Annotated Bibliography

Developmental epidemiology of drug use and abuse in adolescence and young adulthood: Evidence of generalized risk. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2746112/

This longitudinal study followed 1733 respondents from adolescence to young adulthood to examine their use and abuse of multiple substances. Information was gathered by using self-reported questionnaires and structured psychiatric interviews. The researchers found strong evidence to indicate that although substance experimentation is common during adolescence, the earlier the onset of experimentation, the more likely the abuse would continue into adulthood. Multiple drug involvement was also indicated in this cohort. A strong propensity for adolescents to ignore the negative risks connected to substance abuse created additional consequences and dangers to their behavior. The investigators suggest a renewed and more forceful preventative approach that clearly outlines the severe aftereffects of substance abuse be directed at young adolescents.

*NIDA NOTES - Gender Differences in Prevalence of Drug Abuse Traced to Opportunities to Use*. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://archives.drugabuse.gov/NIDA\_Notes/NNVol15N4/Prevalence.html

In a survey conducted by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, of 25,000 adolescents who responded, 8.1% of males and 4.5% of females older than age 12, had used illegal drugs within the past month. This ratio remained fairly consistent in the 29-year history of the investigation. Researchers found that with the exception of cocaine, boys were more likely than girls to have their first opportunity to use substances at an earlier stage of adolescence and into young adulthood. Even though girls and boys abuse marijuana, cocaine, and hallucinogens at a nearly equal rate after their first opportunity, the early onset of abuse in boys places them at higher risk for long-term substance use.

National Institute of Drug Abuse (2003). Preventing drug use among children and adolescents- risks and protective factors. Retrieved from: http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/preventing-drug-abuse-among-children-adolescents-in-brief/chapter-1-risk-factors-protective-factors/when-how-does-drug-abuse-start-progress

Research on the factors that influence how drug abuse begins and how it progresses can be helpful in understanding youth and adolescent development. The National Institute of Drug Abuse provides evidence based data collected from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Association and compiles data into a web-based guide for parents, educators, and community leaders.

National Center for Children in Poverty. Adolescent substance abuse in the U.S. Retrieved from: http://www.nccp.org/publications/pub\_1008.html

In a study of facts extracted for the purpose of policymaking, the National Center for Children in Poverty provides a demographic look at children and youth in poverty versus those with a higher socioeconomic status as well as ethnic and racial disparities that exist amongst children and youth substance use patterns.

How will Alateen Help Me? (n.d.). In *Al-Anon Family Groups*. Retrieved March 22, 2014, from http://www.al-anon.alateen.org/for-alateen/how-will-alateen-help-me

In order to break the cycle of juvenile alcohol and drug use, Alateen support groups could be beneficial. Since addiction is biologically genetic, teenagers who grow up in homes with addicts could possible result in future alcohol and/or drug dependency. Alateen provides teenagers the ability to share experiences with each other, discuss difficulties and problems, learn effective ways to cope with problems, and learn how to use the Twelve Steps and Alateen's Twelve Traditions.

The Ingham County Adolescent Diversion project. (2014). In *Michigan State University Statewide*. Retrieved March 20, 2014, from https://www.msu.edu/course/psy/371/psy371.html

Michigan State University undergraduates pair up with the Ingham County juvenile system and work with youths who are referred by the Ingham County Probate Court. The Ingham County Adolescent Diversion Project aims to provide each adolescent with a specific service that could potentially help him/her avoid future involvement with the juvenile system. For eighteen weeks, undergrad volunteers work with the youth for six to eight hours each week with family relationships, community service, and resources for a job and extracurricular activities.

National Institute of Drug Abuse. (2007). Understanding drug abuse and addiction: What science says*.* Retrieved from: http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/teaching-packets/understanding-drug-abuse-addiction/section-ii/5-protective-factors

Research shows that the most prominent protective factors for adolescents when it comes to substance abuse are: strong family bonds, parental supervision and involvement, positive social institutions such as school, and a belief that drugs are negative. Protective factors for substance abuse are not always the opposite of the risk factors for substance abuse. The developmental process also has a large component of protective factors.

Health and Human Services. (2014). Risk and protective factors. Retrieved from: http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph/programs/substance-abuse/providers/prevention/risk-and-protective-factors.html

Studies have found that the number of risk factors impacting an adolescent’s life does not directly mean that they will or will not use illegal substances. Protective factors also have a great impact on an adolescent’s decisions. Protective factors are present on many different levels such as: individual, family, school, peer, community, and society. Protective factors act to balance and buffer against risk factors.