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# Sociology of Drug Addiction and Drug Induced Behaviour

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#### **Abstract**

Addiction is a very important issue to be researched in social sciences nowadays. Several studies have been done on the issue but never modeled out properly to understand the drug culture (addiction) as a process. The study has been conducted to show the structural and functional manifestation which would simplify the understanding of addiction and an individual's entry to the drug culture and their location in the process. Furthermore, no study tried to locate drug abusers' changing lifestyles, their engagements in different activities, social identity, and societal and institutional responses. Discussion on the 'Sociology of drug addiction' will help to identify an individual's entry into the drug culture along with the current situation in the drug cultural process. The paper is done empirically to uncover the undermining issues relating to the behaviour and applied necessary methods to extract the data. The study concludes with two models: first one justifies the question that, why drug in-takers become obsessed with drug and indulge in drug consumption activity repeatedly with or without their choice due to the physical or mental dependency. The second model seeks to explain the shift of drug in-takers from layer to layer or one stage to another concerning their changing activities relating to the changing cultural identities and societal response to the behaviour.

Keywords: Drug abuse; addiction; tolerance; drug culture; functional analyses

#### Introduction

Drug addiction is a very significant topic of research in contemporary academia as it bears so much importance in recent days due to its pertaining dominating nature and as a recognized social problem worldwide. Addiction is a very important issue to be researched in social sciences nowadays. Even in medical sociology, psychology, social work, etc. addiction research is highly appreciated. Several researches have been conducted by research scholars by focusing on the major causes, behavioral change, prevention, and its greater impact on society [1-4] but none of the studies conducted showed the structural and functional manifestation which would simplify the understanding of addiction and an individual's entry to the drug culture and their location in the process. Furthermore, no study tried to locate drug abusers' changing lifestyles, their engagements in different activities, social identity, and societal and institutional responses.

The paper is a piece of the complete thesis which titled as 'Drug Addiction Among the Youths of Darjeeling **District:** A Sociological Study.' Many studies have been done on the issue but never been modelled out properly to identify an abusers' entry and progress in a structured way. Understanding drug culture and addiction has become very complex due to its overwhelming dynamics and also, the indignation of youth, ignorance, and stigma attached by society which suppress many pertinent facets of truth. Thus, the primary focus of the current study is to understand addiction and the operation of the drug cultural process. An attempt has been made to offer an examination of the drug cultural structure to understand addiction with the above-mentioned issues. Although it is a complex task to perform even then the study is proposing a structural-functional model to understand addiction with its operation by locating and specifying associated issues like, societal responses, and individuals changing cultural identity with their participation and utilization of their daily time individually. The study confirms that emerging scholars in sociology can easily make use of this proposed structure in understanding drug addiction to some extent.

This paper is based on the phenomenological analyses and also, followed the thick description method of ethnomethodology to detail the complete work. The work has been done in Darjeeling district and data were collected from two spaces of addicts that is, first, from rehabilitation centres where addicts are taking treatment to be free from this evil practice of drug addiction. Secondly, from open space that is, roaming addicts who are found in and around different drug hubs. A total of forty case histories has been collected through in-depth interview method and also, ethnographic observation has been used by the researcher to unravel small facets of truth.

This paper is a major finding of the whole work which tries to portray a complete understanding of drug culture as a process through two complementary models. An attempt has been made to assess drug activity from different angle because the action has not been modelled out earlier. This topic for empirical work bears so many challenges in its level. Also, the political economy works intensively in growing the behaviour but in this paper only a structured hint is given to assess the magnitude of the problem. For future research one may be categorize each variable discussed in the paper and explore to culminate new results in the area of addiction research.

Discussion on the 'Sociology of addiction' will help to identify an individual's entry into the drug culture along with the current situation in the drug cultural process. Hence the study has divided the process into three stages. These stages are-drug use (testing of tolerance), secondly, use to abuse (testing of different drugs in search of different pleasures regularly), and, lastly, abuse to addiction (regular intake that results in physical and psychological dependence). Consideration of the above issues is very important and a crucial task to undertake.

Drug 'use', 'abuse', 'and addiction' and its culture are something that needs very careful and scientific analysis on how a separate culture is being constructed in recent times along with its exposure to the outer world as a very influential entity. Drug culture has altogether become a separate entity by ignoring the structured mainstream culture and no one can deny its exis-

tence as a culture in contemporary societies. The disposition of drug culture lay in the social system and manifests itself through a structural-functional relationship producing and reproducing huge profits to its stakeholders. Its existence can be considered as a parallel universe and is mushrooming worldwide in magnitude rapidly. Mainstream always denounce the existence of drug culture in some way or the other but the fact is, addiction has become a business in mainstream society which is truly a byproduct of the state economic policies (neo-liberal) and the failure of the incumbents to provide a secured future to the youth which ultimately provokes them to express their indignation to the society by retreating themselves in addiction. Mainstream always compels abusers to go deep into addiction through continuous ignorance, rejection, and criticism.

Therefore, the study has framed a specific model to understand the process of addiction to interpret its cultural existence.

The model has been offered as an alternative to understand addiction concerning different variables that are actively working in shifting an intaker from 'drug use' to 'abuse', and from abuse to 'addiction'.

The model considered different variables to identify the dynamic nature of addiction and that leads drug in-takers deep into the addiction. The changing roles of drug addiction related variables signifies the functional abilities that lures and push drug in-takers from one stage to the another, thereby the variables are very much functional in their interrelations and operations as it influence each other widely.

Initially, the model was prepared to portray the changing role of a different variables (showed in models) based on the drug intake of an individual. It can be said that identification of the different roles of prime variables would help to understand and specify how addiction works as a process. With the discussion of different stages of addiction, we can easily locate the undermining issues that are relating to the process of drug addiction. First, we shall see what are those variables shown in the model and how they are operating in the process.

The model is about drug culture which consults the constitution of the culture through different variables and also, an attempt has been made to lay out the structural-functional dimension of drug culture. The model is divided into two segments first, 'Over Current Issue' and second, 'Under Current Issue'. Over-current issue constitutes those variables that can be seen with normal eyes and are also, countable. These variables are the number of drug doses and the amount of money.

Under current issue constitutes those variables that cannot be seen with normal eyes but are cognitive and actively working in the process. These variables are tolerance, social identity, and mainstream management spaces. Over-current and Under-current are directly attached to the addiction culture. They are complementary to each other. One cannot sustain in the absence of the other in the drug culture and can influence each other widely. Before discussing the operational character of the above-mentioned factors we need to understand what they mean in the model.

#### **Over Current Issues**

The number of Drug doses: In the drug culture, we are considering the increasing number of drug doses which pave the way for addiction. Increasing the drug dose of an individual lead straight to physical and psychic dependence and cause addiction to drugs.

Amount of Money: For drug use, abuse, and addiction amount of money has a very dynamic role. A sufficient amount of money brings desired substances into the hand but an insufficient amount of money brings struggle and defame in the lives of the drug in-takers. A sufficient amount of money gives strength to satisfy the urge to taste different pleasures in the form of drugs. This has positive and negative roles in the lives of the agents. Hence, it can be said that 'to have drugs one needs money, similarly, to keep off the habit of drug intake one needs money too'. This is the irony of the factor in the drug culture.

**Initiation into Crime:** Insufficient amount of money pushes in-takers into a crime of a different kind although drug consumption itself is a crime. To have money for the illegal consumption of drugs addicts commit crimes like pickpocketing, deception, theft, jewelry snatching, pimping, drug-related crimes (peddling, carrier, trade, selling et cetera), prostitution et cetera.

Operational Analyses: In this section, we will discuss the operational relations among above said over current issues. The number of drug dosage has a direct correlation with drug culture which mean if the number of drug dose increase then the amount of money required to purchase drug will automatically increase, and if the number decreases then the required amount of money will also fall. Initiation into crime has a positive correlation with the number of drug doses and amount of money in a way that, if the number of drug doses increase then it will cost more money, and insufficient money to purchase drug doses will lead in-taker to consider illegal means (criminal activity) to manage money for the consumption.

#### **Under Current Issues**

**Tolerance:** In the model, tolerance is considered only when it is increasing and not decreasing because increasing tolerance makes users vulnerable and keeps them in the behaviour. 'Testing of tolerance' signifies one's entry into the drug consumption culture and increasing tolerance level puts forward the user from use to abuse, which means the experimentation of different drugs and their pleasure. Gradual extension of tolerance capacity leads the abuser to the next level that is, from abuse to addiction.

Social Identity: This factor deals with the recognition and acceptance of an individual socially. All members of society have their social identity as something (based on origin or work) and that identity is recognized and accepted by the other members of society. Likewise, based on the behavioral aspect people get their identity too. In society, we have certain behavioral codes of conduct (social and legal) and contextualize that behaviour as good or bad. An association of people with good behavioral aspects is appreciated by other members and grants acceptance as a mainstream member of society. Similarly, Associations with bad behavioral aspects are highly denounced and condemned by the responsible members of society. For example, the consumption of drugs is one of those bad behaviours and is highly criticized in society. Therefore, revelation as an addict and nexus with drug-related activities lead people toward social exclusion as the behaviour is not accepted in mainstream society. Hence, the logic behind hiding drug consumption behavior is to avoid the social exclusion that stigmatizes and labels a 'drug addict' and that social identity is socially constructed and reproduced continuously.

Societal Spaces of Management: Here, in this model, this factor refers to those mainstream societal spaces (family, peer, neighborhood, employment institutions et cetera) from which drug in-takers manage their consumption money and buy their substances. As we have already discussed, secret drug cultural identity helps in-takers to keep their social identity unharmed and thereby, cater to them to avail mainstream spaces to manage money for their drug intake expenses. Revelation of drug cultural identity impacts the mainstream social identity directly as it brings the stigma of drug addiction. Hence, as a result, mainstream management spaces start to shrink and the excruciating struggle for money management comes into the lives of the drug in-takers.

**Operational Analyses:** Under current issues also have an operational relation with each other. The increasing tolerance level of an in-taker of drug has a negative correlation with social identity and mainstream management spaces and vice-versa.

Before discussing this further, we need to recall that the study has divided the drug culture into three stages which are, drug use, abuse, and lastly addiction. In the first stage, testing of tolerance means, one just steps into the behavior and tests his/her tolerance for the first time and if one continues the testing then tolerance will increase. Therefore, increasing tolerance will shift them from one stage to another. This is the logic to use 'increasing tolerance' in the aforementioned paragraph.

Social Exclusion Inclusion: Both over and under current issues will lead a drug in-taker to social exclusion inclusion. In the model, the term 'Social Exclusion Inclusion' is used to refer to the shift of a drug in-taker socially. 'Exclusion' comes in the life of an in-taker with the revelation of the secret drug-related identity to the members of mainstream society. Drug activities are treated as a counterculture in the mainstream. Hence, it becomes a criminal offence in the behavioral code of conduct (social and legal) and whosoever is attached to the behaviour experiences social exclusion. A social exclusion means restricted participation in different activities of mainstream society.

Now, 'Inclusion' comes when someone (an abuser or addict) is excluded from the mainstream and accepted by the drug cultural society (differential group) openly which (the inclusion) is also very much 'social' in the drug culture. Inclusion comes initially when an in-taker starts his/her experimentation on drugs because without the help of differential group members, one becomes unable to experience different drugs and thereby, it signifies the existence of suppressed 'inclusion' by the differential group as inclusion is hidden and the drug cultural identity is hidden as well from the mainstream. Therefore, the revelation of drug cultural identity encounters 'mainstream social exclusion' and 'inclusion in drug culture' together openly.

This is how 'social exclusion inclusion' works in the drug culture. We have already analyzed the causal relation amongst the factors of over and under-current. Now, we will discuss how the over and under-current factors influence each other.

Operational Analyses: In drug culture, both over and under-current issues influence each other widely. Increasing Tolerance Level is having a positive correlation with Drug Dose and Amount of Money, and a negative correlation with Identity and Spaces of Management. Likewise, an Increasing Number of Drug doses has a positive correlation with Tolerance and a negative correlation with Social Identity and Mainstream Spaces of Money Management. Mainstream Spaces of Money Management and Social Identity have a negative correlation with all the factors of over-current.

This is all about the model and its operation in the lives of drug in-takers. In our proceeding discussion, we will lay out one's situation in different stages of drug culture with the help of a relational diagram.

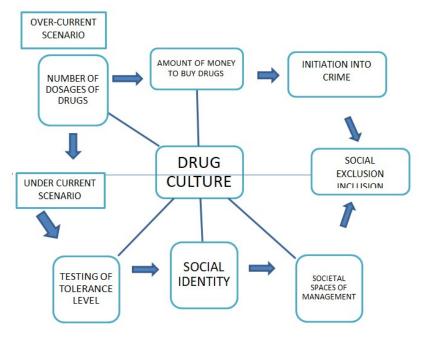


Diagram Number-I: Functional Drug Culture Model

The amount of money to buy drugs and Drug dose quantity are the exclusive and sole determinants of the concerned culture. Drug Dose and Amount of Money are having a positive correlation in Drug

- In Drug Culture, Increasing Tolerance Level is having a positive correlation with Drug Dose and Amount of Money, and a negative correlation with Identity and Spaces of Management.
- In Drug Culture, Loss of secret drug abuse Identity is having a positive correlation with Tolerance Level, Drug Dose, and Amount, of Money, (vice-versa) and a negative correlation with Spaces of
- In Drug Culture, Losing the mainstream cultural spaces is having a negative correlation with all
  the above-mentioned factors.

#### Existential Relationship amongst Factors MIX CULTURES CULTURAL MAINSTREAM DRUG CULTURE (MAINSTREAM AND SPACE CULTURE DRUG) CHANGING MAINSTREAM-MAINSTREAM-MAINSTREAM-TIME (IN DRUG-DRUG-DRUG-HOURS) IDENTIFICATION ADDICTION **TESTING OF** DRUG ABUSE OF THE STAGES IN (DEPENDENT ON **TOLERANCE (USE)** (REGULAR INTAKE) **PROGRESS** DRUGS) CULTURAL HIDDEN/ SECRET **ADDICTS ABUSERS** IDENTITY **USERS** TOTAL **NEGOTIATION WITH** SOCIETAL NORMAL REJECTION PARTIAL REJECTION RESPONSE

Diagram Number II: Identification of One's Situation and Cultural Identity in the Process of Drug Culture:

The diagram is mainly focused on the drug cultural process by dividing the diagram into four grounds- changing time (in hours) participation, identification of the stages in progress, cultural identity, and lastly, societal response. The cultural space is divided into three categories based on one's situation culturally that are- mainstream culture, mixed culture (mainstream and cultural) and last one is a drug culture.

# **Changing Time (in hours)**

This signifies the investment of time in drug culture and drug in-takers situation in above mentioned cultural space. Based on time invested in drug activity we can easily locate one's existence whether in the mainstream or in drug culture or both. It is difficult to justify the situation of an in-taker but it can be tentatively said. In the current study, an attempt has been made to show

the hour's basic engagement of drug in-takers.

Daily time investment is very important to analyze because by identifying the hours of participation in illegal drug consumption, management, and related activities of addicts we can easily identify their level and magnitude of participation in addiction culture. To assess their time investment in drug-related activities we need to know first the areas where they spend their time and then we may have a clear understanding that how addicts daily engage themselves in drug-related activities. By analyzing their hours of participation we can also cross-check the information they provided on other aspects of addiction like daily expenditure, management spaces of money, existing relationships, and so on. Normally, only consumption of drugs whether natural or synthetic takes a minimum of ten to thirty minutes only for single-dose consumption. For the consumption of a drug (single dose), one addict has to invest his time in different areas of consumption time like, money management, arrangement of consumption companion, drug management from a seller, management of related souvenirs, selection of a place for the consumption, preparation of the drug for consumption.

It is already mentioned that for a single dose consumption (whether natural or synthetic) ten to thirty minutes is needed and it is also to note that, the size of the group also plays an important role in time structure. Above mentioned time for single consumption indicates only those groups which have two to four members, if the group is large meaning having five or above members then only consumption could incur more time than the aforementioned time.

Another important issue is that in addiction for fresh addicts who are in the initial stage and are unable to manage the spaces of addiction for a single dose should rely on their senior addicts or in other words expert drug abusers because they know every space and their vulnerability. Hence, expert addicts can manage or save some amount of time for their consumption process but fresh addicts need to invest more time than an expert.

Abuse of different at the same time desired drug depends on the area (locality) like urban or rural because in the urban set up availability of drugs is higher than in the rural area, so to avail drugs will cost more time in a rural area, on other hand, space for consumption is very much available and accessible in rural areas which is some way or the other tough for urban set up due to police administrative supervision. Hence, finding a suitable place for consumption will incur some extra time in an urban area. There are issues incorporated with drug addiction based on which exact time structure cannot be made but it can be tentatively said. Therefore, we can summarize every space for drug abuse and it can be assumed that the tentative time needed will be a minimum of one hour for a single dose consumption.

Amongst all the factors, the tolerance of an addict plays a vital role and has the power to alter the time investment structure for an addict. To understand the statement one needs to grasp the different dimensions of addiction first (you can see the process of addiction to understand tolerance) otherwise it will become very tough due to the dynamic nature of tolerance which plays a role differently for different addicts, for fresh addicts it plays diverse role than the usual addicts and becomes very complex for the addicts who are deep into addiction. Addiction has different layers and for every layer, tolerance plays different roles. For example, money management is very important for addicts, and the spaces wherefrom they manage money to buy their desired drug are also very important. Fresh addicts are in their initial stage that means those who have just started their addiction or drug abuse and are in their initial stage which means they are successful in hiding their drug abuse identity which privileges them to manage their money from every single space of their life like family, relatives, friends, colleagues et cetera as their tolerance is very low because they have just started their drug abuse behavior. Hence, in this initial stage addicts have wider mainstream spaces to manage their daily expenditure on drugs because they have very short tolerance and can have only one or two doses a whole day which cost them one hundred to two hundred rupees per day. Therefore, they need not commit any illegal activity to sustain their drug addiction because they can avail easily that amount of money to satisfy their tolerance.

So, the point is, if the tolerance is low and the identity of the drug abuser is hidden money management takes less time. Recog-

nized addicts whose tolerance is higher automatically need high doses of drugs to satisfy their tolerance and will subsequently cost them more money with fewer spaces which will make them to invest time in money management to have desired substances in their hands to consume. Hence, tolerance becomes very important in time structure because one has to invest time based on their tolerance and that information can lead us to identify the situation of an addict in addiction easily. Normally the influence of drugs exists differently on the human body but in a normal sense it lasts not more than eight hours for a fresh addict but for those who are habituated to taking drugs the influence lasts not more than three to four hours (as per respondents' response). Hence, regular and high-tolerance addicts must need more doses than fresh ones. More doses mean more money and to have more money they need to invest more time to manage that money. Similarly, they need to invest more time in the overall process to finish their daily drug consumption.

Table 1: Distribution of the Respondents by their Engagement in Drug Activities Daily (Hours) and Sex

SL. NO.	TIME FRAME IN HOURS	REHABILITATION CENTRE		TOTAL NUMBER WITH%	NON-REHABILITATION CENTRE		TOTAL NUMBER WITH%	GRANDTOTAL (%)
		M (%)	F (%)		M (%)	F (%)		
1.	<1	00	01(2.50)	01(2.50)	00	00	00	01(2.50)
2.	1-3	00	02(5)	02(5)	01(2.50)	02(5)	03(7.50)	05(12.50)
3.	3 -7	06(15)	05(12.50)	11(27.50)	04(10)	03(7.50)	07(17.50)	18(45)
4.	7 -12	02(5)	01(2.50)	03(7.50)	04(10)	04(10)	8(20)	11(27.50)
5.	DAY NIGHT	02(5)	01(2.50)	03(7.50)	01(2.50)	01(2.50)	02(5)	05(12.50)
GRAND TOTAL		10(25)	10(25)	50	10(25)	10(25)	50	40(100)

**Source:** Field survey

This table shows the rate of participation of the respondents in hours (per day) that will help us assess the aforementioned ways to understand addiction precisely. Maximum addicts that are 45% of the total respondents replied that the amount of time they invest in addiction-related activities is three to seven hours per day basis although the time is tentative because sometimes the amount fluctuates as per the situational demand. 27.50% of the total respondents replied the amount between seven to twelve hours and 12.50% of respondents are those who spent their day and night in drug addiction and related activities. This table shows how addicts invest their productive mainstream time in illegal drug activities and have slowly lost themselves in the dark side of life.

#### **Identification of the Stages in Progress**

The study has divided the drug culture journey into three stages that are:

**Testing of Tolerance:** refers to the situation of an individual in a gateway of drug consumption culture only to experience the tolerance level and that is the first stage where individuals indulge themselves in drugs for their curiosity or hardships.

**Regular intake of drugs:** refers to the experimentation of different drugs to get different pleasures. This may indicate a shift of an in-taker from the substance (alcohol) to a natural drug or natural drug to the synthetic one.

Addiction: signifies obsession concerning drug intake. This situation occurs when physical and psychological dependence

comes in and without drugs, and in-takers become abnormal due to the withdrawal symptoms of the drug. These stages will fix the cultural identity of an in-taker in mainstream society.

# **Cultural Identity**

The cultural identity of a drug in-taker is discussed under different stages about the cultural spaces and that will be discussed in the last segment. In drug culture, three cultural identities of drug in-takers were found which are- Drug User, Abuser, and Addict.

**Drug User:** In this cultural identity those will be considered who are in their gateway of drug culture. This is considered the first stage where an in-taker uses a drug to test their tolerance level. Continuous tests of tolerance through drugs put the in-taker into the second stage which is culturally defined as a drug abuser.

**Drug Abuser:** This is the second cultural identity of a drug in-taken. Drug abuse is defined as when people start experimenting with drug consumption to get different pleasures by taking drug doses as per their tolerance. To satisfy the tolerance level drug in-takers consume drugs repeatedly. Consumption becomes used to abuse due to the increasing dose which is not prescribed by any druggist at all. Regular experimentation and intake make individuals dependent on a drug and an obsession comes in which leads them to addiction.

**Drug Addict:** This is the last stage of drug culture and the last cultural identity that labels drug abusers as an addict in society. Obsession and dependency on drugs create addiction in the lives of drug abusers. Addiction some way or another is a struggle where abusers take drugs to be normal and presentable in society. Addiction brings marginalization and a hardcore struggle to be normal or abnormal whatever it may be but to live.

## **Societal Response**

After the construction of the cultural identity of an in-taker societal response starts operating. Here, a societal response is divided into three categories according to the different cultural identities of the in-takers.

**Normal Response:** As per the situation of the in-taker societal response takes place. In this first response, the drug in-taker must situate in the first stage of drug culture thereby, the response will be normal as the activity regarding the drug is hidden from mainstream society. If the in-taker is using the drug to test the tolerance, then the response will be normal but once the shift from use to abuse occurs and the revelation of drug consumption identity happens as well thereby, the response will be changed automatically with the second one.

**Negotiation with Partial Rejection:** Second response relies on the increasing tolerance and experimentation of drugs with differential groups and the revelation of the drug's cultural identity which brings societal negotiation with partial rejection. Negotiation occurs through different institutions (family, community, and peer) to bring back the drug abuser in mainstream society. If negotiation fails, partial rejection comes into the lives of the drug abusers. The stigma attached to the illegal behaviour put forward partial rejection which guides abusers to the next stage which is addiction.

**Total Rejection:** This response comes when the abuser becomes dependent on the drug (physically or psychologically, or both) and through the revelation of their drug consumption identity due to the associated factors (withdrawal or after-drug consumption symptoms) that label them as an addict in mainstream society. Partial or total rejection from mainstream society in the forms of negligence, avoidance, bad comments, slang, stigma, and labeling put an abuser in a vulnerable situation. Thus, that rejection leads them to be on the dark side of the mainstream (drug culture). Once abusers are rejected from the mainstream they

are widely accepted by the members of the drug culture which makes them sensitive and provides a motive to be in drug-related activities with differential members.

**Analyses of the Relational Chart on Drug Culture:** Till now we have discussed different elements that are associated with the chart but now, we will be discussing the different cultural spaces (mainstream, mix, and drug) vertically concerning the horizontal component and try to justify the existence of drug in-takers in those cultural spaces.

**Mainstream Culture:** To refer to drug culture and its identity concerning the cultural space, mainstream is the first one. Mainstream culture means a culture that is legally and socially accepted in society. A productive culture is a culture that keeps its stakeholders in legal behaviour, a culture that seeks youth participation widely for the betterment of society and its future.

Mainstream culture is something that is confined by legal and traditional provisions and passed to the next generation as a legacy. Although changes will occur that change is also followed by the legal and social rules and regulations which govern the members of the society but sometimes this mainstream generates dissatisfaction among its members which provides a platform for deviance. Drug consumption is one of the deviant behaviour in society. As Merton said, if society fails to provide legitimate means to achieve certain goals then, deviance may arrive [5]. It may be capitalism that generates dissatisfaction or maybe the development of information and communication technology and its unchecked use. The cause may be anything but it surely generates dissatisfaction and alienation among a section of members and that triggers illegal behaviour in society.

Drug consumption behaviour does exist and flows underneath mainstream cultural space. In mainstream, alcohol and marijuana consumption some way or another other have gained some acceptance may be regularly or occasionally. This provides an opportunity for the youth in their initial stage to test their tolerance for the first time whatever the causes are. Hence, the study has identified the first stage which is 'users of substances' as the in-takers are testing their tolerance. They test their tolerance in the form of different substances and are called 'users' because this behaviour is sanctioned to some extent by mainstream culture and society.

In the study, the in-taker is called a 'user' because he/she is spending his/her minimum productive time in substance culture and the rest is invested in mainstream society to do something productive in career or life. Hence, the societal response to them is normal and does not lead to stigma but the increasing tolerance can put them in the next cultural space with a new cultural identity.

Mix Culture: This point indicates the situation of a substance in-taker in mixed cultural spaces that are, mainstream and drug cultural space. In this section, drug in-takers have already developed their tolerance by taking drugs regularly but also, participating in mainstream activities widely as their drug consumption-related cultural identity is hidden from mainstream cultural space except for their differential association. In drug culture, they are identified as a drug abuser but in the mainstream, they are identified as a normal member of society. Therefore, they can situate themselves in both cultures and can enjoy both cultural identities.

Once the secret identity was revealed to the mainstream the cultural identity of the in-taker changed immediately from a normal member to a drug abuser. They get stigmatized by the mainstream people as 'drug abusers' and they have been offered negotiation with partial rejection from the mainstream institutions (family, community, non-addict et cetera). This is the second stage of addiction where the regular intake of drugs brings partial rejection as the increasing tolerance and participation in drug activity forces them to invest their mainstream productive time in the drug cultural activities (money management for drugs, drug management, consumption, selection of the consumption companion, selection of the place to intake drug et cetera).

Revelation of the secret identity changes the cultural identity of an in-taker and pushes him to the next stage of the drug cultur-

al process. Increasing tolerance results in an insatiable appetite which gradually take an abuser to the next level which is drug addiction.

**Drug Culture:** This is the final cultural space in the drug cultural process which deals with the cultural identity, participation of a drug abuser, and the societal response they get. Drug Culture refers to a culture where an in-taker pivots to drug-related activities, a culture that always lures youth through different means, a culture which is illegal, unaccepted (counter) in the mainstream, a culture that is stigmatized and labeled as destructive negative behaviour [2, 6].

This stage is the last one and is called 'addiction' where no secrecy regarding the behaviour prevails. In this stage, abusers accept their behaviour that they are completely obsessed with drugs as they have total dependency (physiological and psychological) on drugs and accept their drug cultural identity.

In this stage, drug abusers have lost their secret identity and have got labeled as 'drug addicts' culturally as they have their total submission to drugs, and all their activities become drug-centric activities. The revelation of their secret identity brings an institutional negotiation to bring back the abuser to the mainstream but once the abuser moves forward to the drug culture it leaves the abuser in complete destitution from the mainstream.

In this stage, addicts start losing their mainstream spaces (family, neighborhood, community, non-addict peer et cetera) wherefrom they manage money for their consumption of desired drugs as the institutional negotiation fails. Once they have lost mainstream spaces they are left with no choice but to commit a crime to sustain themselves in the illegal drug culture. Gradually they find themselves in a hard struggle to manage money for the drug in a completely stigmatized destitute life which brings total rejection from the mainstream or they reject the mainstream, it works either way.

#### Conclusion

This paper can be concluded in a way that, with the help of this model scholars can easily have a clear idea regarding how different variables associating with addiction and their operational analyses. Sociological implication on drug addiction deals with the interactions and interrelations amongst different variables that are responsible in keeping an in-taker into the drug culture. Two models have been used to justify the answer that, why drug in-takers become obsessed with drug and indulge in drug consumption activity repeatedly with or without their choice due to the physical or mental dependency. The second model seeks to explain the shift of drug in-takers from layer to layer or one stage to another concerning their changing activities relating to the changing cultural identities and societal response to the behaviour. An attempt has been made to understand drug addiction in its simplest form from sociological perspective.

## **Conflicting Interest**

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest

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