



## CHILDREN'S ALCOHOLISM AS A SOCIAL AND PEDAGOGICAL PROBLEM. DRUG ADDICTION AS A FORM OF DEVIANT BEHAVIOR

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**Abstract:** This article analyzes the widespread cases of alcoholism and drug addiction among children from a socio-pedagogical perspective. The author deeply studies the factors of drug addiction as a form of deviant behavior, the role of the social environment and educational gaps. The article proposes a solution to the roots of the problem based on theoretical and practical approaches. Proposals are put forward aimed at pedagogical monitoring, strengthening school-family cooperation, and developing social and emotional health in children.

**Keywords:** child alcoholism, drug addiction, deviant behavior, social pedagogy, upbringing, risk group, prevention, social environment, pedagogical monitoring.

The cases of alcoholism observed among children and adolescents are increasingly reaching the level of social danger. In such a situation, if educators, psychologists, parents and other representatives of society do not act together, this problem will take root and harm the health, consciousness and morality of an entire generation. Child alcoholism is not just a bad habit, but the result of deep socio-psychological problems. Considering this situation as a socio-pedagogical problem allows us to take a deeper approach to its scope, causes and solutions. First of all, the family environment in which the child lives has a



direct impact on the formation of alcoholism. In most cases, the child becomes prone to harmful habits due to the indifference, violence or lack of control of parents addicted to alcohol. In such families, children often grow up in a state of emotional orphanhood: they need love, attention, understanding, but since these needs are not met, they turn to alcohol or other psychoactive substances in order to □attract attention□ or □escape pain□. This is a kind of "response" to the internal difficulties that the child is developing , which, instead of solving the problem, deepens it. In addition, young people are also exposed to dangerous values that are being formed in the information field. In the media, TV series, and social networks, alcohol consumption is presented as a positive or attractive phenomenon. This situation leads to the formation of an incorrect, even positive attitude towards alcohol in the minds of children. In schools, educational work in this area is often formal and superficial, and psychological services are not sufficiently active, and they do not delve deeply into the inner world of children, which leads to their isolation.

Drug addiction in children is formed in a similar way to alcoholism, but this condition often leads to more severe psychological and physiological consequences. Drug addiction is a deep manifestation of deviant behavior. Deviant behavior is a set of actions that contradict the norms and standards accepted in society, and through drug use, the child isolates himself not only physically, but also morally and socially. Adolescents who are exposed to this situation usually choose this path under the influence of an internal crisis, psychological pressure, neglect or pressure from a group of friends. In many cases, adolescents see drugs or alcohol as an □alternative tool□ to fill internal voids. They want to escape from problems, forget about the irrationality of life, or feel stronger. It is here that the role of social educators becomes particularly important. A teacher should be a person who can work with a child individually, listen to his pain, and understand him without condemning him. This is not only the art of imparting knowledge, but also finding a way to the heart. Also, in order to prevent such problems, lectures and propaganda alone are not



enough. The system of psychological and pedagogical services at school should be fundamentally revised. An individual psycho-pedagogical map should be drawn up for each child, and his behavior, emotional state, circle of communication, and family situation should be studied in depth. On this basis, an appropriate approach will be formed for him.

One of the important strategies in education is to implement the □Positive environment - healthy generation□ model, that is, to keep the child busy with positive communication and activities. Based on this model, the goal is to develop the child's interests, organize clubs in the areas of art, sports, technology, and teach them creative thinking and healthy competition. When a child develops a sense of self-esteem, he will be able to protect himself from negative influences. In addition, through constant communication with social services, the neighborhood, and parents, the formation of a □holistic educational environment□ is achieved. This not only protects the child, but also helps him grow up as a strong person.

The healthy and harmonious growth of the younger generation is an important factor in the development of society. However, today the increasing incidence of alcoholism and drug addiction among children and adolescents poses a serious threat to this process. One of the priority tasks of social pedagogy is to analyze these situations not superficially, but in depth, to reveal their root causes, their connection with social and pedagogical factors.

Child alcoholism is a dangerous phenomenon not only for health, but also morally, psychologically and socially, and it is necessary to study it as a socio-pedagogical problem. This phenomenon is often associated with social indifference, family crises, lack of psychological support, poor school environment and increased information influence. In such conditions, children need an environment where they are understood, heard and valued. Unfortunately, when this need is not satisfied, they try to fill their inner void with alcohol or other psychoactive substances.



Drug addiction is a deeper and more dangerous form of deviant behavior, directly threatening the mental health, life motivation, and social position of young people. Drugs disrupt the consciousness, emotions, and social relationships of a teenager. This isolates him from society, leading to negative consequences such as delinquency, crime, and violence. Therefore, not only punitive, but also educational, explanatory, and preventive approaches are important in such cases.

Social pedagogical approaches are of paramount importance in preventing and eliminating this problem. Educators, psychologists, parents, the community and other social institutions must work together as a whole system. Creating a healthy, safe, positive environment for a child is not only the task of the school or family, but also the duty of the entire society. In particular, comprehensive monitoring of the child, analyzing his psychological state, family situation and social relationships, and developing a personal development roadmap are effective measures. In addition, by forming healthy interests and alternative activities in children, they can be distracted from negative directions. Through art, sports, technology, literature and social projects, children will have the opportunity to express themselves in a positive direction. Also, working individually with each child based on the principle of "listening adults", understanding them and listening to their pain should be the main principle of modern social pedagogy.

The popularity of alcoholism and drug addiction among the younger generation poses a direct threat not only to their personal lives, but also to the spiritual, moral and social development of society. It is wrong to assess these situations as simple habits or behaviors, their root causes are associated with deep psychological, social and pedagogical factors. Child alcoholism and drug addiction, as forms of deviant behavior, are the result of personality disorders, social instability and imbalance. Therefore, combating these problems is becoming the most urgent and urgent task of social pedagogy. The basis of this problem lies, first of all, in the disruption of child upbringing. The family, as the first social



institution, lays the foundation for the child's life position, values and decisions. However, in dysfunctional families, children grow up under neglect, carelessness, violence, psychological pressure. A child growing up in such conditions internalizes indifference towards himself and expresses it in the form of suspicion, discontent and rebellion towards the outside world. This rebellion is often manifested through harmful habits: alcohol, drugs, crime, aggression. From this point of view, every child needs to have a social pedagogue in his life - a guide, supporter and reliable person. He should not just control the child, but also feel him and not interfere in his life, but be a guide. Today's pedagogical approaches should not be limited to providing knowledge, but should be aimed at controlling the emotional and social state of the child, creating a solid psychological foundation for him. Among the factors leading to drug addiction among young people, one can list many factors, such as social inequality, unemployment, spiritual emptiness, shortcomings in the education system, negative influences in the virtual world. In particular, the promotion of such negative behaviors on social networks as "fashion", "freedom" or "a sign of modernity" poisons the minds of adolescents. This situation is evidence of the weakness of socio-pedagogical protection. In addition, the main elements of upbringing - parental care, the role of the school in imparting values, and the control mechanism of the neighborhood - should be reconsidered. The most effective tool in upbringing is not the use of force, but the formation of a child's consciousness through a positive environment. Each child grows up in a system open to social influence, and it is how this system works that determines their life path. Thus, while alcoholism and drug addiction in children are a social threat to society, they are also a moral and spiritual responsibility for every educator, parent, and responsible person. In solving these problems, only lectures and rule-based approaches are not enough. For this, it is necessary to recognize each child as an individual, work with his inner world, and form a strong system of socio-pedagogical cooperation. After all, a healthy, spiritually rich, and socially stable society can only be built through healthy children.



In conclusion, the fight against alcoholism and drug addiction among children is a complex issue that requires a comprehensive approach, which must be solved not only through propaganda, but also through social cooperation, in-depth psycho-pedagogical analysis and real actions. Every child is the foundation of the future, and the environment we create for him, our society will be shaped accordingly.

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