceptions of the study sample between social factors and the ideas and beliefs related to drug use among students of the Faculty of Education," the researcher calculated the Pearson correlation coefficient for the responses of the students from the Faculty of Education at the University of Sudan regarding the social variables indicating drug use utilized in this study. The following table presents the results of this procedure:

Table 5 illustrates the results of the Pearson correlation coefficient to determine the significance of the correlation between the scores of social factors and the variable of ideas and beliefs among students of the Faculty of Education at the University of Sudan, along with their social status (sample size = 100).

Conclusion	probability value	Correlation value with the variable of level of religious commitment	Variable
There is a correlation	0,00	0,63	Social factors

From the above table, it is observed that the correlation coefficient value is (0.63) with a significance level of (0.00), which is less than the probability value (0.05). This indicates that there is a statistically significant correlation in the perceptions of the study sample between social factors and the ideas and beliefs related to drug use among students of the Faculty of Education. From the details of the results shown in Table 5 above, it is noted that the hypothesis proposed by the researcher according to the perceptions of the sample members has been confirmed. These findings align with the study by Suliman Al-Draisa, which revealed that the majority of the sample members had friends who use drugs. Furthermore, these findings agree with the study by AfrahJassim Muhammad, which indicated that (72.5%) of the respondents used pills for the first time encouraged by a friend, making bad company a social factor leading to drug use. This was also supported by the fact that (37.5%) of the respondents indicated that (61.5%) believe that watching films on television and in cinemas influences their encouragement to use narcotic pills. This aligns with the findings of Mustafa Sweif and Al-Sharqawi, who pointed out the availability of social conditions conducive to drug use, such as common ideas, values, and behaviors in society regarding drugs, referred to as urban planning factors that affect individuals' willingness or reluctance to use substances. This is manifested in:

- Common ideas and beliefs about the association of drugs with creativity, sexual ability, masculinity, and relaxation.
- Changing residence to areas where encouraging groups or environments for drug use exist.
- The nature of social events in which individuals use drugs, such as weddings or peer gatherings (Mustafa Sweif, 1999, p. 74).
- Variables related to family life, which are considered one of the most important social conditions conducive to drug use. Field research has revealed that most users of psychoactive substances come from broken and troubled families. The most common manifestations of family disorder in drug users' families include the use of strict discipline, an increased number of family members, parental divorce, and moral decay. The researcher believes that family life variables negatively reflect on the university environment of the student. In a study about the impact of the university environment conducted by Abdel BaqiDafallah and Raqiya Al-Sayed, mentioned in (Ali Al-Basir, 2012), a range of behaviors and violations recorded by campus security at the University of Khartoum during the academic year 2011 was revealed, including drug use, indecent acts, unlawful seclusion, and intoxication (Ali Al-Basir, 2012, p. 11). It is noted from this study that such behaviors exist even in prestigious universities like Khartoum, making them significant in understanding the social factors affecting drug use.

Presentation of the Fourth Hypothesis Result and Discussion:

To verify the validity of the fifth hypothesis of the current study, which states: "There is a significant correlational relationship in the perceptions of the study sample between the level of psychological and social variables indicating drug use and the level of religious commitment among students of the Faculty of Education," the researcher calculated the Pearson correlation coefficient for the responses of students from the Faculty of Education at the University of Sudan regarding the psychological, social variables, and religious commitment related to drug use utilized in this study. The following table presents the results of this procedure:

Table 6 illustrates the results of the Pearson correlation coefficient to determine the significance of the correlation between the levels of psychological and social variables indicating drug use and the level of religious commitment among students of the Faculty of Education at the University of Sudan (sample size = 100).

Conclusion	probability value	Correlation value with the variable of level of religious commitment	Variable
There is a correlation	0,00	0,75	Psychological and social factors

It is observed from the above table that the correlation coefficient is (0.75) with a significance level of (0.00), which is less than the probability value (0.05). This indicates a strong positive correlation that is statistically

significant between the psychological and social factors related to drug use and the level of religious commitment. From the details of the results shown in Table 6 above, it is noted that the hypothesis proposed by the researcher according to the perceptions of the study sample has been confirmed. This finding aligns with the hypothesis set by the researcher, as evidenced by the following studies: In a study by Wallace (2003) titled "The Impact of Religiosity on Drug Use," one of the key findings was that religiosity significantly contributes to the avoidance of drug and alcohol use. It was found that religious youth engaged in drug and alcohol use far less than their peers who are less committed to religion, indicating a strong positive correlation that is statistically significant between drug use and the degree of religious commitment. This finding is consistent with the study by AfrahJassim Muhammad (2001), which showed that (72%) of respondents affirmed that a weak religious incentive is among the social factors leading to drug use. Moreover, a study by Amey et al. (1996) investigated the effect of religiosity on drug use in the United States, finding that African Americans are generally more religious than European Americans. This religiosity was a direct cause for the lower rates of drug use among African Americans compared to their European American peers. The researcher believes that an individual's level of religious commitment is crucial for achieving balance and sharpening the mind to discern good from evil and to avoid wrongdoing. This sentiment closely aligns with the current study sample's awareness of their religious roots, which helped them, through insightful perspectives, classify individuals according to the variables they perceive lead to deviance.

Conclusions:

The study reached the following conclusions:

- There are statistically significant differences in the perceptions of the study sample regarding the psychological and social factors related to drug use when classifying the sample based on gender among students of the Faculty of Education.
- There is a strong positive correlation that is statistically significant between psychological factors and the level of religious commitment in the perceptions of the study sample.
- There is a statistically significant correlational relationship in the perceptions of the study sample between social factors and the ideas and beliefs related to drug use among students of the Faculty of Education.
- There is a strong positive correlation that is statistically significant in the perceptions of the study sample between psychological and social factors related to drug use and the level of religious commitment.

Recommendations:

- It is necessary to initiate awareness programs about the harms of drugs scientifically, starting from the first year and subsequently extending to the others, as drug use often begins at a young age due to the tendency to imitate at that stage.
- It is essential to activate and monitor the implementation of regulations regarding the prohibition of smoking cigarettes and shisha within the university.
- Families should be educated about the types of psychological disorders their children may suffer from and address them through early intervention strategies to prevent exacerbation that could lead to harmful behaviors such as drug use.
- It is crucial to raise awareness of the importance of religious commitment by enhancing the religious incentive among youth through well-studied programs and mechanisms to protect them from drug use.

Suggestions:

- Conduct studies on the psychological and social variables of drug users in Sudanese universities in Khartoum State.
- Based on the results of this study, it is hoped to activate a cognitive behavioral therapy program for drug users among university students.

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