ASSESSMENT OF DRUG EDUCATION IN SERBIA

LEt's Talk about drugs – new MEthods of communication with youth – LET ME





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BACKGROUND



- Criminalization of drug possession
- Strategy on Prevention of Drug Abuse for the period from 2014–2021 and Action plan; Law on Psychoactive Controlled Substances
- Prevention and harm reduction drug demand reduction
- Healthy lifestyles "Play for Life, No Drugs"
- UNODC pilot program "Skills for Adolescence"
- Commission for the Fight against Drug Addiction in Schools formed in 2018 as a response to deaths of young people

"STAY CLEAN" CAMPAIGN 2019



QUANTITATIVE RESULTS



Drug education experience

- Schools and youth organizations
- Police involvement in drug education

Knowledge and attitudes

- Seeking information on Internet and through friends
- Illicit drug use prevalence among youth honest answers?
- Do young people in Serbia confuse psychoactive substances with psychedelic substances?

QUALITATIVE RESULTS



Available programs and services

- Harm reduction programs for injecting users
- Drug education = universal prevention
- Ignoring the existing patterns of drug use among youth
- The International Standards on Drug Use Prevention (UNODC and WHO) – testimonies of former drug users are ineffective?
- "Project society" the (un)sustainability of programs and services

QUALITATIVE RESULTS



Knowledge and attitudes

- The use of illegal psychoactive substances among young people as ubiquitous topic
- Cannabis, alcohol, stimulants, nightlife and subcultures
- Educative videos
- (In)Effective education
- Intimidation, condemnation, imposition, persuasion, evocation of feelings of shame vs.
- Experience, expertise, trust, non-judgmental way



