

RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH PATTERNS OF DRUG AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE AMONG YOUTHS IN BO CITY, SIERRA LEONE

INTRODUCTION

Dear Respondent,

I am conducting a research study entitled **“Factors Associated with Patterns of Drug and Substance Abuse Among Youths in Bo City, Sierra Leone.”**

The purpose of this questionnaire is to collect information on the knowledge and awareness of drug abuse, substances used by youths, factors associated with drug and substance abuse, sources and accessibility of substances, and perceptions regarding drug-control laws and law enforcement.

Your participation is voluntary. You are not required to provide your name, and all information provided will be treated as confidential and used strictly for academic purposes. Please answer each question honestly by ticking (✓) the response that best represents your opinion or experience.

Thank you for your participation.

SECTION A: SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Instruction: Please tick (✓) one response for each question.

1. Gender

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Not disclosed / Prefer not to say

2. Age Group

- ☐ 12–15 years
- ☐ 16–19 years
- ☐ 20–23 years
- ☐ 24–27 years
- ☐ 28 years and above

3. Highest Educational Level Attained

- ☐ No formal education
- ☐ Primary education
- ☐ Secondary education
- ☐ Tertiary education
- ☐ Vocational/Technical education

4. Current Occupation/Employment Status

- ☐ Student
- ☐ Formally employed
- ☐ Unemployed
- ☐ Self-employed
- ☐ Other: _____

SECTION B: KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS OF DRUG ABUSE

5. How would you rate your overall knowledge of drug and substance abuse?

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low
- ☐ Very low

6. What is your primary source of information about drugs and substance abuse?

- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Media (TV/Radio/Newspaper)
- ☐ Family
- ☐ Internet
- ☐ Friends/Peers
- ☐ Healthcare workers
- ☐ School/Teachers

7. Drug and substance abuse is a serious societal problem.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

SECTION C: TYPES OF DRUGS AND SUBSTANCES USED

8. Which of the following substances have you ever used?

- ☐ Kush
- ☐ Marijuana/Cannabis
- ☐ Other unspecified substances
- ☐ Alcohol
- ☐ Tobacco
- ☐ Prescription drugs used for non-medical purposes

9. Which substance do you use or have you used most commonly?

- ☐ Kush
- ☐ Marijuana/Cannabis
- ☐ Multiple substances
- ☐ Alcohol
- ☐ Other substances
- ☐ Tobacco

SECTION D: FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR DRUG AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

10. What is the main reason for drug or substance use among youths?

- ☐ Peer pressure
- ☐ Escaping problems/Life difficulties
- ☐ Lack of recreational activities
- ☐ Stress and anxiety
- ☐ Curiosity
- ☐ Unemployment/Idleness
- ☐ Other reasons
- ☐ Family issues

11. Peer pressure contributes significantly to drug and substance abuse among youths.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

12. To what extent do family issues influence drug and substance abuse among youths?

- ☐ Very much
- ☐ Much
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Little
- ☐ Not at all

13. Does lack of recreational activities contribute to drug and substance abuse among youths?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

SECTION E: SOURCES AND AVAILABILITY OF DRUGS AND SUBSTANCES

14. What is the primary source from which drugs or substances are obtained by youths in your community?

- ☐ Local markets (open markets)
- ☐ Street vendors
- ☐ Drug dealers
- ☐ Friends/Peers
- ☐ Other sources
- ☐ Family members

15. How easy is it for youths to obtain drugs or substances in your community?

- ☐ Very easy
- ☐ Easy
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Difficult
- ☐ Very difficult

SECTION F: KNOWLEDGE OF DRUG LAWS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

16. Are you aware of laws against the sale and distribution of drugs?

☐

Yes

☐ No

17. Law enforcement is effective in controlling the sale and distribution of drugs in the community.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree