

The Drug Plague

Taelor S. Jackson, Willie J. Thompson Jr., Ph.D.

Allen University, United States

Abstract

The war on drugs has always been prevalent in America. Stemming from the 1800s when certain drugs were regulated or banned, drugs have continued to show its destructive abilities in communities, our youth, families and the Criminal Justice System. The many diseases that emanate from drug use, especially if abused, essentially lead to crippling life decisions. From using to misusing and ultimately abusing, a victim may not be receiving the assistance they direly need to recover. Primarily, this injustice happens during the onboarding process of entering the jail/prison system. A plethora of jails and prisons in America do not possess an effective and functioning practice that aids in an inmate's recovering journey. Support systems lack, resources are scarce along with an undersupply of trained individuals. Though the foundation of incarceration is built on rehabilitation, such unavailability conclusively rids individuals of this “opportunity.” Now, there are different criteria that hinders this process from even taking place for certain individuals. Race is a big factor, not only in incarceration rates relating to drug offenses but recidivism. Regions including cities, neighborhoods and overall res publica compel a person's actions to conduct such offenses.

Keywords: Drugs, Rehabilitation, Criminal Justice System, Dynamics, Recidivism