

# The 3<sup>rd</sup> International Medical Conference – An-Najah National University



## **ABSTRACT FORMAT**

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**Title :** Assessment Of Needs of Youth (11-19) Years Old to Drugs Prevention and Awareness programs in the Jerusalem Governorate

**Purpose:** The study aimed at assessing the needs of youth in an age group (11-19) years in the Jerusalem Governorate to drug awareness and to what extent they are knowledgeable of the drug problem in their local community.

What is innovative about this study? It was the 1<sup>st</sup> study in the Governorate of Jerusalem/ Palestine which tackled the need of youth for awareness & prevention programs on drugs.

**Methods:** Two research instruments were used in the Case Study methodology: the Focus Group and the Questionnaire and both instruments were tested for validity and reliability.

The sample (male & female) youth was chosen from the Jerusalem Governorate for the 8 focus groups (61) and (320) students chosen for the questionnaire.

**Results/findings:** The researcher reached to the following findings:

1. The examinees are aware of the widespread concepts and idioms that relate to drug use, though differences in understanding the meaning of those concepts varied from one geographical area to the other in the Jerusalem Governorate.
2. The results insured the need of youth for drugs awareness and prevention programs at all ages..

The results indicated the effect of peers as friends on youth decision-making towards the use of drugs.

**Conclusions:** The study results & recommendations led Al-Sadiq Al-Taieb Association to develop the methodology of its work related to Drug Awareness and Prevention programs with schools, youth at risk, and youth camps, taking into consideration the hasten changes in the technical information system such as the Internet, the SMS, etc on the life of youth. Programs were introduced such a " Empowering and Activating the Role of Youth in the Community through Drama", Awareness programs for Youth at Risk, and Youth Summer Camps, Voluntary work, and contribution of youth in the Awareness and Prevention inspired the sense of responsibility of youth towards their community problems.