

PREDICTIVE IMPACT OF EGO-IDENTITY ON MKPURU MMIRI (METHAMPHETAMINE) USE AMONG YOUTHS IN OKPOKO, OGBARU LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, ANAMBRA STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT: *The study examined predictive impact of ego-identity on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among youths in Okpoko, Ogbaru L.G.A., Anambra State, Nigeria. Participants were 35 youths of 18-34 years, mean age 27.09 and SD 4.82, comprising 29(82.9%) males, and 6(17.1%) females. Instruments were Ego-Identity Scale, and Methamphetamine Use Balance Scale. Sampling was snowballing, design correlational, and statistics Multiple Linear Regression. The results revealed that trust ($\beta = -.87, t = -.55$) and identity ($\beta = -3.53, t = -2.26$) of ego-identity had negative predictive role on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use at ($F_{6, 28}$), $p < .01$. Autonomy ($\beta = 1.19, t = 2.18$), identity ($\beta = 2.01, t = 3.18$), and industry ($\beta = .46, t = 4.83$) of ego-identity predict mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use at ($F_{5, 29}$), $p < .01$. Recommendations were for agencies of indoctrination and identity formation to shape ego-identity in youths. With this, mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) among the youths will be reduced.*

KEYWORDS: Ego Identity, Mkpuru Mmiri (Methamphetamine), Use, Youths, Okpoko, Anambra State

INTRODUCTION

Currently, there is trend of substance use called methamphetamine which is mkpuru mmiri in Igbo parlance. The challenges of methamphetamine nicknamed by the youths as mkpuru mmiri is translates as seed of water. This crystal narcotic hallucinogen is capable of destroying a person mentally. Unfortunately, many youth users are seriously affected. They have become a burden to their families and communities (Ujumadu, 2021). Mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use for youths is illegal, extreme consumption results in an increased risk of serious negative sequelae such as accidents, unprotected sex, and interpersonal violence (Glasner-Edwards, Mooney, Marinelli-Casey, Hillhouse, & Ang, 2018; McKetin, Lubman, Najman, Dawe, Butterworth, & Baker, 2014).

Hence, mkpuru mmiri (Methamphetamine) is an illegal, highly addictive, synthetic central nervous system stimulant used for a variety of recreational (e.g., euphoria, enhanced sexual performance) and functional (e.g., increased alertness, productivity, vigilance, coping) purposes (Buxton & Dove, 2018; Fast, Kerr, Wood & Small, 2014). Since, the use of Mkpuru mmiri (Methamphetamine or Crystal meth) leads to

serious adverse health consequences, including widespread sleep deficiency and physical activity, phobias, decreased appetite, faster breathing, rapid and/or irregular heartbeat and increased blood pressure, poor body temperature and health (Marshall & Werb, 2014). Moreover, in general, efficacious medications for treating Mkpuru mmiri (Methamphetamine) abuse are not available (Brackins, Brahm, & Kissack, 2011; Norberg, Kezelman, & Lim-Howe, 2013; Sobieraj, Kim, Fannon & Mandyam, 2016).

However, there is awareness of mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use in Igboland. The most mentioned reasons for the growth of mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use in Igboland maybe its easy accessibility, curiosity about having new experiences, price of the substance, lack of awareness of its complications, and expectations of improved sexual performance (Ujumadu, 2021). Consequently, some young adults believe that mkpuru mmiri (Methamphetamine) use has more benefits than side effects. Due it is an extremely potent and addictive stimulant that affects the central nervous system and several other systems of the body (Khazaee-Pool, Jahangiry, Pashaei, Ramezani-badr, Nadrian, & Ponnet, 2018). This substance has a molecular

structure that is chemically comparable to Amphetamine, a medicine used to treat attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder, and narcolepsy, a sleep disorder. It resembles glass fragments or shiny, gleaming glass shards with bluish-white boulders.

However, methamphetamine or mkpuru mmiri is taken by smoking, swallowing the pill form, snorting or sniffing, or by injecting the powder that has been dissolved in water or alcohol. The “high” from the drug starts and fades quickly, people often take repeated doses in a “binge and crash” pattern. In some cases, people take methamphetamine as a “run,” giving up food and sleep while continuing to take the drug every few hours for up to several days. Methamphetamine affects the brain adversely. It increases the amount of a natural chemical called dopamine in the brain. Which is involved in body movement, motivation, and reinforcement of rewarding behaviours (Khazae-Pool, et al., 2018; Ujumadu, 2021). Moreover, mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) user can put themselves at risk of initiating, sustaining, and relapsing into drug use possibly due to ego identity issue (Walters, 2016; Avants et al., 2018; Lindgren et al., 2016b). Since, youths who use different types of mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) may differ in their levels of ego-identification (Avants et al., 2018).

Ego-identity as the manner in which an individual "maintains himself as a coherent personality with a sameness and continuity both in his self-experience and in his actuality for others" (Erikson, 1968). That is to say that identity is believed to be related to commitment, occupational choice, personal ideology, aspirations (goal setting), social perceptions, mental health and values. Youths make commitments, choose an occupation, express values and emotions in terms of identity. Ego identity depends on a necessary turning point when development moves one way or another, marshalling resources of growth, recovery and further differentiation (Erikson, 1968). Ego identity alters according to one's dealing with crises. Moving from one stage necessitates a crisis period in which the individual internalizes a different perceptual field: Each successive step, then, is a potential crisis because of a radical change in perspective. Crisis is used here in a developmental sense to connote not a threat of catastrophe, but a turning point, a crucial period

of increased vulnerability and heightened potential, and therefore, the ontogenic source of generational strength and maladjustment (Erikson, 1968, p. 96).

Evidently, ego-identity has demonstrated significant associations with many potentially impactful youth behaviors. Example, youth with clear ego identity are less likely to mkpuru mmiri (Methamphetamine) and other harmful substances, and more likely to engage in certain patterns of effective familial communication (Cooper, Grotevant, & Condon, 2018; Grotevant & Cooper, 2015; Jones, Hartmann, Grochowski, & Glider, 2019; Youniss, Mclellan, Su, & Yates, 2019). For ego identity helps the youth to obtain independence from parents while maintaining positive relations with them and this also enable them to exhibit prosocial personality traits, engage in community service and develop successful careers without problem that will warrant use of mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) (Adams & Jones, 2018; Furrow, King, & White, 2014; Lucas, 2017; Youniss et al., 2019).

Statement of the Problem

Mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) also known under the street names of “speed”, “ice”, “crystal”, “glass” “meth” or “kryptonite” is a serious worldwide public health problem associated with major medical, psychiatric, cognitive, socioeconomic and legal consequences among Igbo youth today. For physiological dependence associated withdrawal-related symptoms and craving are thought to reinforce by continued drug-taking, and self-administration Likewise, this substance, accelerates heart rate, raises blood pressure and temperature, and pupil dilatation (Karila, Petit, Cottencin, & Reynaud, 2016). Since, acute usage increases positive subjective effects and mood. It removes tiredness and brings a feeling of power, euphoria and self-control (Harris, Boxenbaum, Everhart, Sequeira, & Mendelson, 2018; Karila et al., 2016). However, the subjective and cardiovascular effects appear to increase depending on the dose (Harris et al., 2018). Due to mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) in-take creates substantial burden of psychopathology, which includes elevated rates of psychosis, mood and anxiety disorders, violent behaviours and cognitive deficits. Other challenges include hyperthermia, shivering, dyspnea, chest pain, renal failure, and coma (Karila et al., 2016).

Based on these listed problems above like feeling of power, pupil dilatation etc., this study attempted to examine the predictive impact of ego identity on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State. Since there are limited studies in this area in Anambra State. Studies conducted fails to link the studies variables (ego identity, and mkpuru mmiri use). Hence, this study tried to bridge the lacuna in literatures in this area in South-eastern, Nigeria.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study is to know how ego identity will predict mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State. With the following specific objectives:

1. To identify how trust of ego identity will predict mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State.
2. To ascertain how autonomy of ego identity will predict mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State.
3. To examine how initiative of ego identity will predict mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State.
4. To investigate how identity of ego identity will predict mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State.
5. To explore how industry of ego identity will predict mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State.

Research Questions

The following questions guided the study:

1. What is the predictive impact of trust of ego identity on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State?
2. What is the predictive impact of autonomy of ego identity on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State?

3. What is the predictive impact of initiative of ego identity on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State?
4. What is the predictive impact of identity of ego identity on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State?
5. What is the predictive impact of industry of ego identity on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State?

Significance of the Study

1. This study will help the youth to understand the dynamic of mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) and its connection with ego identity.
2. The outcome of the study will make clinician to know what to do to the use of mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) among youth. This will help save the youths that already involved and those that anticipating to use it.
3. This study will help the populace in understanding dangers associated with use of mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) among youths (e.g., sexual risk behavior, criminality, violence etc.)

Operational Definition of study Terms

Ego Identity: This involves the experiences, relationships, beliefs, values, and memories that make up a person's subjective sense of self as measured with Ego Identity Scale by Rasmussen (1964).

Mkpuru Mmiri (Methamphetamine) Use: This is indirectly use of stimulant drug that primarily increases the actions of dopamine, noradrenaline and serotonin in the central nervous system and the actions of noradrenaline in the peripheral sympathetic nervous system as measured with Methamphetamine Use Scale by Khazaei-Pool, Jahangiry, Pashaei, Ramezani-badr, Nadrian, and Ponnet (2018).

LITERATURE REVIEW

Theoretical Framework

Social Control Theory: Social cognitive theory constitutes the most contemporary version of social learning theory. The theory

was formulated by Bandura (1977, 1986) who sensed that, while the theory of social learning is more effective compared to previous theories of human behaviour analysis and provides more efficient methods of behavioural modification, it was confined only to studying environmental influences, ignoring the fact that individuals may also influence their environment. Thus, the notion of cognitive processing was also included in social cognitive theory (Kaplan, Sallis, & Patterson, 1993). According to this, the individual, his/her environment and behaviour interact at the same time, affecting all aspects of their reality. Behaviour is not only the result of the reaction to environmental stimuli but individuals are viewed as capable of thinking and forming an opinion in any circumstance, reflecting on the possible consequences of certain behaviours and then deciding on the best action (McMurrin, 1997).

It is possible that someone may find out, for example, that Methamphetamine use leads to relaxation by observing the positive effects that occur when their parents consume alcohol after a strenuous day at work. The theory of social cognitive learning is applied in the field of methamphetamine use (Mkpuru mmiri), claiming that people presume positive expectancies and attitudes towards methamphetamine use through the process of observing or imitating positive statements or attitudes of their models. Based on Bandura's model, it is clearly indicated that strong ability to refrain from methamphetamine use (which is part of one's ego identity), for example not to be involved in methamphetamine use when others use it or when they are under frustration, is related to a higher possibility of achieving and maintaining this refraining from use (Bandura, 1999).

A person with a high sense of ego identity (for example as regards to quitting methamphetamine use), is expected to be able to refuse methamphetamine (mkpuru mmiri) offer from friends. In addition, they may lengthen the effort not to be involved in methamphetamine (mkpuru mmiri) even if they relapse and use a methamphetamine (mkpuru mmiri) at some occasion. In contrast, a person with ego identity crisis efficacy may exhibit low resistance when he/she is faced with tempting methamphetamine (mkpuru mmiri) offers and possibly return shortly to the previous use of methamphetamine (mkpuru

mmiri) probably due to frustration (Sanderson, 2004)

Empirical Review

Ego Identity: de Moor, Sijtsema, Weller and Klimstra (2022) examined the longitudinal associations of educational and relational identity with substance use across three annual waves in 360 Dutch adolescents ($M_{age} = 13.7$ years). de Moor *et al.*, (2022) found three latent profiles using the identity dimensions of commitment, exploration, and reconsideration as indicators. Using classification probabilities to determine participants' clusters at each time point, de Moor *et al.*, (2022) distinguished stable, progressive, and regressive identity transition groups. No longitudinal associations were found between identity status transitions and substance use in either direction, but de Moor *et al.*, (2022) did find significant cross-sectional correlations.

Chen, Zhang, Zhou, Li, Zhang and Shen (2021) investigated implicit and explicit self-identification as a "drug user" and their associations with drug-use behaviors and abstinence in people who used heroin (PWUH) and people who used methamphetamine (PWUM). Forty PWUH and 35 PWUM in a rehabilitation facility completed the single category implicit association test (SC-IAT), which evaluated implicit associations of a "drug user" with "self," and a measure of explicit self-identification as a "drug user." PWUH demonstrated stronger implicit "self + drug user" associations and higher levels of explicit self-identification as a "drug user" than PWUM. A higher frequency of drug use was associated with higher levels of explicit drug-user self-identity, and longer abstinence duration was positively related to stronger implicit "self + drug user" associations in PWUH. The drug type of heroin (vs. methamphetamine) participants used was associated with a higher frequency of use, which, in turn, predicted higher levels of explicit drug-user self-identity.

Brousseau *et al.*, (2020) tested self-perceptions and benefit finding among adolescents with substance use disorders and their caregivers. A Qualitative Analysis Guided by social identity theory of cessation maintenance. Nineteen young people receiving SUD treatment and 15 caregivers were interviewed about treatment experiences

including negative self-perceptions, positive self-perceptions, and benefit finding. Results support the SITCM: Adolescents described escaping negative self-perceptions associated with the “substance use self” identity and strengthening a new “recovery self” identity characterized by positive self-perceptions and benefit finding.

Mkpuru Mmiri (methamphetamine) Use: Miguel, Smith, Burduli, Roll and McPherson (2021) evaluated the association between different methamphetamine use outcomes and long-term life-functioning. The data that this study used in its secondary analyses were pooled from two treatment trials for MA use disorders ($n = 237$). The study conducted multiple regression analyses (with multiple imputation for missing data) to determine the association of six within-treatment MA use outcome measures with problem severity in seven life domains and a proxy measure for overall functioning, measured with the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) and assessed at an 8-month follow-up. Results indicated that the longest duration of abstinence (LDA) outcome achieved the most consistent performance, being associated with better scores in five of eight ASI outcomes (β ranging from -0.203 to -0.291; $p < .01$). The complete abstinence during treatment demonstrated the poorest performance and was not significantly associated with any of the ASI outcomes. All other MA use outcome measures were significantly ($p < .01$) associated with at least one ASI outcome.

Papamihali et al., (2021) examined crystal methamphetamine use in British Columbia, Canada: A cross-sectional study of people who access harm reduction services. Survey data were collected from 1,107 participants across 25 communities in BC, through the 2018 and 2019 Harm Reduction Client Survey. We described reported substance use and used a multivariate logistic regression model to characterize crystal meth use. Urine samples provided by a subset of participants were used to derive validity of self-reported three-day crystal meth use compared to urine toxicology screening. Results showed that excluding tobacco, crystal meth was the most frequently reported substance used in the past three days in 2018 and 2019 (59.7% and 71.7%, respectively). Smoking was the dominant route of administration for crystal

meth, crack, heroin, and fentanyl. Multivariate analysis determined significantly higher odds of crystal meth use among those who used opioids (Adjusted Odds Ratio [AOR] = 3.13), cannabis (AOR = 2.10), and alcohol (1.41), and among those who were not regularly housed (AOR = 2.08) and unemployed (AOR = 1.75). Age ≥ 50 was inversely associated with crystal meth use (AOR = 0.63). Sensitivity of self-reported crystal meth use was 86%, specificity was 86%, positive predictive value was 96%, and negative predictive value was 65%.

Hypotheses

1. Trust of ego identity will significantly predict mkpuru mmiri (Methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State, Nigeria.
2. Autonomy of ego identity will significantly predict mkpuru mmiri (Methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State.
3. Initiative of ego identity will significantly predict mkpuru mmiri (Methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State.
4. Identity of ego identity will significantly predict mkpuru mmiri (Methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State.
5. Industry of ego identity will significantly predict mkpuru mmiri (Methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State.

METHOD

Participants: The participants for this study were 35 youths within the ages of 18 to 34 years with mean age of 27.09 and standard deviation of 4.82. These participants were drawn from Okpoko, Ogbaru L.G.A., Anambra State, using snowballing sampling technique. The sampling method was used because these participants are difficult to contact and eliciting information from them is also difficult and the only way to get to them is through referrer. In this study, 29(82.9%) were male, and 6(17.1%) were female. Considering their educational status 17(48.6%) finished SSCE, 6(17.1%) drop out of SSCE, 5(14.3%) finished primary school, 5(14.3%) drop out of primary school, and 2(5.7%) drop out of university.

Instrument: Two instruments were employed for this study: Ego Identity Scale, and Methamphetamine Use Balance Scale. **Ego Identity Scale by Ramussen (1964)** contained

30 items designed to measure conflict experience at each developmental stage (Trust, autonomy, initiative, industry, and identity). The scale response format is dichotomy: Agree=1, Disagree=2. The scale has internal consistencies and Cronbach alphas as follows: 0.74 for the total scale, 0.43 for trust, 0.47 for autonomy, 0.43 for initiative, 0.52 for industry, and 0.36 identity. And re-test internal consistencies of 0.82 for the total scale, 0.52 for trust, 0.55 for autonomy, 0.46 for initiative, 0.46 for industry, and 0.46 identity. The researchers conducted a pilot test using the participants of the main study and Cronbach alpha was reported as follows: Ego identity total scores=0.81; subscales: Trust=0.76, autonomy=0.67, initiative=0.77, identity=0.90, and Identity=0.86.

Methamphetamine Use Balance Scale by Khazae-Pool, Jahangiry, Pashaei, Ramezani-badr, Nadrian, and Ponnet (2018) contained 21 items designed to measure four factors were found: Self cons, coping pros, social pros and other cons). Each item is answered on a 5-point scale: 1 = not important at all, 2= slightly important, 3= moderately important, 4 = very important, 5= extremely important. In order to measure reliability, Cronbach's alpha was calculated separately for the METH-DBS as a whole and for each dimension of the METH-DBS. Cronbach's alpha coefficient for the METH-DBS was .933 and ranged from .736 to .871 for its subscales, which is well above the acceptable threshold. Consequently, no items of the questionnaire were deleted in this phase. In addition, test-retest analysis was conducted to test the stability of the instrument. The results indicated satisfactory reliability. The ICC was .957 for the METH-DBS and ranged from .832 to .907 for its subscales, lending support for the stability of the questionnaire. The researcher conducted a pilot test using the participants of the main study and Cronbach alpha was reported as follows: Methamphetamine Use

Balance total score 0.73; subscales: Self Cons=0.74, coping pros=0.86, social pros =0.86, others cons =0.85.

Procedure: The researchers approached the youths living at Okpoko, Ogbaru Local Government Area of Anambra State. And recruit three research assistants that are familiar with the people living around Okpoko. With the research assistants helps the researchers was able to obtained permission of the participants that participated in the study. This was achieved because before embark on the study properly the researchers trained the assistants on the rudiments and target of the study. After the train, the researchers and the assistants, then approached the participants, builds rapport and explained the objectives of the study. Participants who were willing to participate were given the questionnaires to complete. At the course of the study, 40 questionnaires were distributed, 35 were properly answered and it was subjected to data analysis.

The researchers adopted the following ethics: Informed consent - the researchers asked for the consent of the respondents before embarking on the research and the researchers makes sure the participants signed informed consent; Confidentiality - he researchers assured the respondents that the result of the study will remain confidential and private; Openness - the researchers told the participants the nature of the research and essence of the study.

Design and Statistics: Correlation design was used for the study. It was used to find the relationship between ego identity, and mkpuru mmiri (Methamphetamine) use. Statistically, Multiple Linear Regression was used. According to Coolican (2011), Multiple Linear regression model is the appropriate statistics for testing predictions, influences and impacts in variables or constructs that are in dimensions or domains.

RESULT

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics of Ego-Identity on Mkpuru Mmiri (methamphetamine) Use

Variables	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Mkpuru Mmiri	30.60	2.53	35
Trust	7.54	.98	35
Autonomy	7.37	1.09	35
Initiative	7.77	1.11	35
Identity	7.46	1.17	35
Industry	7.43	1.01	35

From the table 1 above, trust subscale of ego identity has mean score of 7.54 and standard deviation of .98. autonomy subscale of ego identity has mean score of 7.37 and standard deviation of 1.09. initiative subscale of ego identity has mean score of 7.77 and

standard deviation of 1.11. identity subscale of ego identity has mean score of 7.46 and standard deviation of 1.17. industry subscale of ego identity has mean score of 7.43 and standard deviation of 1.01.

Table 2: Zero Order Matrix Correlational Co-efficient of Ego-identity on Mkpuru Mmiri (Methamphetamine) Use

Variables	1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Mkpuru Mmiri	1.00					
2. Trust	.39**	1.00				
3. Autonomy	-.20	-.44	1.00			
4. Initiative	-.48*	-.45	.27	1.00		
5. Identity	-.66*	-.40	.53**	.65**	1.00	
6. Industry	-.60*	.14	.36**	.30**	.63**	1.00

Results from table 2 showed that trust subscale of ego identity showed significant relationship with mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use at $r(N=35) = .39^{**}$, $p < .01$. Autonomy subscale of ego identity showed had no relationship with mkpuru mmiri use at $r(N=35) = -.20$, $p > .01$. Initiative subscale of ego identity had negative

relationship with mkpuru mmiri use at $r(N=35) = -.48^{**}$, $p < .01$. However, identity subscale of ego identity had negative relationship with mkpuru mmiri use at $r(N=35) = -.66^{**}$, $p < .01$. While industry subscale of ego identity had negative relationship with mkpuru mmiri use at $r(N=35) = -.60^{**}$, $p < .01$.

Table 3: Multiple Linear Regressions of Ego-identity on Mkpuru Mmiri (Methamphetamine) Use

Sources	R	R ²	Adj. R.	Std. E.E.	F	df	β	t	Sig.
Constant	.840 ^a	.705	.654	1.49	13.85	5			
Trust							.61	4.07	.000
Autonomy							.44	3.29	.003
Initiative							.03	.22	.826
Identity							-.22	-1.16	.256
Industry							-.71	-4.44	.000

Model 1: Results from table 3, showed that ego identity dimensions (trust, autonomy, initiative, identity, and industry) accounted for 84.0% of the mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use, with $R = .840$, $R^2 = .705$, adjusted $R^2 = .654$, ($F_{5, 29} = 13.85$, $p < .01$). This shows that the overall model 1 make significant contribution to mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among youths in Okpoko, Ogbaru L.G.A. Anambra State. Trust ($\beta = .61$, $t = 4.07$) and autonomy ($\beta = .44$, $t = 3.29$) of ego identity predicted mkpuru mmiri ((methamphetamine) use at ($F_{5, 29}$), $p < .01$. Initiative ($\beta = .03$, $t = .22$) and identity ($\beta = -.22$, $t = -1.16$) of ego identity did not predict mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use at ($F_{5, 29}$), $p < .01$. Industry of ego identity had negative prediction on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use at ($F_{5, 29}$) $\beta = -.77$, $t = -4.44$, $p < .01$.

3. Industry of ego identity had negative prediction on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use.

DISCUSSION

This study confirmed that ego identity significantly predicted mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among Okpoko youths in Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State, partly. Due to Trust and autonomy of ego identity predicted mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use, while initiative and identity of ego identity did not predict mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use, and industry of ego identity had negative prediction on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use. That shows that as trust, and autonomy of ego identity increase mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use increases. However, as industry of ego identity decrease mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use increases. This affirmed Chen et al., (2021) observation that stronger implicit methamphetamine use is associated with high levels of explicit identity as a methamphetamine user. For frequency of methamphetamine use was associated with ego-identity, and longer abstinence duration was

Summary of the Findings

1. Trust and autonomy of ego identity predicted mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use.
2. Initiative and identity of ego identity did not predict mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use.

positively related to stronger implicit self-identity and methamphetamine user. Youths escaping negative identity were associated with the “methamphetamine use perhaps due to ego” identity and strengthening a new “recovery ego” identity characterized by positive ego-perceptions and identity (Brousseau *et al.*, 2020).

This could be that youths’ strong ability to use to methamphetamine use is part of one’s ego identity. Example youths may involve in methamphetamine use when others use it or when they are under certain environment or conditions. Possibly due to trust, autonomy and industry issues that maybe linked with inconsistent, emotionally unavailable, or rejecting that contribute to feelings of mistrust in the youths. For failure to develop trust result in fear, inferiority complex, and feelings of shame and doubt. This could have made the youths with trust, autonomy and industry issues to engage in mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use. Hence, Bandura's (1986) stated that the youths’ environment and behaviour interact at the same time (ego identity and mkpuru mmiri use), affecting all aspects of their reality. Behaviour is not only the result of the reaction to environmental stimuli but youths are viewed as capable of thinking and forming an opinion in any circumstance, reflecting on the possible consequences of certain behaviours and then deciding on the best action (McMurrin, 1997).

Implications of the Study

1. These study findings will help clinician (Psychologists) to map out intervention and treatment plans for users of mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine). Since, the study indicated that trust, autonomy and industry of ego identity influences youths’ use of mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine).
2. Youths through this study outcome will understand the consequences of mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use and its impacts on their ego-identity. For many of these youths tends to be product poor training.
3. Theoretically, this study enhanced reviewed theoretical framework that anchored the study variables. According to the theory (social control), the individual, his/her environment and behaviour interact at the same time, affecting all aspects of their reality. The reaction to environmental

stimuli are viewed as capable of thinking and forming an opinion in any circumstance, reflecting on the possible consequences of certain behaviours and then deciding on the best action (Bandura, 1986; McMurrin, 1997).

Conclusion

Mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among youths in Igboland has chronic and frequent disorder that threatens public health and society’s well-being. Based on this concern, this study explored predictive impact of ego identity and frustration on Mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among youths. Consequently, it was observed that trust and autonomy of ego identity frustration predicted mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use, while industry of ego identity had negative prediction on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use. And initiative and identity of ego identity did not predict mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are made:

1. Campaign should be made against the use of mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) both in rural and urban area. This is to help enlightened youths about menace usually orchestrated by mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use.
2. Clinicians should engage youths with seminar/workshop that involve teaching on ego-identity in connection to mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use. This will make the youths understand the power their ego identity wielded on their mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use.
3. Youths that are involved on the use of mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) should seek for help, this will help them change their irrational behavior to rational behavior.
4. Parents and religious leaders should help in building proper ego identity in their youths, since family and churches tends to be the first point of call for indoctrination and identity formation. With this, mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) among the youths will be reduced.

Limitations of the Study

A number of difficulties were encountered in the process of collecting data for this research work. Foremost among these problems were the obstacles encountered while

collecting the data from the participants. It took quite some time convincing them about the purpose which was only to get their responses to the scales' items. Another major limitation of this work is that it was restricted to Youths in Okpoko, Ogbaru Local Government Area only.

Suggestions for Further Studies

It is suggested that future studies on mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among youths should compare other predictions in order to ascertain other variables. This will enable new grounds to be broken in understanding mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use and it should be noted that factors investigated in this study do not account for all the factors predicting mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use among the youths. Hence, another study is still needed to fully explain the connection between mkpuru mmiri (methamphetamine) use and other psychological variable among youths.

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APPENDIX 1

Ego Identity Scale

Instructions: ‘Listed below are a number of common thoughts and beliefs about yourself. Please read each statement and decide how well this usually describes your beliefs. Circle the number that best indicates the strength of this belief’. With the following anchors: (1) Agree, (2) Disagree.

S/N	Items	1	2
	Trust		
1	The best part of my life is still ahead of me		
2	When I think about my future, I feel I have missed my best chances for making good		
3	I can't stand to wait for things I really want		
4	In general, people can be trusted		
5	I feel I have missed my opportunity to really be a success in life		

6	I lose interest in things if I have to wait too long to get them		
	Autonomy		
7	I have a fear of being asked questions in social gathering because of what other people will think if I don't know the answer		
8	It doesn't pay to worry much about decisions you have already made		
9	At my age a person must make his own decisions, even though his parents might not agree with the things he does		
10	It doesn't bother me when my friends find out that I can't do certain things as well as other people		
11	As a rule, I don't regret the decisions I make		
12	It is better to say nothing in public than to take a chance on other people hearing you make a mistake		
	Initiative		
13	It is best not to let other people know too much about your family background if you can keep from it		
14	I never enjoyed taking part in clubs or government activities		
15	I am proud of my family background		
16	During the past few years I have taken little or no part in clubs, organized group activities, or sports		
17	A person who haven't been a member of a well-organized group or club at some time in his life has a lot		
18	I am always busy but it seems that I am usually spinning my wheels and never seem to get anywhere		
	Identity		
19	I would get along better in life if I were better looking		
20	Even when I do a good job in my work, other people don't seem to realize it or give me credit		
21	I have found that people I work with frequently don't appreciate or seem to understand my abilities		
22	I feel pretty sure that I know what I want to do in the future and I have some definite goals		
23	No one seems to understand me		
24	I really don't have any definite goals or plans for the future		
	Industry		
25	Working is nothing more than a necessary evil that a person must put up with to eat		
26	When I have to work, I usually get pretty bored no matter what the job is		
27	It's not hard to keep your mind on one thing if you really have to		
28	Even though I try, it is usually pretty hard for me to keep my mind on a task or job		
29	I like to tackle a tough job as it gives me a lot of satisfaction to finish it		
30	A person can't be happy in a job where he is always competing against others		

Developed by Rasmuseen, J. (1964).

Methamphetamine Use Balance Scale

Instructions: Please read each statement and decide how well this concern you. Circle each with the following anchors: (1) Agree, (2) Neutral, (3) Disagree.

S/N	Items	1	2	3
	Self-Cons			
1	It's illegal, and I will have to worry about getting arrested.			
2	It could have unpleasant psychological effects (e.g., paranoia, hallucinations, memory loss, mood disturbances).			
3	It might be harmful to my body (e.g., brain, liver, heart).			
4	It could intensify as a "gateway drug," leading to another hazardous drug use.			
5	It conflicts with my functioning at home and/or at work.			
6	It damages my judgment, which may threaten me or others.			
7	It makes me feel out of control.			
	Other Cons			
8	It causes family members and/or coworkers to not respect me.			
9	It's not approved of by the persons who are significant to me.			
10	It causes some persons close to me to become disappointed in me due to my daily use.			
11	It causes me to accidentally hurt others due to my daily use.			
	Social Pros			
12	It will provide chances for social activities (e.g., meeting new friends, grouping, spending time with others).			
13	It's an escape from truth and daily life.			
14	Using methamphetamine will make others understand me more positively (e.g., calm, fun, friendly).			
15	Using methamphetamine would make others respect me more.			
	Coping Pros			
16	It will relieve tension, worry, fear, or anxiety.			
17	It is something entertaining and breathtaking to do, especially if I'm tired.			
18	It could make me more relaxed or provide comfortable sleep.			
19	It will increase and improve my sex life.			
20	It will help me to center myself and be more creative.			
21	It helps me to cope better with disappointment.			

Developed by Khazace-Pool, M., Jahangiry, L., Pashaei, T., Ramezani-badr, F., Nadrian, H., and Ponnet, K. (2018).