

Drug & Alcohol Issues

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Your Kingdom Come August 2008

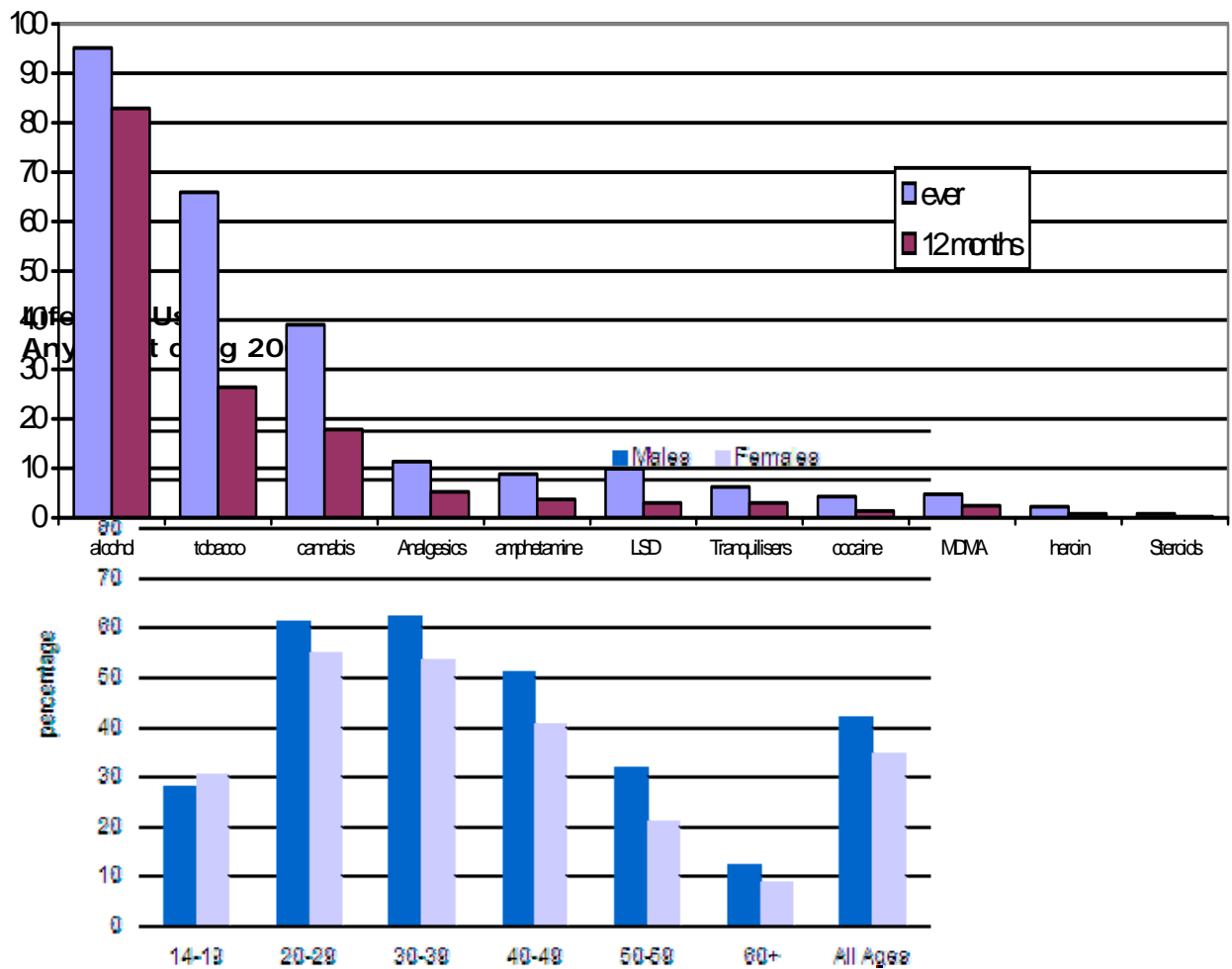
Who Uses Drugs?

Everybody – to make us feel physically or mentally better

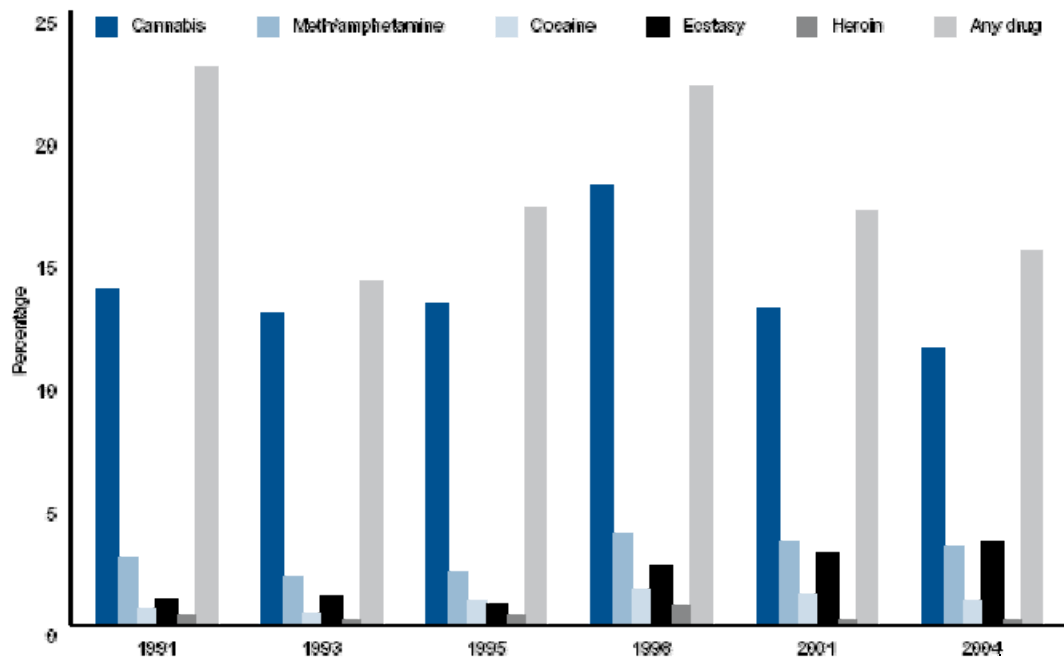
Who uses psychotropic drugs?

Most people

Prevalence of Drug Use in Australia



Use of selected illicit drugs in the past 12 months, 1991-2004, percentage



Drug Related Deaths in Australia

20% of deaths among over all age groups

About 22 500 die per year as a direct or indirect result of harmful drug use and over

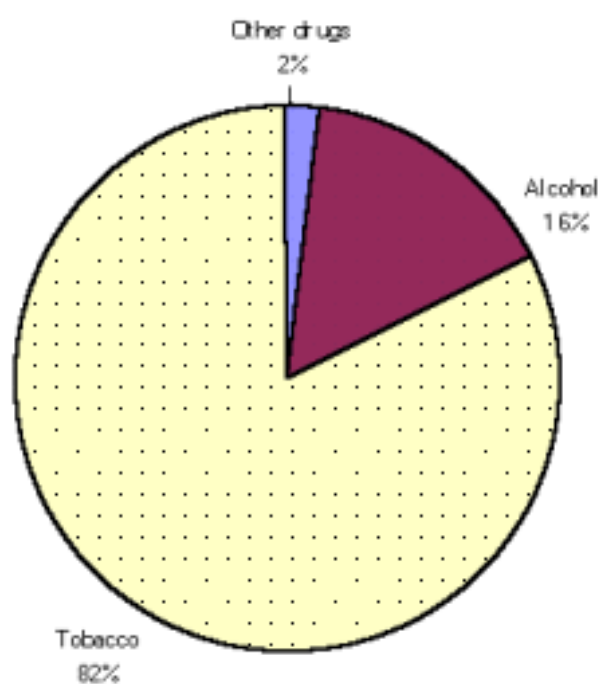
175 000 will be hospitalised with drug-related conditions

Tobacco deaths- 18,000/year (82%)

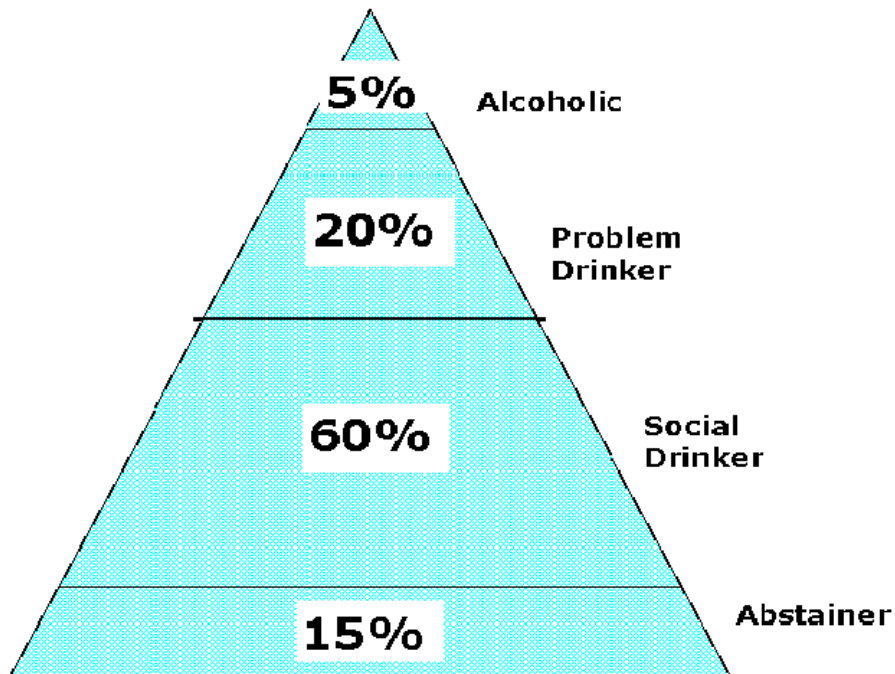
Alcohol deaths – 3,600/year (16%)

Heroin – 400 (1-2%)

Deaths caused by drug use Australia: 1996



Prevalence of different types of drinkers in the adult population



Relaxed, Comfortable and Drugged to the Eyeballs

1 in 3 Australians use a legal or illegal drug daily to help them get through the day

1 in 5 are on prescribed antidepressants or tranquillizers

Alcohol Use in the Bible

214 references to wine. Gen 9:21 to Rev 18:13

Blessing – Gen 27:28, Num 18:12, Dt 7:13, 11:14

Social Use – Job 1:13, Jn 2:3-10

Intoxication – Gen 9:21, 19:32, Eph 5:18

Harmful Use – Prov 4:17, 20:1

Addiction – Titus 2:3

Medical Use – Mt 27:34,48

Classes of drugs used

Sedatives / Depressants – downers – alcohol, benzos

Stimulants – uppers - amphetamines

Alter perception / Hallucinogens

Addictive behaviours – gambling, food, work, exercise, games, computers, TV and entertainment, etc

Why Are Drugs Used?

People like and enjoy the effects.

Celebratory

Numbing of pain - physical, emotional or cognitive

Attitudes to Drug Use are culturally based and influenced– legal and illegal, prescribed and non-prescribed. Is it right or wrong?

Patterns of Use in the Bible

Social Use – Gen 14: 18, Jn 2: 3-10

Binge Use - Gen 9: 17, 19: 32-35, Prov 4: 17, 20: 1, Is 19: 24

Dependent Use – Prov 23: 30-35, Titus 2: 3, 1Cor 15: 11

Medicinal Use – Prov 31: 4-7, Mt 27: 34, Lk 23: 36, 1Tim 5: 23

Searching our hearts

What is the motivation for using a drug?

What things do we depend on?

When does drug use become an idol?

The Roots in Australia

From Day 1 of European settlement there was drunkenness and debauchery

Rum currency, Corps, Hospital

Alcohol and drug use is deeply entrenched in the Australian culture

It has played a major role in the decimation of Indigenous health, society and culture

The vested interests in Government and Business

Issues for Prayer

The cultural acceptance of intoxication

The idolatry of addiction

The bondage of addiction

John 10: 10 – Jesus brings life and freedom

2Cor 3: 17 – where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom

Eph 5: 18 – Be not drunk with wine ...but be filled with the Spirit

What is a Biblical Approach?

True healing from addiction is a process of the body, soul and spirit in healing, discipleship and empowering in the Holy Spirit

Romans 12: 1,2 – transformed by the renewing of your minds

Ephesians 5: 18 - be filled with the Spirit

Pray for those with addictions that they may be set free

Pray for the Church

To take responsibility to minister to those with addiction problems

To bring:

Healing and deliverance, Luke 10:9 , Mark 16:17

Discipleship, Ephesians 5:18-21

For those working in drug & alcohol treatment and ministry to bring transformation to people and the nation

Risks and Associations with Addiction

Social deprivation, poverty, homelessness,

Poor education, low socioeconomic status

Poor relationships, loneliness, isolation

Mental illness

Chronic physical illness and trauma

Chronic pain

Background of childhood abuse

Dysfunctional family background

Alcohol, drug problems, mental illness in family of origin

Access to drugs

Lack of religious involvement in the person and family of origin

Pray

Luke 4: 18, 19

Recovery of sight for the blind

To bind up the broken hearted

Release for the captives

For freedom in Christ for the people and the nation