

Integrative examination of the cultural impact of substance (ab)use

Kebiat Mukuze, Pilot Ndhlovu, Noreen Muyeche

Abstract

Culture influences every aspect of our lives, substance use included. As a result, practicing cultural humility is critical for treating everyone effectively. It is critical to consider cultural contexts when assessing and treating substance use disorders. Culture, on the other hand, impacts substance abuse in society. Based on a systematic integrative assessment, this paper investigates the cultural impact of substance abuse. The study discovered that the pendulum of cultural attitudes toward substance use has swung back and forth throughout history. Culture, in particular, can be a protective factor against substance abuse. Other cultures, on the other hand, encourage substance abuse. Substance abuse, paradoxically, leads to cultural loss. This paper, thus, discusses the societal implications of culture on substance abuse, and future research directions are proposed. The goal of this paper is to augment existing knowledge on drug and substance abuse by identifying the effects of culture on substance abuse in organisations, and society as a whole.

Keywords: culture, drugs, substance abuse, substance use