

## Abstract

### The Effect of Substance Abuse on the Parent/Child Relationship Isabelle Dennis

Research has shown that parent substance abuse is a predominate risk factor associated with the quality of their relationship with the child. The quality of the relationship can protect the well-being of the child, and the usage of drugs. Actions of neglect and indifference can lead to the usage and abuse of drugs in a child. There have been specific studies on child neglect and substance use in specific communities, but no study has shown the direct correlation between substance abuse in the parent and child, and the effect on that relationship.

In 2014, child welfare administrative data from the United States indicated that at least 26% of identified victims and 8% of non-victims of neglect were reported to be living with a caregiver who was abusing drugs. Children raised in families with parental substance misuse face problems early in child's life that are correlated to the quality of the relationship. There has been little recent research on the effect of the parent-child relationship on the substance abuse of the child, as well as the parent.

The purpose of this study is to see if there is a correlation between the parent-child relationship and substance abuse in the student, as well as the parent. Also, to see what relationship factors and expectations between parents and high school students influence substance abuse, and whether or not support and communication reduce that likelihood.

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