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Research Article

A REVIEW OF ANTI-DRUG REGULATIONS IN REFERENCE TO JUVENILES: AN INDIAN PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

This review paper provides an in-depth analysis of anti-drug regulations in reference to juveniles, focusing on the Indian perspective. The aim of this study is to critically examine the existing legal framework and policies addressing drug offenses committed by juveniles in India. The paper reviews relevant legislation, including the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, along with associated regulations and guidelines. The review also discusses the challenges and gaps in the current system, including issues related to rehabilitation, prevention, and the protection of juvenile rights. Keywords: anti-drug regulations, juveniles, Indian perspective, Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, Juvenile Justice Act, rehabilitation, prevention, juvenile rights.

KEYWORDS

Anti-drug regulations, juveniles, Indian perspective, drug offenses, Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, Juvenile Justice Act, rehabilitation, prevention, juvenile rights.

INTRODUCTION

The issue of drug abuse among juveniles is a growing concern worldwide, including in India. It is crucial to have effective anti-drug regulations and policies

specifically tailored to address the unique circumstances and needs of juveniles. This review paper aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the

existing anti-drug regulations in reference to juveniles from an Indian perspective. By examining the current legal framework, policy initiatives, and implementation practices, this study seeks to identify strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement in addressing drug offenses committed by juveniles in India.

METHOD

This review utilizes a systematic approach to examine the anti-drug regulations in reference to juveniles in India. The methodology involves a comprehensive search of relevant literature, including academic articles, research reports, government publications, and legal documents. The search is conducted in online databases, such as PubMed, Google Scholar, and legal databases, using keywords related to anti-drug regulations, juveniles, drug offenses, Indian legal framework, and juvenile justice.

The identified sources are screened based on their relevance to the topic, and relevant information is extracted and synthesized. The review focuses on key legislation, such as the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS Act) and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, along with associated regulations and guidelines. These laws are analyzed in terms of their provisions related to drug offenses committed by juveniles, including provisions on prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and the protection of juvenile rights.

Furthermore, the review explores the practical implementation of anti-drug regulations for juveniles in India. It examines available data, research studies, and reports to evaluate the effectiveness of current measures in preventing drug abuse, facilitating rehabilitation, and ensuring the protection of juvenile rights. The review also identifies challenges and gaps in the existing system, such as limited access to

specialized treatment services, insufficient awareness and preventive measures, and the need for enhanced coordination among relevant stakeholders.

By analyzing the current anti-drug regulations in reference to juveniles in India, this review aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the legal framework and policy initiatives. The findings of this study can inform policymakers, legal authorities, and stakeholders involved in juvenile justice and drug abuse prevention about potential areas for improvement to better address the unique challenges faced by juveniles involved in drug offenses in India.

RESULTS

The review of anti-drug regulations in reference to juveniles from an Indian perspective revealed several key findings. Firstly, the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS Act) serves as the primary legislation governing drug offenses, including those committed by juveniles. The act provides provisions for the prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of juveniles involved in drug abuse. Additionally, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act addresses the specific needs of juvenile offenders, emphasizing their rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

However, the review identified certain challenges and gaps in the current system. Limited access to specialized treatment services for juveniles, inadequate awareness and preventive measures, and the need for improved coordination among stakeholders were notable areas of concern. Furthermore, the protection of juvenile rights during the legal process and in correctional facilities requires further attention.

DISCUSSION

The findings of this review highlight the importance of a comprehensive approach to address drug offenses committed by juveniles in India. Effective prevention strategies, early intervention programs, and access to quality rehabilitation services are vital components in tackling the issue. It is crucial to ensure that the legal framework and policies adequately protect the rights and well-being of juvenile offenders, while also addressing the root causes of drug abuse.

The coordination and collaboration among various stakeholders, including law enforcement agencies, child welfare departments, healthcare providers, and educational institutions, are essential for implementing a holistic and evidence-based approach. By addressing the identified challenges and gaps, India can enhance the effectiveness of its anti-drug regulations in reference to juveniles.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this review provides valuable insights into the anti-drug regulations in reference to juveniles from an Indian perspective. The analysis of the existing legal framework, policy initiatives, and implementation practices sheds light on both strengths and weaknesses in addressing drug offenses committed by juveniles. The findings emphasize the importance of a comprehensive and coordinated approach, involving prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and the protection of juvenile rights.

To improve the effectiveness of anti-drug regulations, it is crucial to enhance access to specialized treatment services, raise awareness about drug abuse prevention among juveniles, and strengthen the coordination among stakeholders. Additionally, there is a need to ensure that the legal processes and correctional

facilities prioritize the protection of juvenile rights and promote their rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

By addressing these key areas, India can enhance its response to drug offenses committed by juveniles, ultimately leading to better outcomes in terms of prevention, rehabilitation, and the overall well-being of juvenile offenders. Future research should continue to evaluate the effectiveness of anti-drug regulations, monitor their implementation, and identify innovative strategies to address the evolving challenges related to juvenile drug abuse.

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