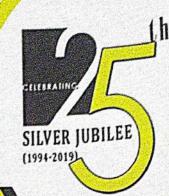
# DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) JAKHAMA, KOHIMA, NAGALAND



SOCIOLOGICALLY
IMAGINING
BEYOND
ABOUNDARIES



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## CONTENTS

Forward Messages and Greetings Memory Down the Lane Short Story (My Distant Relatives)

## ARTICLES

- 1. Prevention of Substance Abuse in Nagaland Dr. Velhou Koza
- 2. Environmental Sustainability: A Buddhist Path to Follow - Dr. Rahul Kumar & Dr. Medonuo Pienyu
- 3. Education and Economic Empowerment of Women -Dr. Vizolenuo Sophie
- 4. Providing Quality Education and Restraining Dropouts through Community Participation: The Experience of Nagaland. - Dr. Khobu Tsolo
- 5. Urban Local Bodies Election in Nagaland : The Politicisation for Women Participation- Dr. Aosunep

Poetry Section The Family Album Academic Results Student Executives (2006-2020) Head of Department Faculty Members (1994-2022) Department Activities Prominent Alumni

### PREVENTION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN NAGALAND

Dr. Velhou Koza Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Don Bosco College, Kohima Department Alumni, Batch of (2001-2004)

Abstract: A substance abuse is a pattern of repeated drug or alcohol use that often interferes with health, work or social relationships. Substance abuse known as drug abuse is a patterned use of a drug in which the user consumes the substance in amounts or with methods which are harmful to



themselves or others, and is a form of substance-related disorder. Substance abuse and alcoholism are the major social problems which are engulfing the youth all over the state of Nagaland. The young persons have become the most vulnerable group an easy victims of substance abuse. There are various issues and challenges in Nagaland in relation to substance abuse such as discrimination, domestic violence, wife beating, divorce, rape, prostitution, murder, school drop outs, premature death, and broken families. Substance abuse and alcoholism are regarded as the root causes of many social evils in Nagaland for which it is a growing concern in Nagaland. They have emerged as the most important cause of distress, crime and violence in present day Naga society. The paper attempts to examine the epidemic of substance abuse prevention based on the investigation carried out in Kohima, Dimapur and Phek districts of Nagaland. It will propose suggestions to prevent drug and alcohol abuse in Nagaland.

Keywords: Substance, Drug, Alcohol, Abuse, Prevention

#### Introduction

Nagaland is a tiny state of India in the North-East region, land-locked by Myanmar on the east, Assam on the West and Manipur in the South. The epidemic of substance abuse is a growing concern in Nagaland. Substance abuse has become an intense and pervasive social problem with a major social impact in Nagaland. Early substance abuse prevention is one of the best ways to lower the risk for addiction, and this prevention starts at home with families and parents. Substance abuse is harmful not only for the individual but also for his family and the society at large. The young people throughout the state of Nagaland have become the most vulnerable group and easy victims of drug abuse. The civil societies, voluntary organisations and government in collaboration with non-governmental organizations have to adopt the models and strategies in the role in prevention and reduction of substance abuse in the state. This paper is based on the study conducted in Kohima, Dimapur and Phek districts of Nagaland.

Substance abuse prevention, is also known as drug abuse prevention, is a process that attempts to prevent the onset of substance use or limit the development of problems associated with using psycho active's substances. Prevention is understood as any activity designed to avoid substance and reduce its health and social consequences. An extensive awareness programme is needed for all sections of the

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