

DRUGS

Over 45% of young adolescents and young adults used drugs in the past year alone. Over 2 400 people have already been arrested in 2024 for drug use related offenses.

Drug use has the following effects on school children:

- Poor academic performance
- Dental health issues
- Addiction
- Poor memory
- Violence
- Impaired brain development and judgment

Cannabis, cough syrup, alcohol and crystal meth are the most common drugs.

@HAZ our research team believes peer pressure is a leading cause for drug uptake among teenagers. We have also discovered that more and more dangerous beauty products are now easily accessible to buy and may be harmful to young girls and women.



ABUSE

Zimbabwe records 20000 child abuse cases yearly! Last year alone, over 8500 sexual abuse cases were reported. Overall, in Zimbabwe about 1 in 3 women aged 15 to 49 have experienced physical violence and about 1 in 4 have experienced sexual abuse since the age of 15. Abuse comes in the form of sexual, emotional, neglect, physical, exploitation, medical neglect and ritualistic.

@ HAZ our research team believes that abuse has the following academic effects on children:

- Cognitive – language, communication, cogitative, learning disabilities, IQ.
- Impact on learning abilities – Disrupted cognitive development, difficulty in concentration, Impaired social and emotional skills and low esteem
- Emotional and behavioral – low esteem, depression, anxiety, aggression, difficulty, trusting, poor coping skills, substance abuse and dropping out.
- Truancy and school avoidance

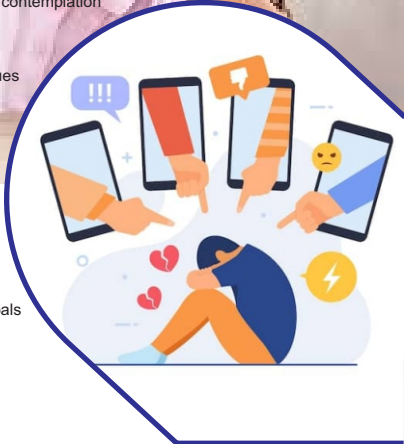
CYBER

Over 44% of children with access to the internet have been subjected to inappropriate content (mostly of Sexual nature).

Some of the hazards subjected to children and teenagers include

- Cyber bullying that may lead to suicide contemplation
- Pornography
- Satanism grooming
- Sleep disruption and mental health issues
- Scams and identity theft
- Sexual exploitation
- Illicit gaming
- Health hazard (too long screen time)
- Child and criminal predators

@ HAZ, our research team believes that in Zimbabwe social media is becoming a silent pandemic to children and teenagers and distracts them from their academic goals



TRAFFIC

STOP! LOOK! LISTEN!

Over 666 pedestrians die every year from being hit. At least 6 people die and over 30 people are injured in road accidents everyday – Traffic Safety Council of Zimbabwe. This year alone, we have already lost 1000 people in road accidents.

Listen **@ HAZ** we empower our future drivers and help our youngsters to make informed decisions on the road, near vehicles and promote them to be responsible passengers. Basic education should cover road signs, how to cross the road, distractions and dangers of electronic devices around traffic, how to be responsible passengers, dangers of speed, poor road conditions, weather, drink & driving, substance misuse, strangers, jay-walking

- Loss of life
- Injuries
- Crime



ALCOHOL

Underage drinking in Zimbabwe – Teenagers as young as 14 are drinking alcohol with some involved in heavy episodic drinking.

UNICEF reports that this unfortunate behavior leads to:

1. Poor / Impaired academic performance / drop outs.
2. Mental problems that include depression, cognitive impairment
3. Health problems that include liver damage, cardiovascular damage, pancreatic problems and throat cancer.
4. High propensity to Violence, Crime, impaired judgment

@ HAZ, our research team has gathered that alcohol is now easily available to school children via unauthorized home or car boot sales. Furthermore, for every 6 boys who are undergo alcohol abuse, 4 girls do the same.



GAMBLING

Problem of gambling in Zimbabwe – Average of 2 teenagers / young adults in every class are likely to be involved in uncontrollable gambling activities that usually lead to the following problem in future

- 1.Loss of concentration at school
- 2.Financial difficulties – Debt and inability to meet normal life or day to day needs
- 3.Crime – Theft and substance abuse
- 4.Relationship problems – loss of trust, communication breakdown, isolation and loss of family.
- 5.Psychological distress – Suicide incapacity to fit the norm, depression and impulse control disorder.

@ HAZ – Our research team believes Sport betting is on the high. Young adults are at higher risk of problem gambling due to their propensity for risk taking, poor judgment and peer pressure. Furthermore, High school students are not aware of the difference between financial trading and gambling.

SEX

In Zimbabwe, nearly 40% of girls and 24% of boys are sexually active before they reach the age of 18! Young people receive inadequate preparation for their sex lives leaving them vulnerable to coercion, abuse and exploitation.

Engaging in risky sexual behaviors can lead to:

- HIV infection
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Unintended pregnancies that sometimes lead to abortions
- Death when giving birth
- Disturbing school life

@HAZ, our research team believes high school sex is prevalent and a silent pandemic that is disturbing academic progress. We have also noticed that older sex workers are easily accessible to experimental high school boys.



WATER

Drink clean water!
Open waters are dangerous, you can drown!
Water and electricity do not mix!

Drowning and electrocution is the leading cause of unintentional injury related death for children between the age of one and five. In Zimbabwe and last year alone over 500 people drowned. We also had over 200 deaths due to water-borne diseases like diarrhea, typhoid and dysentery

@HAZ, we believe education on water hazards should not be limited to those who want to take up swimming lessons but every student.



FIRE ELECTRIC AND SHOCK

Dangers of Electricity / Gas / liquid fuels

In urban Harare and in 2024 alone, over a thousand fires have been reported and most of them were attributed to gas explosions, electrical short circuits, unattended candles or cooking equipment and careless practices like forgetting to put out cigarettes properly. EMA reported over 700 fire incidences that led to the burning of almost a thousand hectares of land.

The above hazard leads to:

- Chemical burns
- Fire
- Pollution
- Explosions
- Asphyxiation
- Health problems include
- Respiratory asthma
- Dizziness
- Drowsiness
- Allergy reactions



HOLISTIC APPROACH TO LIFE SKILLS



@Haz, we are taking a holistic approach to learning about life skills. We train students on how to manage life hazards leading them to become responsible citizens.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) with emphasis on:

- Self Management or Awareness
- Responsible Decision Making

Children Thrive, School Win, Society Benefits



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@HAZ, our research team has gathered that young children are at higher risk of electric shock and starting fires because they are experimental and very inquisitive