

## Addiction

Category : Social Issues

Published by [Shenouda](#) on 2007/10/11

### ADDICTION: A SPIRITUAL PERSPECTIVE

Â

#### Causes Of Drug Addiction

We are going to look at these causes not merely to identify them, but rather to try to overcome them with the help of God. We will keep in mind that these causes can affect all of us. However, not all people fall into drug addiction because of these factors. Some people are psychologically and socially vulnerable to it.

Â

#### The felling of emptiness

There is no doubt that some young people suffer from all sorts of emptiness. -> **Intellectual emptiness**, which is due to the instability of the spiritual as well as the social understanding in the youth's heart and mind. Perhaps this underlines the role of the church in undergirding this understanding. -> **Emotional emptiness** which occurs due to a lack of one's sense of belonging and loyalty to country, and loyalty to country, and the lack of the spirit of sacrifice for it. Loyalty to the family is similarly missing even though we owe it our love, because it has given us so much, A further symptom is disloyalty to the community, which represents a group of individuals among whom one lives and to whom one lives and to whom one belongs. -> **Physical emptiness** caused by a tendency to laziness, or isolation; not being involved in sports, social or recreational activities or any literary or artistic activities. These are the ways in which young people make use of their leisure time and during which they develop self-esteem. So they enjoy the outcome of their work and effort. The importance of the role of the church becomes clear: it has to fill the emptiness, whether it be intellectual, emotional or physical. Undoubtedly, young people who are united to Christ and the church have concepts. Values and means of spending their leisure time in a fruitful way. This allows them to avoid problems which those far from the church and Christ may complain of.

Â

#### Undermining of one's sense of values

This is one of the phenomena that have recently increased. The Devil tries to confront us with specific characters out of which he makes heroes and even gods, that people are likely to admire, In the meantime. The Devil tries with all his strength and by all sorts of pressures to crush these idols so that they collapse, causing their worshippers to collapse too. According, the youth reaches the conclusion that it is impossible to live in holiness, or behave honestly. Virtuously and honorably. The result is a state of practical disorder that leads to loss of devotion to principles and virtues, falling



When a youth is drawn into sin, it brings many troubles in its wake. In , most cases. The drug addict may not have enough money to buy the drug, so what can (s) he do? This person will restrain himself or herself once or twice. However, through drug addiction, (s) he has put himself or herself under the influence of a merciless master who will impose pressures beyond any imagination. What can young people then do to face these pressures? -> Will they be driven to robbery so as to provide the money needed to buy the costly drug? -> Will they be driven to lying, deception and crookedness to attain their goals? -> Will they be driven to all sorts of crimes in order to rid their bodies of the withdrawal symptoms: In addition, their behavior will be characterized by cowardice fear of punishment, or from being caught in using or possessing drugs. They may be haunted by the horrors of the gloomy future awaiting them. -> **Drug addiction leads to the feeling of defeat and loss** How aggravating it is for a person to feel defeated. How difficult it is for a person to feel that control of the senses. Of the physical energy, or even the body itself is lost. Indeed, it is very hard for a person to be a prey to the feeling of failure. We know that God has not given us a spirit of failure but one of power, love and self-control. For that very reason. An addict may feel that the hand of the Lord has forsaken him or her and that God has given him or her up to a base-mind, so, the feeling of loss arises, An addict especially has to face through his or her addiction, the feeling of almost complete inability to work, think, concentrate, or remember, there are also the physical disabilities of an enfeebled body and problems in sexual relations. We have to be confident that Christ is able to save us from such a hateful and fatal feeling and the loss of self-respect. -> **Drug addiction hinders a person's repentance.** What motivates a person to repent? Is it not the person's feeling of sin which has aroused the Lord's anger and his or her resolution to rise and return to God? But what if the person's will has been weakened and (s) he is obsessed by a feeling of defeat and loss? (s) he would have no other choice but to evade the issue of repentance. And postpone it. So it is difficult for an addict to lead the life of repentance for several reasons, including: -> The inability to face up to oneself and one's sins. -> A multiplicity of sins, the one leading to the other until the person is swamped with problems. -> A sense of defeat, loss of will-power and indifference. -> Getting involved in bad company and caught up in their sins. -> **Drug addiction deprives the person of both the kingdom of God and the crown.** This is where it all leads. After the addict has lost everything: selfhood, energy, health, senses, family, relatives, community and country, (s) he would have to face the greatest unparalleled loss, namely the loss of the Kingdom of God and eternal crown. What can there possibly be to gain, once one has given up oneself to destruction and ruin? Isn't the truth plain for all to see? We pray that Christ will have mercy on us and keep us from falling into bad company and becoming a prey to evil.