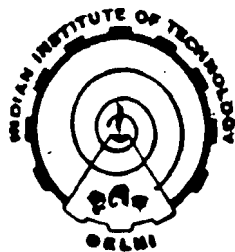


# **DRUG ABUSE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**KIRAN BEDI**

**Thesis submitted in fulfilment of the  
requirements of the  
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

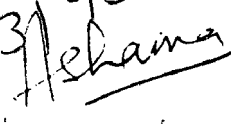


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Indian Institute of Technology  
New Delhi**

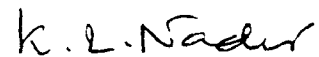
**January, 1992**

## C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the thesis, entitled Drug Abuse and Domestic Violence; being submitted by Mrs. Kiran Bedi, for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy to the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, is a record of bonafide research work she has carried out under our guidance and supervision. The results contained in this thesis have not been submitted to any other University or Institute for the award of a degree or diploma.

  
23/3/93  


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This work is dedicated to the suffering parents of addict sons. May their sons get cured and may their homes have peace and happiness.

23. 3. 1993.

  
(KIRAN BEDI)

J A I H I N D

# DRUG ABUSE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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## **ABSTRACT**

Drug abuse has victims beyond conventional crimes. Domestic violence amongst others is a serious consequence of drug abuse with members of the family as the prime victims. The response of law enforcement is crucial and central to the issue. The research is an attempt to state and analyze the problem of drug abuse and related domestic violence within the Indian milieu.

This study investigates drug abuse and related domestic violence through the following variables: extent, pattern, victim of domestic violence, causative factors and response of law enforcement. Based on the social learning theory as the main theoretical framework the study has been conducted through a multi disciplinary multi-method approach. Data have been collected using interview method from 250 drug addicts and ten case studies followed by group discussions. All the subjects of the study were drug addicts admitted for treatment to two de-addiction centres of Navjoti, a Delhi Police Foundation for Correction, De-addiction & Rehabilitation, in north and north-west Delhi.

**Nine hypothesis have been formulated and tested in the current research**

The first hypothesis states that there is positive correlation between drug abuse and the extent of domestic

violence. The results reveal that there is positive correlation between these variables.

The second hypothesis states that drug abuse can predict domestic violence. Results of the multiple regression analysis reveal that the extent of drug abuse is a significant predictor of domestic violence behaviour.

The third hypothesis states that assaultive is the most common type of domestic violence. This hypothesis is supported by the study.

The fourth hypothesis states that more number of married person are involved in drug abuse related violence. The results support this hypothesis.

Hypothesis five states that wives and parents are the prime victims of domestic violence of drug addicts. The study confirms this hypothesis.

Hypothesis six states that there are more incidents of domestic violence among the addicts of lower age group. The study reveals that there is high correlation between drug abuse and domestic violence only for 26-30 years age group which does not fully confirm the hypothesis.

The seventh hypothesis states that lower the educational level of drug addicts higher the magnitude of domestic violence. This hypothesis stands rejected as there

is no significant relationship between drug abuse and domestic violence in the illiterate and upto primary level education group.

Hypothesis eight states that motivation for drug abuse stages i.e., initiation, continuation and readdiction are different for the violent and nonviolent groups. Factors considered in this study are ignorance, curiosity, peer group influence, switch over to harder drugs, domestic and marital unhappiness, stress in studies, and at work environment of drug abuse in the family, proximity to availability of drugs, unemployment, involvement with crime, no interest in living, non congenial home environment, feeling and neglect, boredom lot of money to use etc. It is observed that ignorance is the most important factor followed by peer group influence for initiation continuation and readdiction followed by curiosity which is reported by 55 addicts as the reasons for initiation of drug use. However, 52 persons have also reported this as the motivating factor for continuation. Peer pressure takes the first place in case of violent respondents for continuation and re-addiction. For initiation and continuation curiosity takes the next position for violent respondents while it finds no place in readdiction process. Motivation for continuation and readdiction also seems to be comparatively related to switching over to hard drugs in case of violent



addicts. Domestic unhappiness seems to act as a motivator for readdiction of violent addicts much more as compared for initiation and continuation.

Hypothesis nine discusses the role of police in the issue of drug abuse and domestic violence. Part A of the hypothesis states that domestic violence is not reported to police. Part B of the hypothesis states that when drug abuse and related violence is reported, there is indifference of police. However, the study reveals that reporting to police is negligible. Perhaps the police reputation of indifference keeps the victims away. Parents also do not report for family reasons. The pattern of police intervention also indicates that police officers may not be fully familiar with the latest laws on the subject. This hypothesis is supported by the study. It appears that the department also does not appear to be offering any specific guidance. The study therefore calls for clear department policies of training and guidance for police personnel.

This study also proposes a legal amendment in section 27 of the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 to strengthen law enforcement in regard to drug abuse related domestic violence. Further this research also offers recommendations for "Co-ordinated" and "Corrective" approach by community and law enforcement in handling drug abuse and related domestic violence.