

The aim of this thesis “The Attitudes towards and Experience with Addictive Drugs of University Students in Zlín” was to figure out and analyse the amount and circumstances of drug taking among university students via questionnaires. The questionnaire was developed to monitor the attitudes and experience with legal and illegal addictive drugs (AD) and it was created in 1995 at the Faculty of Pharmacy of Charles University, then it has been modified up to its current form. The questions are of socio-demographic character, they monitor the students’ attitudes, awareness, and experience with legal and illegal AD and they also focus on the problems of infectious disease transmission related to the AD taking. The research was carried out in the academic year of 2005/2006, 231 participants have taken a share in it, all of them were 1st or 3rd grade full time undergraduate students of the Faculty of Multimedia Communications at the Tomas Bata University in Zlín.

According to the research, the students started to experiment with cigarette smoking at the average age of  $13.6 \pm 2.8$  years. Today, 42.9% of the students smoke to a varying extent. 18.9% of the first year students and 8.3% of the third year students consider themselves regular smokers. These students smoke  $68.1 \pm 55.1$  cigarettes a week on average.

The students begun to drink alcohol even earlier: at the age of  $12.3 \pm 3.5$  years. Alcohol is now being consumed by 78.4% of the students several or more times a month.

There have been 78.8% of the students admitting an experience with an illegal AD; 12.1% of those have stated a nonrecurring experience. The average age at which the students tried an illegal drug for the first time was  $16.3 \pm 2.1$  years. The first time the students tried an illegal AD was most frequently in the company of their friends (34.1%). More than half of the students regard themselves to be well informed about the illegal AD. Marijuana has been the most frequent used illegal substance (77.5%); 26.4% of all the students have tried hallucinogenic mushrooms. 16.5% of them have experimented with ecstasy, 13.0% with LSD, 7.4% with methamphetamine, 5.2% with cocaine, and none with heroin. During the last month, 25.0% of the “drug experienced” students have taken an AD; the most frequent AD was marijuana. Two of the third-grade-students have stated an intravenous abuse of the AD. The students believe that drug availability is higher outside the college premise: 69.2% and 80.6% (1<sup>st</sup> vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> y.) students have been convinced of the easy access to AD at their place of residence, while 10.1% and 26.4% students have found it easy at college. Among the students that have found the AD availability at their place of residence easy there have been high percentages - 88.2% (1<sup>st</sup> y.) and 86.0% (3<sup>rd</sup> y) - of students that with an AD experience.