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Substance Abuse, Parties, Orgies, and Pimping among University Students: An Extract from Lived Experiences

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Abstract

This study aims to document students' experiences with substance abuse and these activities to raise awareness and encourage potential interventions. To explore these experiences and the meanings derived from them, the study adopted a constructivist paradigm with a qualitative approach. A hermeneutic phenomenological design was implemented, involving interviews with 12 students selected through purposive sampling, with an initial typical case selection followed by snowball sampling for subsequent participants. The findings revealed that participants were aware of issues such as pimping, orgies, sex parties, and substance abuse; nevertheless, they continued to participate in these activities, highlighting the need for further inquiry. Pimping, orgies, and substance abuse were frequently reported among the participants. Contributing factors included the desire to avoid social isolation, the need to fit in with peers, being misled into these situations by friends, the stress of student life, and a lack of social and recreational activities on campus. The study recommends that higher education institutions invest in equipping students with the knowledge necessary to make healthier choices, provide better coping mechanisms such as stress management and mental health support, create spaces for students to express themselves, and enhance social and recreational opportunities, along with anti-substance abuse services on campus.

Keywords: ***Substance abuse, Parties, Orgies, pimping among university students, student life and support***

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1 Background

Numerous studies have demonstrated a connection between substance abuse and sexual activity. According to Bersamin et al (2012), there is a significant and positive correlation between parties, residence hall gatherings, off-campus events, and instances of alcohol-related sexual encounters with strangers among college students. It is improbable that all students will always adhere to the expected behavioural norms on campus. Some students may intentionally or involuntarily engage in behaviours that violate the rules.

Other studies reveal that young people who are engaged in selling sex have had an earlier sexual debut. That they had a likelihood to consume pornography with a high chance of having multiple sex partners (Betzer et al., 2015). In some circumstances, dreadful mistakes that are life-altering are made. Krisch et al. (2019) stated that transactional sex is linked to several negative outcomes and health risks, including sexually transmitted diseases, physical or sexual violence, delinquency, substance abuse, psychological problems, and physical illnesses. Substance abuse has been noted to be on the rise among university students, pimping for sex, sex parties and orgies are a known occurrence among university students but often overlooked and not talked about. Studies have placed the environment where one is found to be a likely facilitator of recreational and experimental use of substances (Mwanza, Mwale and Lukwesa, 2022).

Busari (2018) revealed that sex orgies are planned and arranged among friends mostly within their social media space leading to an increase in immorality among students. Similarly, Krisch et al (2019) suggest that initial contact between sellers and buyers is often done through friends, acquaintances and some dating websites. Orgies are sex parties where guests freely engage in open and unrestrained sexual activities. Further Busari (2018) stated that in the parties young people including minors engage in sex orgies and rampant drug abuse. In these parties, other young people are pimped to buyers in exchange for money. Pimping is getting customers for prostitutes and in return getting part of their rewards mostly in monetary form.

Khunwane et al (2011) that the sex debut of most young people before the age of 15 in sub-Saharan Africa is about 27% of school-going adolescents. Krisch et al. (2019) identified prevalence rates in the buying and selling of sex in high come countries among young people:

> *"The review of prevalence rates suggests relatively low rates of transactional sex in high-income countries (with selling and buying rates below 10% in all countries) and relatively*

> *high, although varying rates, in low- and middle-income countries (with selling and buying rates of 60% or higher in seven countries). Gender disaggregated data suggests that boys are more likely than girls to sell sex in high-income countries while the opposite seems to be true in low- and middle-income countries"*

From the foregoing, the rates show that transactional sex is high in low-income countries as compared to high-income countries. Zambia is among the low-income countries, where there is a 60% buying rate. The exact Zambian prevalence rates among young people show that an estimated total of 3,592 young people in the age range of 15–19 years and 20–24 years both female and male are engaged in the Selling and buying of sex, data from a 2019 Cross-sectional study of 12 months based on the data, it appears that low-income countries have higher rates of transactional sex compared to high-income countries. In Zambia, a low-income country, the buying rate is at 60%. A study conducted by Krisch (2019) found that around 3,592 young people between the ages of 15-19 and 20-24, both male and female, engage in selling and buying sex.

Krisch (2019) indicates that females between the ages of 15-19 had a combined rate of 26.6% in selling, while males had a combined rate of 12.3% in selling. For females between the ages of 20-24, the combined rate of men who were buying sex was 34.3%, while their selling rate was 40.0%. The excitement comes from the music which they enjoy in clubs just as Namuyamba et al., (2018) stated that the popularity of the musicians used added value to the politicians on stage. The stage set is the one youths exploit and dance on in the different clubs they patronize. This is an important age range as it includes many university students in Zambia.

A recent study highlighted the lack of awareness campaigns regarding sexual reproductive health services on campus (Mwanza, Mwale and Lukwesa, 2022). It also revealed that the services available to meet students' reproductive health needs were quite limited. Specifically, statistics showed that condom distribution was at 38%, other contraceptives at 17%, and concerns about morning-after pills were at 14%. This data suggests that many students are engaging in unprotected sex. Given these findings, several questions arise: Are the students seeking morning-after pills doing so after casual encounters? Are they participating in unprotected sex at parties? What are young people's experiences on campus regarding the limited access to reproductive health services? In light of these uncertainties surrounding young people's reproductive health on campus, this study

aims to delve into students' experiences with pimping, orgies, parties, and substance use in this context.

Other studies show a 26.6% combined rate of selling females and a 40.0% combined rate of buying females (Chatterji et al. 2005) in the age of 15–19 years. For the females 12.3% combined rate of selling males and 34.3% (combined rate of men who were buying sex (Chatterji et al., 2005) in the age of 20–24 years. This is the age range of most university students in Zambia.

Otieno (2023) despite the positive side of parties among students, some downside implications include peer pressure, substance abuse and alcohol, risky sexual activities, poor academic attainment and in some cases loss of life. It is clear from the writing of Otieno that these sex parties are never without substance abuse. Drugs and substance abuse is the excessive use of psychoactive drugs such as alcohol, pain medications or illegal drugs. This leads to physical, social or emotional harm. In other words, it is the use of prescribed or over-the-counter drugs for purposes other than those they are meant for (Mwanza and Mwale, 2023).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Fulcher et al. (2018) indicated that group sex parties present a risky environment where multiple sexual partners and polysubstance use linked to these parties are a haven for sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Given this evidence, it is clear that there is a need to study how university students are abusing drugs and other substances, as well as engaging in risky sexual behaviour at parties. Marzell (2016) noted that heavy drinking among college students was a public health issue that impacted academics, sexual and physical assault, unplanned sexual activity and times fatal. Khunwane et al (2011) report on group sex events that were common and covertly organized by adolescents engaging freely in sex activities that included the use of drugs like marijuana. Such literature confirms the existence of sex parties and abuse of substances among adolescents. Doku (2021) adds that substance abuse was a gateway for risky sexual behaviours among youths. An understanding of young people's sexual and substance abuse behaviour seems to be a topic discussed but not fully exhausted as more of the young people who showed risky health including substance abuse behaviours were linked with sexual debut and the number of sexual partners (Doku, 2012).

Fulcher et al. (2018) indicated that group sex parties present a risky environment where multiple sexual partners and polysubstance use linked to these parties are a haven for sexually transmitted infections (STI). In the face of such literature, there is evidence that there is a need to study how

university students are abusing drugs and other substances, engaging in sex parties, orgies, and pimping for sex. This remains an unexplored area if such a study is not conducted to explore these activities.

This undertaking, therefore, explored lived experiences of students with orgies, sex parties, pimping for sex and substance abuse. The study documents such experiences of students on campus to raise awareness and possible intervention strategies.

1.3 Significance of the study

The researcher hopes that the study of the lived experiences of students on substance abuse, parties, orgies, and pimping on campus gives first-hand information from the people who experienced or dealt with such matters among students. At the end of this study students and the university community understand the causes and effects and the prevention of such activities and further influence the policies surrounding student welfare and support services.

1.4 Study Objectives

i. Explore the effects of substance abuse, orgies and pimping on students.
ii. Determine reasons students engage in substance abuse, orgies and pimping on campus
iii. Investigate ways and means to curb substance abuse, orgies and pimping among students.

1.5 Research Questions

i. What are the effects of substance abuse, orgies and pimping on students?
ii. What reasons do students engaging in substance abuse, orgies and pimping on campus have?
iii. What are the suggested ways and means to curb substance abuse, orgies and pimping among students?

2.0 Research Methodology

The study adopted a constructivist worldview to explore the subjective experiences of students who participated in sex parties, orgies, pimping, and substance abuse on campus. Nyimbili (2021) points out that a research paradigm represents a philosophical perspective on how phenomena operate within a researcher's realm. Consequently, this research employed a qualitative approach grounded in a hermeneutic phenomenological design. This design allowed the researchers to delve into how respondents perceive and experience their realities. As noted by Ramasodi (2009), the hermeneutic phenomenological approach is valuable for investigating the intricate nature of realities as described by participants.

The target group for this study was all registered students at a public university. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2008), a sample is a subset derived from the larger population. In this instance, 12 students were selected, starting with a typical case purposive sampling method, focusing on those known to have participated in or encountered sex parties, pimping, orgies, or substance abuse. Subsequently, additional participants were recruited through snowball sampling.

Data collection was carried out using interview guides, which proved effective as they facilitated follow-up questions on pertinent issues during discussions. The researchers personally conducted the interviews and provided clarifications on any complex topics. Participants were treated with respect and by ethical standards appropriate for studies involving human subjects. In line with these ethical considerations, no names were included or referenced in the report; informed consent forms were completed before the interviews, participants had the freedom to withdraw at any point if they felt uneasy, and neither the research site nor the institution was disclosed in the findings.

Using the study's objectives and questions as a framework, qualitative data gathered from the interviews were organized into meaningful patterns to uncover the relationships between various themes. Thematic analysis was employed to analyze the data, which involved categorizing and narrating the identified themes. Each theme was carefully described, analyzed, and interpreted critically and objectively. The data was meticulously examined to ensure consistency, accuracy, and completeness throughout the study.

3.0 Findings

The results of the study are organized in alignment with the research questions, showcasing the primary themes and related sub-themes that emerged from the thorough analysis of the collected data. Each theme represents a significant area of inquiry, while the sub-themes provide deeper insights into the specific aspects that were highlighted during the analysis process.

3.1 Respondents understanding of orgies, sex parties, pimping and substance abuse

The study findings established students understanding of Pimping, orgies, and substance abuse. Some of the respondents stated that;

3.1.2 Understanding of pimping

Some of the respondents noted the following in response to their understanding of pimping that takes place amongst them. "*Pimping is when someone finds clients or prostitutes for someone in return they are given revenue*" (respondent ID, female 1), and another added that "*More of taking advantage and a kind of exploitation for sexual purposes while gaining some money or favours on another person*" (respondent ID female 3),

Other participants indicated that "*pimping involves arranging sex workers to meet potential customers for money*"(respondent ID, male 3), *"This is the act of setting up or arranging prostitutes for clients in return for a benefit*" (respondent ID, male 4), "*When an individual who craves sexual attention is linked to prostitutes by another person who knows the prostitutes"* (respondent ID, female 4) and "*The action of controlling prostitutes which also involves getting customers for them*" respondent ID, male 1) additionally others stated that "*pimping is a gathering that is moved by sexual activities and excessive drinking"* respondent ID, male 2)

The findings reveal a general understanding among participants regarding pimping. Many indicated that it often involved money or some form of compensation in exchange for arranging sexual activities for others. The participants clearly showed their awareness of these practices through their explanations, highlighting their knowledge of such acts.

3.1.2 Understanding of orgies

On orgies, the understanding from respondents was as follows: "*A party or come together where people can do all sort of sexual activities with anyone"* Respondent ID, male 2), "*This is a party that involves a lot of drinking and sexual activities*" Respondent ID, female 5, "*A sex party with many people excessive indulgence in sexual affairs"* (respondent ID, female 5) *"Excessive indulgence in a specific activity usually one that is sexual"* (respondent ID, male 4) "*This is where people are involved in group sexual activities"* (respondent ID, female 4).

The findings indicated that orgies were recognized activities frequently occurring among various party attendees, where sexual interactions involved multiple participants. Those engaged in these gatherings exhibited a clear and explicit understanding of the nature and dynamics of such activities.

3.1.3 Understanding of Substance Abuse

The findings established respondents' understanding of substance abuse: "*The harmful use of substances including alcohol and illicit drugs"* (respondent ID, male 1*),* "*Misuse of drugs*"

(respondent ID, female 3), "*Wrongful use of the substance*" (respondent ID, female 5), "*Overusing chemical drugs for body enhancement*" (respondent ID, male 4) "*This is the excessive use of drugs such as alcohol or illegal substance*" (respondent ID, female 2), "*Misuse of drugs or substances or the intake of substance more than needed"* respondent ID, male 6)

The prevalent understanding reflected in the findings regarding substance abuse is that it represents a harmful misuse of various substances. This misuse can encompass illegal activities or the consumption of substances in quantities that exceed what is necessary for normal use. The respondents showcased a clear comprehension of the complexities surrounding substance abuse, illustrating their awareness of its implications.

3.1.4 Respondents experience with orgies, sex party or pimping

The respondents were asked if they had been found in an orgy, sex party or involved in pimping at one time. The responses showed that 38% (n=5) had been exposed to such and 62% (n=7) had an experience with either pimping, orgies or sex party in their student life.

The views of those who indicated that they had a personal experience with either of the activities were that: "*It was fun only that the after-math was terrible to deal with*" (respondent ID, male 2), "*My experience was bad but it was interesting to be there*" (respondent ID, male 5), "*The climaxes did not last as long and people did not maintain civil behaviour*" respondent ID, female 3), "*my experience I would say was fun as long as it lasted but to deal with the aftermath was a lot to deal with*" (respondent ID, female 1).

The findings revealed that these activities were filled with elements of fun and excitement, providing participants with memorable experiences. However, they also uncovered a sense of regret that often emerged in the aftermath, as individuals reflected on their choices and the consequences of their actions.

3.1.5 Contributing factors to being involved in orgies, sex parties or pimping

Various factors emerged from the analysis of data as reasons that led respondents to participate in the activities. Some participants mentioned that they were invited and felt a curiosity to explore, while others believed they were simply attending a regular party. There was also a sense of not wanting to miss out and being misled into thinking it was just a casual gathering.

The following findings were recorded: "*I was seeking some form of fun and entertainment and I was exploring in general*" respondent ID, female 1) "*I went to a house party*" (respondent ID, female 3), "*Peer pressure and the feeling of not wanting to miss out*" (respondent ID, male 2), "*I was with my roommates, I was invited to a party*" respondent ID, male 5)

The findings from the study highlighted several factors that were prevalent among most of the attendees engaged in these activities. A significant motivation for many participants stemmed from a desire to explore new experiences and establish a sense of belonging within their social circles. This drive to fit in with friends often pushed individuals to partake in activities they might not have considered otherwise.

Additionally, some attendees were misled into believing they were simply attending ordinary, casual gatherings, which contributed to their participation in these events. The factors identified point to underlying issues such as peer pressure, which can strongly influence decision-making among young people. Furthermore, these findings reflect broader developmental needs that young individuals experience during this formative stage of their lives, including the quest for identity and acceptance. Overall, the interplay of social dynamics and personal growth plays a crucial role in shaping the experiences of youths within these contexts.

3.1.6 Nexus on substance abuse, pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections

The perceptions of the connection between drug use, substance abuse, and the risk of contracting sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and unintended pregnancies emerged from the data analysis. The results revealed that a portion of the respondents acknowledged a significant link between drug use and the increased incidence of STIs and unplanned pregnancies among students. This indicates a growing awareness of how substance-related behaviours may contribute to risky sexual practices and poorer health outcomes within this demographic.

The participants had this to say to confirm these findings; "*Because when you are intoxicated it is hard to reason with what's wrong or right",* (respondent ID, male 5), "*Because the main cause of the above are trends and popular cultures that entice people to engage in sexual activities*" (respondent ID, male 6), "*Lack of self-control*" (respondent ID, female 3), "*They change a person's perception of reality and distort emotional management*" (respondent ID, female 4),

Impaired judgment due to substance abuse was noted as a contributing factor. The following were established;

"Because *people make decisions under the influence and because when you are influenced by drugs it's quite hard to make informed decisions"* (respondent ID, female 1), "*Drugs when abused distort the way of thinking in that manner no measure of protection is taken when engaging in these activities*" (respondent ID, female 2),

One of the respondents gave a divergent view and stated that "*Drugs and substance abuse are not the main cause of STIs and unwanted pregnancies, pregnancies are caused by unprotected sex which occurs regardless of drugs or substance*" (respondent ID, male 1).

The study unearthed pieces of advice from respondents to those intending to indulge in orgies, sex parties and pimping. Some of the advice was that:

"*Educate them about the risks and consequences like providing information on potential legal physical, emotional and social risks associated with these activities*" (respondent ID, male 1) "*To care for their lives more than they care for above interests"* (respondent ID, female 3), *"Have control even if as many people make an informed decision on drugs with self-control one can know when to stop."* (Respondent ID, male 4),

The findings indicated that students and young people needed better coping mechanisms for the different challenges and issues they encountered. The findings indicated that:

"For them to find better hobbies to keep them busy example; football, basketball" (respondent ID, male 2), "*I would advise them to engage in educational activities*" (respondent ID, female 2),

There was a need for students and young people to be mindful of the places they are found in. The study indicated that: "*Try by all means not to do it and avoid places like clubs and parties"* (respondent ID, female 4) and "Stay away from environments that encourage substance abuse" Respondent ID, female 6).

Several key factors contribute to the rising incidence of substance abuse, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases, as highlighted by the study findings. Impaired judgment often leads individuals to make risky decisions without fully considering the consequences. Additionally, many students harbour unrealistic perceptions of reality, which can further cloud their decision-making abilities. The influence of drugs can alter behaviour and judgment, creating a dangerous cycle of dependence and risky behaviours.

Moreover, challenges related to awareness, such as insufficient knowledge about sexual health and the risks associated with substance use, exacerbate the problem. Poor coping mechanisms in dealing with the stresses of student life also play a significant role; students may resort to substance use as a means of escape rather than developing healthy strategies. Finally, the environment in which students reside characterized by peer pressure, accessibility to substances, and a lack of supportive resources can further contribute to these troubling trends.

3.2 Factors contributing to substance abuse, orgies, parties and pimping,

3.2.1 Peer Pressure and Fitting in among peers

Every respondent unanimously acknowledged the prevalence and easy accessibility of drugs and illicit substances among the student population. This troubling trend of drug and substance abuse appears to be more widespread among students, influenced by a variety of personal factors and circumstances unique to each individual. The study established some of the reasons being" *peer pressure and group influence*" (respondent ID, female 2), "*Because students are easily influenced, a lot do not know how to deal with school pressure and stress, hence end up trying all sort of drugs*" (respondent ID, male 1), "*some students like experimenting and trying out till they hooked on something they have challenges stopping*" (respondent ID, female 4).

The idea of fitting in and not being left out of what is happening amongst the peers "*It is considered to be cool and trendy so students take part to be seen as a cool person"* (respondent ID, female 3)

The findings suggest that abusable substances are readily accessible to young people attending university. However, the underlying factors contributing to this situation are not easily identifiable; they appear to vary widely among individuals and their respective social circles. Each person's circumstances and the dynamics of their social groups play a significant role in shaping their experiences and interactions with these substances.

3.2.2 Stress and Student Life

Other findings showed that the issue of stress was a leading cause "*They feel substance abuse takes away the reality of stress"* (respondent ID, male 5) *"They are usually stressed and have no recreational activities"* (respondent ID, female 2)

The results of this study suggest that there is a critical need for an intervention aimed at aiding young individuals in developing effective strategies for managing their stress. Additionally, it emphasizes the importance of investing in programs and activities that empower them to make healthier choices,

steering them away from substance abuse. Such measures could play a significant role in promoting overall well-being among youth.

3.2.3 Lack of recreational facilities

The lack of recreational facilities is a factor contributing to young people engaging in "*They are inadequate recreational facilities for students, in turn, students resort to drugs and orgies as a second option apart from school"* (respondent ID, male 2).

The findings of the study revealed a significant correlation between the availability of recreational activities and the overall well-being of individuals. It was observed that a deficiency in such activities often leads individuals to engage in detrimental behaviours, including substance abuse and indulgence in orgies. This highlights the critical importance for educational institutions to prioritize and invest in social and recreational programs that foster a healthy and positive environment for their community. By promoting diverse recreational opportunities, these institutions can play a pivotal role in supporting the mental and physical health of their populations.

3.2.4 Perceptions on abuse of substances, orgies, sex parties and pimping

The study investigated students' perceptions regarding their lifestyle choices, particularly about substance abuse, participation in orgies, sex parties, and involvement in pimping. It aimed to uncover whether such behaviours were viewed as acceptable trends within the student community. Responses varied widely: some students firmly opposed these activities despite having prior exposure and experience, arguing that they do not reflect normal behaviour, while others suggested that such practices had become somewhat normalized among their peers, indicating a more permissive attitude towards these contentious activities. The following are the verbatim to support these findings;

Those that stated no indicated that:

"No", with reasons that "because *if found abusing certain drugs like cocaine you get arrested*" (respondent ID, male 6), "*No, because drugs and substance abuse can cause diseases such as liver cirrhosis, lung cancer which can shorten someone's life*" (participation ID, female 5).

Those that indicated yes:

"Yes, because even the government makes money off the substance abused (alcohol) so the higher the substance abused the higher the GDP about alcohol"(respondent ID, male 1), *"Yes, because*

some people make money out of selling and buying drugs"(respondents ID, male 4), "I have seen cultures where an 18-year-old can smoke a cigarette around his/her parents and they are considered old enough"(respondent ID, female 2)*, "because the laws on drug abuse or enforcement based on the law can deduce the idea that is accepted practice no one is enforcing the laws"* (respondent ID, female 5)

The contrasting viewpoints surrounding matters of substance use and sexual health highlight the pressing necessity for a comprehensive community-wide sensitization campaign. Such initiatives can help to raise awareness and provide accurate information, ultimately guiding young people towards making informed and healthy choices. By fostering open discussions and education on these critical issues, we can empower the youth to navigate their decisions with confidence and understanding.

3.3 Respondents efforts to lower the occurrences of Orgies, Sex Parties, Pimping and Substance Abuse

3.3.1 Institution efforts

The exploration looked at the ways that respondents felt institutions would help reduce the occurrence and involvement in substance abuse, parties, orgies and pimping on campus. the findings showed that institutions needed to invest in mental health promotion activities, clubs, associations recreational activities, and social activities and have friendly spaces for their community.

The findings were that the institutions of higher learning needed to encourage targeted mental health activities among students on campus; "*Mental health talks and counselling*" (respondent ID, female 4), "*more mental health talks, by providing more mental health personals*" (respondent ID male 6),

The other initiative that the findings revealed was the need for institutions of higher learning to: "*create pressure groups among youths to discuss the impact of such*" (respondent ID, male 1), "*Promote clubs, associations and sports groups*" (respondent ID, male 4), "*more and better recreational activities*" (respondent ID, male 5), "*training, bringing recreational activities and train more peer educators*" (respondent ID, female 3), "*introduce more sports and other extracurricular activities people do drugs because they are not occupied*" (respondent ID, female 1)

There was also the need for social activities to be promoted on campus that suit the different interests of students. The findings revealed that: "*The University can create social programs to better activities, bring in facilities where youths can express their concerns*" respondent ID, female 2),

Institution of venting spaces for student concerns that promote dialogue and mutual consensus. The findings indicated that: "*Introduce forums and platforms that allow students to air out their views and sensitize on the effects of drug abuse, should engage in other forms of activities apart from schools perhaps adding them to the school calendar to mark their importance*" respondent ID, female 5).

The research findings highlight the crucial role that institutions of higher learning play in curbing activities such as orgies, pimping, parties, and substance abuse. This evidence underscores the need for these institutions to critically re-assess their approach to mental health promotion. It suggests a comprehensive evaluation of the various programs they offer, including clubs, associations, recreational activities, and social events. Furthermore, there is a pressing need to create welcoming and supportive spaces within the community that foster positive social interactions and promote overall well-being.

3.3.2 Individual efforts

Participants expressed that on a personal level, they are willing to take action to diminish such activities on campus. They emphasized the importance of raising awareness and providing support to their peers, aiming to foster an environment where individuals feel encouraged to refrain from engaging in these behaviours. By sharing information and offering assistance, they believe they can create a more positive and mindful campus atmosphere. Some of the words from the participants that supported this ascension were;

"*leading them to Christ*"(respondent ID, male 1), "*Advising and helping them to discover hobbies that will keep them occupied*"(respondent ID, female 4), "*By availing to them the consequences of substance abuse*"(respondent ID, female 3) "*I would talk to them and show them a better lifestyle* "(respondent ID, female 6), "*By talking to them out of it and introducing them to something better*" (respondent ID, male 3),

At the individual level, there is a need to engage at peer to peer level. The findings established that: *"Talk to them through the effects of drug abuse and how it's just a temporal form of relief and it has more bad effects than good" (*respondent ID, male 6*)*

"I would encourage a supportive system by providing additional guidance and encouragement throughout my other friend's journey and making sure that they do not engage themselves in taking drugs and avoid substance abuse" (respondent ID, female 6)

"Offer them information about how they can address their drug problem" (respondent ID, female 1)

The findings indicate that both higher education institutions and individual students play a crucial role in fostering awareness and creating a supportive campus environment. This approach is essential for assisting those who may be grappling with issues related to peer pressure, particularly in areas such as engaging in sexual experimentation, exploitation through pimping, and substance abuse. The research highlights the potential for empowering students to take part in peer-to-peer support initiatives. Such programs can be specifically designed and tailored to address the unique needs of individuals who may feel underserved by existing institutional support systems. By enhancing these peer connections, students can foster a community of understanding and assistance that directly responds to their challenges.

4. Discussion of Findings

4.1 Respondents understanding of orgies, sex parties, pimping and substance abuse

The findings indicating that individuals were aware of their actions yet chose to engage in orgies, sex parties, pimping and substance abuse nonetheless suggest a complex position that could be understood in various ways. This situation underscores the necessity of implementing strategies that not only evaluate the level of knowledge these individuals possess but also examine how this knowledge impacts their decision-making processes. Additionally, it highlights the importance of developing effective methods to disseminate information and promote healthy lifestyles within the community. Similarly, Ngambi, Mpolomoka, Chikopela & Mushibwe (2023) study showed that counselling youths that were dependent on drug and alcohol helped them to change behavior. By exploring the interplay between knowledge and behaviour, we can better understand the motivations behind these choices and identify opportunities for fostering improved health practices. The following findings and discussion on understanding of pimping, orgies, substance abuse and experiences attest to this position.

4.1.1Understanding of pimping

The findings established an understanding of pimping from the perspectives of respondents. The general understanding seen is consistent with the literature from Busari (2018) where pimping involves someone finding clients for prostitutes in return they are given some money or form of revenue. There is some form of gain that is involved for the organizer. This shared understanding from the participants showed that they all had knowledge of pimping and what it involved raising questions as to what were the actual circumstances leading to engagement.

4.1.2 Understanding of Orgies

On orgies, the understanding from respondents revolved around what Krisch et al (2019) speak about sex-related parties and such places where respondents can engage do all sorts of sexual activities with guests. Otieno (2023) adds that this is a growing culture among university and college students getting involved in partying for pleasure, leisure and some form of socialization. One significant aspect that elicits concern is the inherent risks associated with this culture. The practice of participating in sexual activities with multiple partners, particularly when influenced by substances highlights a troubling trend. This behaviour raises alarm due to the heightened risks of contracting sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). The combination of substance use and multiple sexual encounters can cloud judgment and diminish the ability to engage in safe practices, further exacerbating health risks and potential long-term consequences for individuals involved. This shows the need for sensitization on the risks. This agrees with Sikanyika, Chikopela, Mushibwe, Kalizinje, Muvombo, Mayamba & Gondwe (2023) teaching comprehensive sexuality education to students promotes healthy sexual decisions.

4.1.3 Understanding of Substance Abuse

The prevailing understanding of substance abuse encompasses not only the harmful use and misuse of drugs and chemicals but also the excessive consumption that leads to various adverse consequences. According to Utan (2001), the issue of substance abuse is complex, and it is rarely a clear-cut matter; assumptions about the effects of substance use can vary significantly from one individual to another. Evidence from such literature can be used to agree with the findings and raise assumptions that substance use can lead to dire consequences, sometimes even resulting in fatal outcomes. In support of this finding, Chikopela, Ngambi, Mandyata, & Ndhlovu indicate that substance abuse contributes to rising cases of gender based violence among people. This complexity

becomes particularly concerning when considering the perspectives shared by participants of this study. While they demonstrated a solid awareness of what constitutes substance abuse and acknowledged its detrimental impacts, it is troubling to note that many still chose to engage in these harmful behaviours despite their knowledge. This contradiction raises important questions about the factors influencing their decisions and the pervasive nature that may lead to addiction. Student support systems and health promotes can use such findings to devise ways to address such matters in institutions of learning.

4.1.4 Respondents experience with orgies, sex parties or pimping

Findings revealed that the respondent's prior experience with an orgy, sex party or being involved in pimping at one time in their student's life indicated the following responses: 38% (n=5) were exposed but not participated in any, and 62%(n=7) had experienced pimping, orgies or sex party in their student life. Such results show that these activities were common among the respondents and it could be concluded similarly to Otieno (2023) that it was a developing culture among students in higher institutions of learning. Such findings are a source of concern as these parties involve the abuse of substances and also other health risks including contraction of infectious transmittable diseases including the risk of pregnancy.

Despite the findings pointing to respondents' subjective reasons for being engaged with pimping, orgies, sex parties and substance abuse that included a search for fun, others experiencing awkward aftermaths, bad experiences, and other patrons who did not maintain civil behaviour in the vicinity, students still engage in such activities. Programming can be made to raise awareness deliberately to address such trends in institutions.

4.1.5 Contributing factors to being involved in orgies, sex parties or pimping

The contributing factors to being engaged in substance abuse, orgies, pimping, and sex parties were that: some were driven by the desire for entertainment and exploring, others were tricked into as the invitations were for ordinary house parties, others were drawn with the desire not to be left out due to peer pressure, and others it was due to the roommates and friends that tagged them along. With activities reported by Bala et al (2021) some of the victims in the sex parties reported being drugged with substances that made them doze off and could not remember anything that happened. It is a source of concern as to the state of those who are involved especially those that are tricked by friends

and roommates to such places. Sensitizations could be done around such knowledge to reduce the occurrences, especially for unsuspecting individuals.

4.1.6 Nexus on substance abuse pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections

Respondents in the study shared their perspectives on drug use, sexually transmitted infections, and unintended pregnancy. The results indicated that some believed drugs contributed to these issues among students. The study identified various factors, including impaired decision-making, social influences, lack of self-control, and distorted perception and emotional management caused by drugs. Porta et al (2021) argued that universities have an opportunity to address these issues, but the responsibility for safe partying lies with students. However, one respondent disagreed, stating that drug use was not the cause of STIs or unintended pregnancy, but rather unprotected sex. This is cemented by Doku (2021) who states that substance abuse is a gateway to risky sexual behaviour.

The study also uncovered suggestions for reducing student engagement in these activities, such as raising awareness of potential risks, prioritizing personal well-being, and promoting self-control. It highlighted the need for better coping mechanisms and suggested activities like sports or educational pursuits to occupy students' time. These initiatives could help mitigate issues like substance abuse, trafficking, and sexual behaviour among students. Mwanza (2021) proposed a proactive student support service that takes a preventive approach rather than a reactive one to address student issues.

4.2 Factors contributing to substance abuse, Orgies, Parties and Pimping

4.2.1 Peer pressure

Respondents indicated that drugs and illicit substances were available and easily found among students. They attributed the availability to having a good market among student users of dugd that is due to peer pressure and group influence, scanty knowledge on how to deal with school pressure and seeing drugs as a way of relief. Mwale et al (2024) notes peer pressure to be a concerning issue to adjustment of students in university. This emphasis the need to promote activities that would help and empower students fight peer pressure on campus.

4.2.2 Stress and Student Life

This research has revealed that stress is a driving force behind substance abuse, with some individuals turning to substances as a means of escaping the pressures of reality. Lin et al. (2013) have emphasized the pivotal role academic burnout plays in poor academic performance. These

findings suggest that the student lifestyle can be riddled with stress, and without proper coping mechanisms, students may resort to unhealthy means of coping. Therefore, institutions of higher learning and student support services must provide students with activities that promote healthy stress-management techniques, to ensure their overall wellbeing.

4.2.3 Lack of recreational and social facilities

Insufficient access to recreational facilities has been identified as a contributing factor to youth involvement in substance abuse. Some respondents noted a lack of on-campus social and recreational options, indicating the potential for drugs and risky behaviours as alternative outlets. Deepika et al. (2020) highlight the importance of recreational activities in alleviating stress and promoting overall well-being. Similarly, Chitondo, Chikopela & Mwamba (2023) shows that lack of recreation activities contributed to teachers abusing alcohol and being unproductive at work thereby affecting the performance of the learners. It is imperative to prioritize deliberate efforts to increase recreational and social opportunities for students, with a focus on stress relief, improved performance, and reduced negative behaviours such as substance abuse and risky sexual activities.

4.2.4 Fitting in among peers

Belonging and being included in social activities is essential to many individuals. However, this research has found that some individuals engage in risky behaviours, such as substance abuse and sex parties, to fit in with their peers. Knapp et al. (2020) emphasize that the desire to belong is a critical concern for new college students, as they strive to establish connections with their peers and the university community. The need to fit in with friends is a significant priority for students. Unfortunately, if fitting in requires engaging in harmful behaviours, it can be challenging for both new and experienced students to resist.

4.2.5 Perceptions on Abuse of Substances, Orgies, Sex Parties and Pimping

The study examined how students perceive the use of drugs, sex parties, and pimping. The results indicated that some students found these activities unacceptable, while others considered them a societal norm. Reasons for these differing views included concerns about legal consequences, health risks, and the economic benefits of certain substances. Additionally, cultural values and attitudes towards drug use played a role in shaping these beliefs.

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4.3 Respondents Efforts to Lower the Occurrences of orgies, sex Parties, Pimping and Substance Abuse

4.3.1 Institution efforts

Overall, the exploration highlighted the importance of promoting mental health activities, providing more recreational and extracurricular options, and creating social programs that cater to diverse student interests. Additionally, providing venting spaces and promoting open dialogue can help reduce substance abuse and risky behaviours on campus. The ADF (2023) emphasized the need for institutions of learning to take a leading role in engaging students on alcohol and other drug education to help shape attitudes and behaviours. Similarly, Sondashi, Chikopela, Mandyata, Ndhlovu & Mpolomoka (2021) indicated that use of family counselling helped to curb drug abuse and domestic violence in the churches. This in turn can influence strategies to navigate risky situations and enhance healthier choices.

4.3.2 Individual efforts

Respondents indicated that they would make personal efforts to reduce such activities on campus, such as leading individuals to Christ, advising and assisting in discovering new hobbies, informing them of the consequences of substance abuse, showing them a better lifestyle, and introducing them to healthier alternatives. At the peer level, it is crucial to engage with others and offer support and guidance to avoid drug abuse. This can include discussing the negative effects of substance abuse, encouraging a supportive system among friends, and providing information on how to address drug problems. Khunwane et al., (2011) highlighted that mostly that group sex parties and substances were covertly organized among young people. To effectively intervene, the need to let students spearhead some of the interventions could be cardinal. Though attention and guidance should be provided

5. Conclusion

From the findings, it is clear that substance abuse, orgies, sex parties and pimping activities are happening among university students. The findings showed the risks involved that may be short and sometimes long-term. Some of these may affect the physical and mental health, may have legal implications, may affect academic progression and may impact the normal functioning of the community. Some findings revealed the need to have recreational and social facilities to help cope with student life and stress, the need for mental health support and venting spaces and other healthier

alternatives for students to reduce their involvement in orgies, sex parties, pimping and substance abuse. The study recommends a proactive approach in addressing matters of this nature by student support systems and health promotion to empower young people in making informed and healthy life choices.

Disclaimer

The opinions and results presented in this study belong solely on the study findings, researcher's interpretation and do not reflect those of their affiliated institutions.

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