

Abstract

Background: For girls placed in facilities, the causes of risky behavior and the extent of substance use are not sufficiently mapped. The phenomenon of trauma was chosen for this work as a possible cause of NL use. The data was not systematically processed or analyzed, it could continue to serve as a guide for improving efficiency in these devices.

Objective: To identify the most common area of trauma in girls placed in institutional care, to map the prevalence of use of selected substances in the last 30 days and then compare it with the prevalence of use of girls from the general school population (ESPAD 2015). Furthermore, to find out whether more experienced traumatic events lead to a higher prevalence of substance use.

Methods: The data were obtained in the form of quantitative research and implemented using the Early traumatic events record questionnaire and the modified ESPAD 2015 questionnaire. The data was transcribed by IBM SPSS Statistics and analyzed in MS Excel using descriptive statistics tools. There were 121 participating respondents.

Results: Physical punishment is the most common type of trauma. Institutional girls use four times more cannabis and three times more tobacco than girls in the general school population. Girls from the general school population consume more alcohol. In the category of general traumas and sexual events, more addictive substances are used by girls with less than 50% of experienced traumatic events, in the category of physical punishment and emotional abuse more girls are used, who have experienced more than 50% of traumatic events.

Conclusion: Experienced trauma is not the cause of substance abuse. There is a need for further and more detailed research. The results obtained can be used to improve quality in special education programs and thus ensure interventions appropriate to the needs of the target group, such as securing the position of addictologist.