

Violence due to drugs

DR ANNA MARIA VELLA MD PHD
CLINICAL CHAIR: SEDQA



SUD

- Substance use disorders (SUDs), is a medical condition defined by the uncontrollable use of drugs and/or alcohol despite the negative consequences. There is an association with a range of adverse outcomes, including suicide, premature death, comorbid mental illness, and ***violence***.
- Research indicates that up to 75% of individuals who begin treatment for SUD report having engaged in physical assault, mugging, using a weapon to attack another person, and other violent crimes.

Drug-related violence statistics include the following:

- In 2016, alcohol caused approximately 90,000 domestic violence deaths worldwide.
- Alcohol or drug use is involved in 40-60% of domestic abuse situations.
- More than half of individuals who abuse their elder parents (age 60 or older) are dependent on alcohol or drugs.
- Each year, about 300,000 victims of violent assaults report that their attackers were under the influence of alcohol.
- Alcohol plays a role in 32% of all murders in the United States.
- Chronic substance users have a greater risk of dying by suicide.

(WHO 2018 [Global Status Report on Alcohol and Health 2018](#).)

Easton, Caroline J., Ph.D. (January 1, 2006). [The Role of Substance Abuse in Intimate Partner Violence](#). *Psychiatric Times*, 25(1).)

Research into the drugs-violence relationship has shown that:

- The effects of some drugs, including crack/cocaine, amphetamines and benzodiazepines have been found to increase aggressive and violent behaviour. Whilst cannabis and heroin use can reduce the likelihood of violence during intoxication, some studies suggest that withdrawal from long-term use is associated with aggression.
- Individual beliefs and expectations of the effects of drugs (e.g. increased confidence and aggression) mean that some drugs are used in preparation for involvement in violent behaviour.
- Drugs and violence may be linked as those involved in one form of deviance such as drug use may be more likely to engage in other deviant behaviours such as violence.

Situation at
present in
Malta

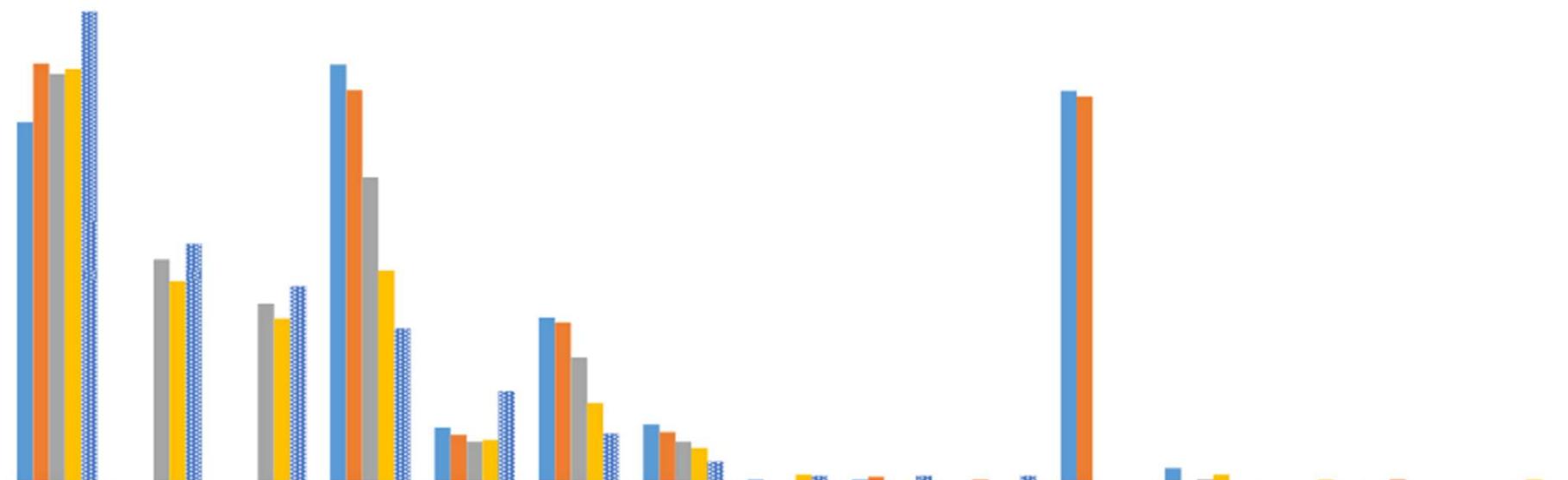


We need to speak in terms of
Post-Covid as situation has
changed again after Covid

Increase in Alcohol Cocaine
and Cannabis (Natural and
Synthetic) use

Age of use also increasing

Addictions Community Service: Percentage of new & re-contact cases opened by primary substance or addiction reported



	Alcohol	Cocaine (powder)	Cocaine (crack)	Heroin	Gambling	Cannabis	Synthetic cannabis	Other opiates	Ecstasy	GHB	Cocaine (all)	Snowballing	Benzodiazepines	Amphetamines	Inhalants
■ 2018	25%	0%	0%	28%	4%	11%	4%	0.2%	0.2%	0%	27%	1.0%	0%	0%	0%
■ 2019	29%	0%	0%	27%	3%	11%	3%	0%	0.4%	0.2%	26%	0%	0%	0.2%	0%
■ 2020	28%	15%	12%	21%	3%	9%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.2%	0%	0%	0%
■ 2021	28%	14%	11%	14%	3%	5%	2%	0.5%	0%	0%	0%	0.5%	0.2%	0%	0%
■ Jan-Jun 2022	32%	16%	13%	11%	6%	3%	1%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%



NATIONAL CENTRE FOR FREEDOM FROM ADDICTIONS

**EXPLORING DRUG DRIVING LEGISLATION
IN MALTA IN THE CONTEXT
OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE**

This report was prepared by the National Centre for Freedom from Addictions, within the President's Foundation for the Wellbeing of Society.

Chairperson: Dr Anna Maria Vella

Members: Prof Marilyn Clark

Prof Janet Mifsud

Dr Mario Mifsud

Researcher: Dr Claire Bellia

The President's Foundation for the Wellbeing of Society
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Exploring Drug Driving Legislation in Malta in the Context of the European Landscape

10 recommendations
to start curbing drug
driving

Now we need to start
tackling legislation so
that the police can
start enforcement

Prevention Programmes

- Safe & Sound
- SAFE

SAFE Programme

SAFE programme is a member of European Network Workplace Health Promotion (ENWHP)

<https://we.tl/t-F6N1IDimUA>

- The S.A.F.E. (Substance Abuse Free Employee) programme is *Sedqa's* Prevention intervention at workplaces. Individuals' substance abuse does not spare their employers and colleagues at work, especially when the addiction affects their productivity. This programme aims to help employees and employers alike to tackle addiction issues and help manage the impact on the workplace while aiming to help workers maintain their employment.

SAFE Programme

- SAFE is the way Sedqa reaches adults with direct interventions
- SAFE gives information about drugs, alcohol, gambling and their effects on the employees
- SAFE programme aims towards having a healthy workforce
- Many workers form part of the drivers on our roads 24/7, some of whom with heavy vehicles or with passenger vehicles as well as many delivery personnel
- SAFE helps employers recognize and address workers who have addiction problems
- SAFE helps employers develop workplace policies to ensure correct ways how to deal with substance abuse by employees.



Foundation for Social Welfare Services

Safe n' Sound

Entertainment Industry Project



Aim

Safe n' Sound was established in order to introduce a safer and healthier nightlife across the local context.

The project's main mission is to promote responsibility and control through various measures with the aim of ensuring safety and security of many young people and adults who attend such entertainment spots.

Responsible Alcohol Servers Licence (RASL): To curb excessive drinking through proper gatekeeping at bar dispensing levels



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