

Say No To Drugs

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We all know someone who is addicted to drugs, and drugs are widely available around the world. Sadly, this is the situation. Whether they be coworkers, friends, family, or old friends, there will always be someone we know. Drug addiction typically impacts many people, although many tend to only focus on the addict. The addict's drug addiction affects nearly everyone in their immediate vicinity. Since everyone is so preoccupied with the addict, I'd prefer to concentrate on the family. A person usually decides to use drugs independently, but as the brain changes over time, it becomes more challenging to resist drug usage and exercise self-control. Addiction has an impact on not only the addicts themselves but also those who are close to them. The ramifications of addiction extend well beyond the person abusing the substance. The closest family members of a loved one with a drug or alcohol addiction may also suffer.

Whether it's a child, parent, or spouse, anyone who loves someone addicted affects their lives. The family must understand that a person typically chooses to use drugs alone. Still, resisting drug use and maintaining self-control get more challenging as the brain changes. I am related to a loved one with drug addiction, who suffers the consequences immensely. Let me set the scene. He worked hard to ensure a bright future and received straight A's in school. He started skipping classes, failing to show up for work, and following this young woman around like she was the oxygen in his lungs. He started hanging out with the wrong group. He started acting strange, and items began disappearing from his house. He began mistreating his family. He started swearing at his mother and younger brother. After being absent for several weeks, he suddenly appeared. Only God knows his most recent shower. He had a shabby appearance. He had a scent, and he itched as though he had fleas. His eyes appeared dilated, so we knew he was high. He took a well-needed shower, changed into clean clothes, ate, and then asked to stay the night. His mother eventually agreed but stipulated that he must depart as soon as the sun rose.

His mother heard voices and noises from outside as the night wore on. Her advice to have her youngest child sleep in her room was excellent. By the grace of God, she followed her instinct, woke up her younger son, ordered him to walk down the fire escape, and raced to her neighbor's house to phone the police since her addicted son had intended to rob and kill his mom that night. Before the police arrived, they all left after breaking down her bedroom door but failing to locate her. His mother decided never to live in that house again, relocated to a distant state, and never looked back. I'm aware that my cousin had strong doubts despite closing the door on her son. She has shown what "tough love" truly entails. That is the story of my cousin and her son.

Addiction affects individuals who are close to addicts and the addicts themselves. Addiction has effects that go well beyond those abusing the drug. And family members found this out the hard way. My cousin was a young man who strived to succeed in everything he did. Anyone who loves an addict, whether they are a child, parent, or spouse, impacts their lives. First, stopping substance use is complex, making it difficult for many people. Alcohol and drug use have an impact on the self-control regions of the brain. Continuing to use drugs, which change how certain parts of the brain work, makes it much harder to stop or control compulsive drug use. Being a family member of a drug user, I try to uplift the mother and my younger cousin whenever she lets us in because we don't know where our son is. At this point, I can only advise my cousin to look for her son so that she can help him get it and get them both started on the road to drug abuse recovery if he hasn't received the assistance he requires. If he hasn't already, there's still a chance he'll make a full recovery. I told my cousin the last time I spoke to her, "Let's not give up on her baby, but get them the treatment they need." God is in control, and for her to heal, she needs to forgive her son.