

Impact of Alcohol Consumption on Health, Family and Work Site of Mining Workers: A Case Study of Iron Mines in an Eastern Indian State

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Abstract

Consumption of alcohol has enormous negative impact on health, family and work site of mining workers. The present study attempts to examine how alcohol affect the health and family of mining worker and damages mining property and reputation. The results analysis shows that excess alcohol consumption causes several health problems and psychological disturbance among more than 60 percent workers. Further 90 percent families are disturbed and ruin contact with relative and society and involves many social evil practices.

Key words: Alcohol, Mining, Worker, Health and Economy

1. Motivation

Drinking of alcohol causes enormous negative impact on health, family and work site of the mining workers. Addiction to alcohol causes common mental disorders (CMD), change shape of brain, enhance emotional disturbance and memory loss. It affects kidney, heart and liver, and causes anxiety, cruelty, ataxia and many other fatal diseases and disabilities among the addict. The intoxicated cannot do justice to their family role and responsibility under the influence of alcohol for which undesirable situations like domestic violence, tension among family members, lack of care for children, and separation arise in the family (Cassidy & Poon; 2019). Consumption of alcohol decreases the social status of a family in which children suffer much. The relationship with neighbours, relatives and community get antagonized by alcohol consumption and post consumption behaviour of addicts. Drinking also creates manifold work site commotion with reduction in productivity, imposes extra burden to co-workers, causes conflicts among workers, increases worksite accidents, causes more short-term absenteeism, damages assets and deteriorates company image.

Mining industry accounts for high prevalence of drinking of various types of alcohol encouraged by galloping income, quick modernization, rapid urbanization and so on. Drinking of alcohol causes multiple personal and non-personal hazards among the mining workers. The personal problems involve physical injury, loss of relation with co-workers, low production and productivity, high absenteeism and so on. Non-personal hazards like damage of company property, accident, and disturbance in worksite are created very often by the drunkards. However, addicts have a different view on drinking of alcohol and argue that arduous working conditions, unhygienic work environment, irregular work practices and utmost physiological stress at worksite are the major causes of their addiction.

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