

Trajectories of Drug Abuse and Addiction Development Among FSU Immigrant Drug Users in Israel

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Abstract

This qualitative study explores the trajectories of drug abuse and addiction development among former Soviet Union (FSU) immigrant users. It is based on in-depth interviews with 19 Russian-speaking recovering addict counselors employed in Israeli addiction treatment centers. The interview analysis yielded two main trajectories: one of abuse deterioration and the other of abuse initiation in the context of coping with immigration. The core issue that characterizes both trajectories is the immigrant users' sense of loneliness. Participation in treatment appears as a path for regaining their sense of belonging. Implications for prevention and treatment based on the interviewees' reflections, as well as on extant literature, are discussed.

Keywords

acculturation, immigration/migration, intergroup relations/prejudice, drug abuse

Introduction

Similar to many Western countries, Israel tackles the issue of illicit drug abuse that is known to be closely associated with health-related problems, family dysfunction, psychosocial maladjustment, and crime (Ammerman, Ott, Tarter, & Blackson, 1999; D'Amico, Edelen, Miles, & Morral, 2008; Schwabe, Dickinson, & Wolf, 2011). Although the exact number of drug users in Israel is unknown, the official estimate is that 14,000 to 15,000 persons are addicted to hard drugs (Natan, 2011; Roshka, Mehl, & Florentin, 2011), and of them some 25% are immigrants from the former Soviet Union (FSU; Isralowitz, Reznik, Spear, Brecht, & Rawson, 2007). FSU immigrants account for approximately 13% of the Israeli population (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2016); yet according to information gathered in treatment services, FSU-origin users constitute 25% to 30% of their patients, and in therapeutic communities this percentage increases to nearly 50% (Ranz, Dekel, & Izhaky, 2012). The high incidence of drug dependence among FSU immigrants may be mainly attributed to high rates of substance abuse in their countries of origin (Isralowitz et al., 2007; Peles, Schreiber, & Adelson, 2014) as well as to the stress associated with immigration

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The Immigrant And The Drug Addict

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The Immigrant and the Drug Addict Guy Sorman, 1993-09 *Theories on Drug Abuse* National Institute on Drug Abuse. Division of Research, 1980 **Encyclopedia of Immigrant Health** Sana Loue, Martha Sajatovic, 2014-06-20 There is increasing interest in the scientific literature on immigrant health and its impact on disease transmission disease prevention health promotion well being on an individual and population level health policy and the cost of managing all these issues on an individual institutional national and global level The need for accurate and up to date information is particularly acute due to the increasing numbers of immigrants and refugees worldwide as the result of natural disasters political turmoil the growing numbers of immigrants to magnet countries and the increasing costs of associated health care that are being felt by governments around the world Format and Scope The first portion of the encyclopedia contains chapters that are approximately 25 to 40 manuscript pages in length Each overview chapter includes a list of references and suggested readings for cross referencing within the encyclopedia The opening chapters are Immigration in the Global Context Immigration Processes and Health in the U S A Brief History Alternative and Complementary Medicine Culture Specific Diagnoses Health Determinants Occupational and Environmental Health Methodological Issues in Immigrant Health Research Ethical Issues in Research with Immigrants and Refugees Ethical Issues in the Clinical Context The second portion of the book consists of alphabetical entries that relate to the health of immigrants Entries are interdisciplinary and are drawn from the following fields of study anthropology demographics history law linguistics medicine population studies psychology religion and sociology Each entry is followed by a listing of suggested readings and suggested resources and also links to related terms within the whole book Outstanding Features The book adopts a biopsychosocial historical approach to the topics covered in the chapters and the entries Each entry includes suggested readings and suggested resources The chapters and entries are written graduate level that is accessible to all academics researchers and professionals from diverse backgrounds We consider the audience for the entries to be well educated but a non expert in this area The primary focus of the book is on the immigrant populations in and immigration to magnet countries References are made to worldwide trends and issues arising globally In addition to the comprehensive subject coverage the text also offers diverse perspectives The editors themselves reflect the multidisciplinary nature of the topics with expertise in psychiatry law epidemiology anthropology and social work Authors similarly reflect diverse disciplines *Theories on Drug Abuse* , 1980 **The Psychomatrix** Doreen M. Francis, 2018-05-08 What is pain What does it mean to have a relationship with it and how does this affect your identity and existence The author s definition of pain is derived from that proposed by scientists such as Melzack Wall and Freud Pain is a dynamic multi layered diverse collection of experiences which impacts and influences us throughout life Pain is a kind of conglomerate of past traumatic neurobiological psychological and emotional imprints pain as in suffering or being in pain The author argues that it is not pain as such but our relationship with pain which is most

significant to the processes of our lives In examining the combination of Freud s psychosexual theory of development and Melzack s theory of the neuromatrix the author endeavours to evidence her theory that there is the distinct possibility for the existence of what she has named a Psychomatrix patterns of pain loss abandonment grief rejection desire imprinted from infancy

Drug Use, Policy, and Management Richard Isralowitz, 2002-06-30 This new edition provides an up to date examination of the key issues of the drug problem including cigarettes heroin alcohol cocaine and marijuana It offers a current review of definitions of drug use and dependence the latest developments regarding tobacco use and the historical agreement between government and industry and research and analysis from a cross cultural perspective A detailed account of opium and heroin distribution and control in the region of Afghanistan provide valuable insight Whether it be illegal drugs such as marijuana heroin and cocaine or legal substances including cigarettes and alcohol drug use is a deeply imbedded characteristic of society An immense amount of money and human resources is spent in the United States to address drug use For example the cost of substance abuse to the U S economy each year is estimated to be over 414 billion In terms of illegal drugs alone the U S drug market has been estimated to be 150 billion a year The annual federal anti drug budget for law enforcement is about 12 billion per year and about 3 billion goes to overseas drug wars alone with about half of that amount going to Colombia to eliminate opium and coca cultivation It has been reported that substance abuse and addiction will add at least 41 billion to the costs of elementary and secondary education for 2001 due to class disruption and violence special education and tutoring teacher turnover truancy children left behind student assistance programs property damage injury and counseling The cost to the nation for each of its hard core addicts per year is about 30 000 The amount spent on the drug problem does not include the cost of drug use measured in human suffering increased violence and lost lives nor does it include the damage done by cigarettes and alcohol The second updated edition of this important work examines issues about the use and abuse of legal and illegal drugs from multiple perspectives including the social context of reality historical and present patterns of use causal factors associated with addiction research findings including those of a cross cultural nature case studies of addicts and the management of services provision

Immigrants and Substance Use, 2005

Handbook of Managerial Behavior and Occupational Health Alexander-Stamatios G. Antoniou, 2009-01-01 The reader will find the articles themselves very well written and well researched this book would best be utilized as a reference tool for a researcher or as a reader for a masters or doctoral level course in organizational studies industrial or organizational psychology this text will be extremely valuable Jeffrey D Yergler Leadership Organization Development Journal This exciting Handbook provides an authoritative and comprehensive overview of managerial behavior and occupational health Containing both theoretical and empirical contributions written by eminent academics the Handbook covers a range of factors that influence behavior including migration and health job insecurity the impact of age diversity work stress and health in the context of social inequality as well as occupational health from a psychological perspective It is

an essential reference tool to further research on psychology stress and understanding the behaviors of health within working environments The book will be invaluable to academics and students in the fields of occupational health

Conducting Drug Abuse Research with Minority Populations Bernard Segal, 2018-10-24 Be a better researcher when studying drug abuse among minorities *Conducting Drug Abuse Research with Minority Populations* Advances and Issues brings you the voices of drug abuse researchers who discuss the most important concerns about conducting research in drug taking minority populations In this strategy based book you ll find yourself beneficially involved in a discussion of many of the central methodological advances facing researchers today specifically in the target area of minority communities and their drug using societies *Conducting Drug Abuse Research with Minority Populations* presents crucial recommendations and strategies that will lead you toward unprecedented effectiveness and efficiency when researching this subsection of the world s drug users In addition find new ways to involve community members in the research process and you ll come to more fully understand the impact of cultural values attitudes and norms in the drug taking patterns of minority persons With this book you will learn more about the importance of advisory boards gatekeepers and indigenous workers in this type of research the crucial role of incentives in recruiting and retaining minority persons in drug abuse studies focus groups as tools to minimize selection bias of minority subjects how cultural values may affect research strategies how research teams can facilitate the collection of data within minority communities Researchers college educators and substance abuse practitioners will find that *Conducting Drug Abuse Research with Minority Populations* improves their efforts to produce more viable data in a much shorter time span *Drug Abuse Services Research Series* ,1992

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