Research Paper

Effect of Peer Pressure in Youth Drug Abuse

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ABSTRACT: The purpose of this study was to investigate the effect of peer pressure on drug abuse in the city of NEKEMTE located in the Western part of Ethiopia. To achieve the objectives of the research, data were collected, analyzed and interpreted. Focus Group Discussions (FGD) are designed for young people and key informants (KI). Accordingly, to fulfill the intended sample size of 18 participants. The total number of participants that took part in the study were 18. These constituted a total of 12 street youth and six employees engaged in NGOs and government office activities. For this particular study, samples of 12 street youth and six employees have been taken by using a purposive sampling method. As a result, twelve young people were interviewed and participated in the FGD, and six staff members from governmental and non-governmental organizations participated in the FGD to make the study a success. In total, eighteen participants were selected using intentional role models and participating in the study. The appropriate method was used to analyze the data using data analysis processes. Five major themes were identified in line with the objectives of this study: roles of peer pressure, forms of peer pressure, more DRUGs abused among street youth, factors leading to street youth and the effects of DRUG abuse on street youth and peer pressure in the learning environment. Findings and findings from key informational discussions and group discussions focused on this study have largely demonstrated that peers play a leading and protected role, given and promoted, influence roles and leadership roles. Both forms of negative and positive peer pressure are also common among street youths. Regarding the most commonly abused drugs among street teens, Khat, cigarettes, alcohol, shisha and Sniff glue (benzene) was said to be, Hashish is the most commonly used Drug by street youth while drugs such as cocaine, heroin, and marijuana can be used by street youth in selected areas. Poverty, divorce or separation, deviant behavior, family-related issues, the death of parents / guardians and peer pressure are factors that lead young people on the streets. In addition, the effects of drug abuse such as mental health problems, social and economic consequences, physical injury, and dependence on drug use and mental disorders of drug abusers are very common.
KEYWORDS: Drug, Drug Abuse, Nekemte, Peer Pressure, Youth.

I. INTRODUCTION

A common denominator between the majority of these street youth is that they use (or more appropriately, abuse) different substances. The universal phenomenon that goes hand in hand with a typical street life is the abuse of different substances (Adlaf et el, 1996). These substances are used by these members of society for different purposes. Although the types and amounts of the substances children on the street use vary expansively, many of these substances are commonly harmful to the body and cause much damage. Johnson et al. (2005) list many reasons for the abusive behavior of street youth including fulfilling the need to be accepted as a vital member of a group, to cope with the situation they find themselves in, as well as for recreational purposes. UNODC (2014) points out, 'there is an increase in the rate of drug abuse in the world where 230 million people or 5% of the world's adult population is estimated to have used illicit drugs at least once in 2010'. Maithya (2009) reported that children between the ages of 11 and 13 in neighboring Kenya were

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found to be involved in drug abuse. This is a criminal act and is actually considered immoral in Kenyan cultural views. These children and adolescents are found on the streets at any hour of the day - not only in urban areas, but also in many rural cities - plagued with all kinds of violence, crime, drug abuse, physical and emotional abuse and criminal behavior.

Substance abuse and drug abuse have always been the subject of handshakes and discussions about street life. Organizations working with street children and young people will never fail to address the need to help these active youth overcome their thirst for illegal and dangerous use of drugs. Studies show that street children 'start first with simple things like alcohol and tobacco because this is cheaper and more accessible' (Wittig, Wright & Kaminsky, 1997). After that, these older people go and use some of the more difficult things, eventually graduating from the integrity of some of the most dangerous things out there, putting their lives at risk. Brown et al (1986) states that peer pressure is 'a feeling of being pressured, urged, or influenced by others to do certain things or to actually do certain things because others pressured, coaxed you, or tempted you'. Most teenagers crave love and want to be accepted by their friends and acquaintances. They do all they can to please those close to them so that they will not be trapped and left out. In a recent report, of major issues that put young people on the streets, the environmental influences (peer and community) stated by the Ethiopian government (MOLSA, 2004). Most of the peer groups on the street, however, are the hardest kind of company to keep. Peer pressure can be good or bad depending on the type of peer group involved.

Street youth want to be accepted by their peers even more than their normal peers. It is very important for these young people to gain the recognition and acceptance of their peers as they do not want to be alone in a difficult street life. Young people follow a variety of ways to gain the approval of their peers while living on the streets. This includes doing the same things that their peers do. 'They use substances or engage in other activities that can be harmful to health are the means of being easily accepted' (WHO, 2014). Although there are a number of studies examining peer pressure, many peer pressure measures are designed for young adults or adults.

1.1 Adverse Features of Peer Pressure

Lindgren (1980) suggested that peer pressure also had negative implications for young people and made poor decisions and decisions. He suggested that young people with bad influences should be satisfied with all their needs and be seen living only for a moment. For example, these young people, according to Berndt (1996), were unable to assess and visualize the long-term effects of alcohol and drug abuse. In addition, they become heavy smokers despite the overwhelming evidence that smoking can be harmful to their health and apparently believe that the "invisible shield" around them will protect them from the long-term effects of such behavior (Muuss, 2000). Peer-to-peer youths do not learn to work hard and do not try to get good grades, they do not care, they wear clothes that are not acceptable to their families or communities, they do bad habits such as drinking beer, smoking cigarettes, going to school dances or schooling, cutting classes or skipping school and so on (Coleman , 1991).

According to Clasen and Brown (1985), peer groups encourage teens to act contrary to their parents' wishes, not to do too many things for their families, not to be late for homework, and to steal different things, (i.e. shoplifting, lock, etc.), if influenced theirs to them is not true. It was also suggested in one study that peer groups force teens to give teachers difficulty, retaliation or wisdom to adults, to ignore what their parents tell them to do, to trash or destroy things (i.e. writing on walls, breaking windows, etc.), not letting their parents know where they are going and what they do, and harass their parents as a whole (Gray, 1991).

II.   STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Since street youths do not have a permanent home, it is obvious to anyone that a home is a basic need when it is dark and in need of shelter. The most difficult part of street life is, therefore, nightmares: rape, burglary, abuse or worse, murder. It is very difficult to think about living on the streets of girls, especially because they are prone to abuse and are at risk of becoming violent. These and other conditions are pushing street youths to become drug addicts. They claim that these drugs help them to control their emotions and provide a temporary escape from the harsh reality of becoming citizens. These effects are not resistant to street youth solely due to apparent malnutrition and lack of personal hygiene (UddinTalukder, Md. Et al., 2015, pp. 240-245).

III.   LITERATURE REVIEW

Street children and teenagers have been roaming the streets of many Ethiopian cities for decades. As some government documents reveal, children lived and worked on the streets for less than half a century. The responsibility for the upbringing, protection and coexistence of children is primarily given to the family because it is the best and most appropriate place for children to grow up normally. In addition to these provisions, children's hardships range from bad to worse (FSCE, 2003). In the case of Ethiopia, many children are left

unattended and neglected by adults, which inevitably prevents them from becoming street dwellers and street youth. Without the death or abandonment of a parent, street youth end up becoming homeless and neglected because of visible poverty and migration from their original cities. According to a report by FSCE (1999), urbanization and other complex social problems such as poverty, unemployment, rapid population growth, family breakdown, migration, have greatly increased the number of children who make roads their own homes. MOLSA also reports that the major factors leading to street life include 'increasing poverty, domestic violence, migration, school dropouts, family migration and the need to support yourself and the family' (MOLSA, 2004).

In fast-growing countries like Ethiopia, urban cities are rapidly filling up with a large number of street children (MOLSA, 1993). In (2007) MOLSA in a UNICEF-supported study also estimated the total number of children and youth on the streets of Ethiopian cities is approximately 150,000 and that 60,000 children are estimated to live on the streets of Addis Ababa and the surrounding (UNICEF, 2012). It should be noted that there is no single reason for young people to be street children, rather, it is a combination of economic, social, political and cultural factors that force children to take to the streets. According to Lalor, (1999) 'children come to street life for economic reasons (poverty, family reasons, orphans, joining friends), peer pressure, parental pressure.' Fathers, few have tried to study the situation of street children. It is difficult to calculate the number of street children and street children because of their floating nature. Their lack of a permanent address, their travel routes, and their changing workplaces make them a difficult group to find (Petel, 1990 in Pietkiewicz, 2012). There are no accurate estimates of the number of street youth in the world, and estimates often vary from one source to another. More than half, 650 million of the world's 1.2 billion people living in poverty are children (UNICEF, 2011).

3.1 Comprehensive Perception on Street Youths

The situation of street youth has become one of the urban problems that needs the attention of the international community. Experts from all walks of life have highlighted the various social and economic factors they have encountered in their studies. It is reported that young people living and working on the streets are present in all parts of the world. Studies have also shown that street youth is becoming more prevalent in urban areas in developing countries. However, the fact that they do not have permanent residences makes it difficult to obtain reliable statistics and to estimate their numbers. In 1998, UNICEF estimates that there are 100 million street children worldwide. The numbers have plummeted in recent decades as a result of widespread economic stagnation, political unrest, social unrest, increased family decline, urban and rural poverty, natural disasters, and rapid industrial development. The United Nations International Children's Education Funds (UNICEF) estimates that of the 100 million street children, only 20 million live on the streets, apart from their families.

The problem of children and young people living on the streets is a global phenomenon. It is also causing serious damage to millions of children in all parts of the world. These children live short lives and lack basic necessities such as food, health care, and a secure environment (UNICEF, 2007). Street youth are a growing phenomenon in developing countries as well as in economically developed countries. Once on the road, their life experiences can be viewed as a state of extreme and chronic poverty (Conticini, no Hulme, 2006). According to recent studies, because social services are inadequate and almost nonexistent, African children in need of care are often denied adequate care and protection (UNICEF, 2005). They are at risk of physical injury, substance abuse and health-related problems including sexual and reproductive health. And they do not have a formal and informal educational life. They are particularly lacking in life skills and opportunities and the protection of their rights as set out in the protection and protection of their rights as set forth in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

Drugs and alcohol intensify the violence inflicted on young people every day. Involvement in crimes related to the effects of drug abuse is also common in many parts of the world. There are also young people who use it as a way of life on the streets. This has therefore led to a large proportion of children and youth entering criminal justice systems. This ultimately leads to their admission to correctional facilities (Human Rights Watch Report on Street children, 2005). The socio-political environment in which children live has a profound effect on family life in the country as elsewhere. The level of national poverty in modern-day Ethiopia suppresses family relationships and, in particular, relationships between adults, children and the elderly. Significantly, among other indicators of rising rates of street children, rising poverty rates in the community are rising as extreme poverty is one of the reasons forcing children to flee their homes (UNICEF, 2012).

Street youth often need to become street beggars in order to earn money or to do menial tasks such as managing people's luggage and daily staff. The fragmentation of families and the harsh environments of the home inevitably pushes children, adults and teenagers to take to the streets. UNICEF reports indicate that, worse yet, the situation of HIV / AIDS orphans is left without protection and care. Many of these children are forced to take to the streets as the only means of survival despite its negative effects on their growth and development (UNICEF, 2007). Other recent and specific studies, aimed at different groups of people and places, have also shown similar results. For example, a study on other drug-related behaviors among street children and youth in

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four selected cities in the country showed a current increase of 56.2% khat followed by 51.9%, 46.8%, 28%, and 18% alcohol, tobacco, benzene and marijuana, respectively. The study revealed that 32.2% of street children in the study were heavy users (who took medication several times a week), 28.4% light users (who used the drug once or twice a month) and 41.9% who were users (never eaten or no longer ate). Alcohol, cardamom, and tobacco are among the most widely used. Above all, report statistics show that approximately 58% of street children in the study reported using the same drug or combination of the above-mentioned drug at a difficult or experimental level.

Another study conducted from November 1998 to May 1999 on the initiation and effects of substance abuse among 1,780 randomly selected students from 30 high schools in Ethiopia showed a life expectancy of 49.6%, 40%, 20.7% and 11% alcohol, khat, tobacco and marijuana respectively. The study also revealed that the age of drug testing for most students (63.6%) was from 15 to 19 years, probably when they were in high school (John Godanna, 1999). A recent survey of tobacco, a global youth survey, conducted in 2003 in 25 high schools in Nekemte showed a 10.1 percent increase among young people in grades 9 to 12, which is one in ten students who have ever tried to smoke, and currently 9% of students use any form of tobacco, 3% smoke cigarettes and 8% use any other form of tobacco (DACA, 2005).

IV.   THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

According to Clark (2009), a peer is defined as 'a special relationship between two or more people'. Peer pressure can have many different meanings and interpretations depending on the point and context in which it is used. It is simply a matter of encouraging or persuading people who have the same standing with each other to do what they do to make that person acceptable to the group. In a group, peer pressure is one of the most powerful forces you must work against in order to make decisions. The process of peer pressure involves becoming accustomed to certain group practices that one cannot do otherwise. For example, if a young person is part of a peer group, he or she will definitely look, dress, speak, or walk like all members of a peer group. When members of a peer group value a job, there will be a kind of power that will motivate others to agree. In a similar way, if your peers smoke, it would be extremely difficult for them to be in that group and say no to smoking. To say that a person is their age means that they are at the same or the same level of life. It could mean people of the same age, educational background or level of professionalism. When it comes to what your peers say, it's just a group of people who are about the same age as the economy or education who spend time together. Members of these peer groups learn from each other and give clues to each other so that they look and feel the same. Initially, a group of peers may be different and not all members can do the same; but as time goes on, they learn from each other and begin to do what everyone else in the group does.

Social learning theory is defined as the way people learn from others by imitating what they do. This is good news for people because it means they don't always have to make mistakes to understand that something is dangerous. This view continues to support the fact that people learn from others by observing them. Bandura (1971) explains that 'the basic learning style, based on direct experience, is largely governed by the beneficial and punishable outcomes that follow any given action.' This explains the many behaviors learned in a peer group. If a person in a peer group sees that other people in the group seem to be getting rewards for certain behaviors, that person will be tempted to try these behaviors and consider them appropriate. Therefore, if a person is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, the person in that group will be drawn to his or her behavior. Social learning helps because it helps people to learn from other people's successes and failures without having to suffer for doing something yourself. The downside to this, however, is that, just as a person can learn good things from others, he can also learn bad things. Just as you may have learned to behave badly by watching other people, it is also possible not to teach yourself.

In a recent study, 'dangerous and protective substances' can help to identify different lifestyles for individuals, families and communities (Naidoo & Wills, 2009). Risk factors help to identify the tendency that a peer group member will engage in risky activities for both themselves and groups. On the other hand, protective equipment greatly reduces the risk of side effects. These substances, both harmful and protective, are found in relation to drug abuse at different levels of society (Hemphill, et al. 2011). These problems are often seen in older groups and at levels of development in relation to drug use. This is because, at this age, young people and young adults look to the actions of their peers for guidance and imitate their actions (Hemphill, et al. 2011; Arteaga, et al. 2010). It is reported that drug use that begins in the early stages of adolescence, especially before the age of 15, can lead to further development in later life (Goldberg, 2012). Many young people try illegal drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy, amphetamines, cocaine and heroin, but it is reported that very few begin to become addicted to the most dangerous drugs that carry the burden of disease worldwide (WHO, 2007). Studies looking at the relationship between early drug use and continued use in adulthood have shown that 'people who started using drugs before the age of 21 had a greater degree of dependence on older people'. The effects of alcohol abuse include increased anger, physical and mental illness, injury, unsafe sex and mental retardation (WHO, 2007).

When it comes to the most commonly used substance, Cannabis is reported to be the most widely used substance in Ireland (Long & Horgan, 2012) and Cannabis use is now considered as simple as the use of tobacco and alcohol. It is estimated that about 4% of adults worldwide use cannabis (Goldberg, 2012). A study examining the performance of 104 cannabis users revealed that 'marijuana use before the age of 15 inhibits brain function and can contribute to depression and psychosis (Fontes, et al. 2011).

V. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Obtaining objectives, a standardized research method, e.g. Case study, used for this study. The reason for this is that the research is highly dependent on the experience of street children in the administration of the city of Nekemte. The study focused on street youth using drugs in the small town of Nekemte. Denzin and Lincoln (2008) explain that quality research is often interpreted and understood to understand something in its context in greater depth. In addition, it seeks to clarify the nature of social actions, relationships, and beliefs and the meaning of human experience from the perspective of participants. The study is a case study, aimed at examining the role played by peer pressure on youth drug abuse in the village of Nekemte. This approach empowers the researcher to find in-depth explanations or facts embedded in the lives of street youths who may be abusing drugs and to assess their view of the impact of peer pressure on their drug abuse. In this regard, Hancock, Windridge and Ockleford (2007) argue that qualitative research has sought to deepen and / or deepen our understanding of how things turned out in our social world. Yin (2011) argued that quality research involves studying the meaning of human life under real-world conditions and is unique in that it is able to represent the views and opinions of participants in the study.

To date, the researcher assumes that a quality approach may be appropriate to investigate research questions by talking to relevant research people. This approach emphasizes the need to see through the eyes of the researcher and to understand the nature of the subjects from their point of view. Quality research assesses and evaluates the events under study as they arise in their natural state. This is similar to the way data quality analysis helps researchers to convert their observations into data without changing or altering their status. The sampling design employed in this study is purposive sampling. This is because the nature of street youths not having a permanent place of residence makes it difficult for a research to be conducted on a randomly selected sample and the researcher needed to get street youths who are using substances in the required age range. The researcher used non-probability sampling technique. According to Howitt (2000), in non-probability sampling technique, research participants or respondents will be selected from the total population in a non-random manner.

Accordingly, to fulfill the intended sample size of 18 participants, the study selected Nekemte-city for convenience of getting representative samples. After determining which sub-city the researcher should collect data from, all the street children in the woredas of this city were considered as a population. Therefore, to get all the targeted participants, the researcher arranged specific dates to minimize the risk of missing the target population, since street youth tend to move around a lot and don't stay at one place for an extended time. The total number of participants that took part in the study were 18. These constituted a total of 12 street youth and six employees engaged in NGOs and government office activities. For this particular study, samples of 12 street youth and six employees have been taken by using a purposive sampling method.

VI. DATA ANALYSIS

The method of data analysis for this particular study was thematic analysis. After data was collected from the field, the data was thoroughly verified to check its comprehensiveness and consistency. According to Lacey and Luff (2007), almost all qualitative research studies involve some degree of transcription – the data may be tape recorded interviews, focus groups, video recordings or handwritten field notes. For that reason, the recorded data of the study was carefully transcribed. In this process, the original collected data and the translated/transcribed one was cross-checked to avoid differences that occur in meaning.

VII. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

A total of 18 participants in the study. A total of 12 street youths and six staff members work in NGOs and government offices. In this study, samples of 12 street youths and six staff members were taken using an objective sampling method. Sample respondents were selected from the small town of Gullele, in seven and eight woredas. Under this clause, responses to 12 street youth (67%) and 6 trained employees (33%) are discussed below. Twelve street youth, six in the interview and six others in the focus group discussion, participated in the study from the selected area. Of the 12 new street participants, six were male and the remaining six were female. The average age of street youth participants was 22.9 (ranging in age from 17 to 28). In terms of educational background, the highest level of education was grade 10 and the youngest was illiterate. Among the participants, two were illiterate, three were fourth graders, two sixth graders and seven respectively. Of the remaining five participants, three are in eighth grade and two are in 10th grade. In terms of marital status,

only two street participants were married and the other, ten, were single. Seven participants were born in Nekemte while five were from other cities in the country. Orthodoxy was the dominant religion with 58.3%, while other religions - Protestantism and Islam were 33.3% and 8.5% respectively.

Table 1: Demographic Characteristics of Street Youth Participants

Respondents	Sex	Educational Background	Marital status	Birth Place	Religion	Participation Mode
Int. 01	M	10th Standard	Single	Nekemte	Orthodox	Interview
Int. 02	M	7th Standard	Single	Nekemte	Orthodox	Interview
Int. 03	M	4th Standard	Single	Nekemte	Orthodox	Interview
Int. 04	F	Illiterate	Single	Gojam	Protestant	Interview
Int. 05	F	8th Standard	Single	Nekemte	Orthodox	Interview
Int. 06	F	Illiterate	Single	Nekemte	Protestant	Interview
FGD.07	M	8th Standard	Single	Nekemte	Orthodox	FGD
FGD 08	M	4th Standard	Single	Gondar	Protestant	FGD
FGD 09	M	4th Standard	Single	Nekemte	Muslim	FGD
FGD 10	F	4th Standard	Married	Ambo	Protestant	FGD
FGD 11	F	6th Standard	Single	Nekemte	Orthodox	FGD
FGD 12	F	10th Standard	Married	Ambo	Orthodox	FGD

To meet the objectives of the study, six professionals both from NGOs and governmental offices working with the issue of street youth participated in the FGD. As shown in Table 2, three of these participants were male, and three were females. The average age and work experiences of the participants were 35 and 5.5 years respectively.

Table 2: Demographic Characteristics of the Employee Participants

Code	Sex	Age	Educational Background	Year of Experience	Marital Status	Birth Place	Religion	Participation Mode
FGD01	M	45	Masters	10	Married	Nekemte	Orthodox	FGD
FGD02	M	38	Degree	5	Married	Nekemte	Protestant	FGD
FGD03	M	33	Degree	5	Married	Nekemte	Orthodox	FGD
FGD04	F	26	Degree	5	Single	Nazareth	Orthodox	FGD
FGD05	F	28	Degree	6	Married	Nekemte	Orthodox	FGD
FGD06	F	40	Masters	8	Married	Nekemte	Protestant	FGD

Concerning the educational background, two of them were Masters' and the remaining four were Bachelors' degree holders. The place of birth and the marital status of these participants was recorded as, five of the participants born in Nekemte and single and the remaining one was born in Nazareth and single. Regarding the religion, four of them were Orthodox Christian while two were protestant. The results of the study from both Key Informants and Focused Group Discussion showed that there are different roles that peer pressure plays in the substance abuse of street youth. In the major findings regarding the roles of peer pressure, three major roles of peer pressure were identified. As most of the FGD and KI participants indicated, peer pressure plays major role in the life of the street youth to take action and be part of different actions and responsibilities.

The following are the roles that emerge as a result of peer pressure. Most street youths are in the street because of peer influence. They lived in the street because they are sure that they have friends and peers they could trust. They realize that their peers are okay to do things in common. The street is the only place where they build new families they can call brothers and sisters, and they build new and strong friendships. They depend on each other to provide protection from any harm that can come their way. The participants in the FGD explained that the role of guidance and protection is the result of peer pressure. Street youth need to protect one another and look out for each other for their common survival. As a group, they stay together and learn from one another. The learning includes using substances as well. One participant of employee FGD explained his opinion in the following way:

"Street youth generally follow in the footsteps of their friends and they are attracted by what others their age practice so that they can imitate them. The peer influence starts with one simple thing at first, and then builds up to two, three and before they know it, they will be addicted and they will stay addicted."

During the FGD, it was revealed that peers plays the role of pressurizing and influencing the youth to be substance abused in different ways. These ways as discussed by them includes influenced to copy and remain confident and fearless in a group. The participants further discussed and explained that street youth at the study

area are pressurized by their peers copying what their friends and people of their age do and using it as a coping mechanism for street life. Participant of the KI coded Int. 03, who is 18 years old told me that he was pressured into using substances by his peers. He explained that: "I started living on the streets at a very young age. Not long after my street life started, I made some friends who used substances. Because I liked them and would spend a lot of time around them, I learned using drugs from them. As we live in a closely tied group, we use drugs to protect ourselves from cold and to numb ourselves from feeling the hunger and other unpleasant things on the streets. When my older friends in the group used drugs, they would give it to me to test it. Before I knew it, I learned using these drugs and became dependent on the drugs."

The opinions of the other two participants of the KI were different. They said that there are positive peer pressures like advising each other not to get pregnant and to keep each other from getting drunk. The idea of participant coded Int. code 05 was this: "I live with many friends of mine on the streets as a group. Most of the time, my female friends advise me not to get drunk because other street boys might rape me and I can become pregnant. Some of my friends also counsel me on what to do not to get pregnant since we are all sexually active. We are all girls who are struggling to feed ourselves each day. There is no sense in adding another mouth to feed into the group."

The results of the FGD with both the street youth and professionals also support the above findings. The participants explained that also the majority of peer pressure is negative, there is also positive peer pressure among street youths. According to employee FGD participant coded 03, most peer pressures are negative. He explained his idea in the following way: "Most of the time peer pressure is negative. Those street youths do not go to school which makes it hard to be influenced in the right way. As a result, their chances of having that desired behavior you expect from them is altered." Another participant forwarded her idea as follows: "Of course peer pressure can influence you either positively or negatively. There are some among the members of the street youth groups who are not influenced negatively by the group, though it is so small when you see it in scale. The problem is influencing the majority of the group towards the needed direction."

Two of the employees participated in FGD, discussed that the types of the peer pressures can be pushing and pulling type of peer pressure. The first participant coded 4 idea was as follows:

"I believe that these street youth face different types of peer influence. I see primarily two types of peer pressure. For instance, when these youth live at home, they see other street youth exercise these abusive behaviors without fear of any control or reproach. In a child's mind, they will think that they don't use drugs because they are not allowed or don't have the freedom like the street youth. This peer pressure is one drawing factor for the youth to end up on the streets. After some youth come out on the streets, they cannot automatically join the street society. To cope with that, they have to be similar to the rest of the youth on the streets. I don't think anyone sets out to become a drug addict or use substances. If you ask a person money to buy food wearing clean clothes and not abusing drugs, the person will not give you any money. But if you are on the streets and inhale sniff glue or smoke cigarettes and ask money from the same person, the person will give you money to buy drugs."

VIII. CONCLUSSION

The results of the study from both KI and FGD showed that there are different roles that result from peer pressures. The major findings regarding the roles of peer pressure, three major roles were identified. As most of the FGD and KI participants indicated, peer pressure plays a major role in the life of the street youth to take action and be part of different actions and responsibilities. The following are the roles that emerge as a result of peer pressure. Most street youths are in the street because of peer influence. They lived on the street because they have friends and peers there who they can confide in and find comfort as a group. They can also trust their friends and do things together. The street is the only place where the acquire brothers and sisters, and the street is the place where they developed their family ties and friendship. According to Brown, (1990) peer influence manifests itself in at least four ways: direct peer pressure, indirect peer modeling or association, normative regulation, and the structuring of opportunities. The first way is explained as peers directly try to influence the behavior of others. This is one of the most commonly discussed aspects of peer influence (Velleman, Templeton, & Copello, 2005). The second focus is the indirect and often unintentional modeling of behaviors, which can be measured by assessing adolescents' associations with peers who engage in certain behaviors. Research on indirect peer association has found that having friends who participate in deviant behaviors is consistently correlated with adolescents' own risky behaviors (Hundleby & Mercier, 1987). Thus, the current study results which revealed that most street youth are influenced to participate in substance abuse, deviant behaviors and follow others attitudes or behaviors has shown congruency with the above study findings of Velleman, Templeton, & Copello (2005) and Hundleby & Mercier (1987).

The influential role of peer pressure is also explained in the literature which is connected with active and passive peer influence. Peer socialization has been conceptualized as both active and passive (Graham, Marks, &r Hansen, 1991; Read et al, 2005). Passive influence is defined as direct modeling of peers' behavior

and normative influence (e.g., the influence of the group as a whole). Active influence is defined as the effect of direct offers or encouragement to use. However, as shown here, According to Ellickson, Tucker, Klein, & Saner (2004), the active influence which is related to the frequency of direct offers was related to marijuana use in adolescence. The current study result that showed street youth are actively and passively influenced by their peers' pressure. They are actively influenced because even if they don't have money, their peers offer them and encourage them to use substances and are passively influenced to follow their peers' behavior and norms. According to the findings of the present study peer encouragement, which was defined by the number of participants' closest friends who encourage him or her to use a substance, also plays a role in predicting drug use. All of the participants in the KI explained that they were encouraged once or two times to use substances or behave inappropriately. This is similar to the longitudinal study made by Duncan, Duncan, & Stryker, (2002).

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