



THE IMPACT OF UNIVERSITY PREVENTIVE AWARENESS IN REDUCING THE IMPACT OF ECONOMIC FACTORS LEADING TO THE INCREASE IN THE PHENOMENON OF DRUG ABUSE IN THE UNIVERSITY ENVIRONMENT

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Article history:	Abstract:
Received: 8 th July 2025	The research aims to identify, test, and understand the impact of economic factors on the spread of drug abuse in the university environment and to understand the role of universities in raising awareness of the dangers of drug abuse through research in a number of private universities in Iraq. This is done by finding a solution to the basic problem formulated with the following question: (Do economic factors affect the increase in drug abuse rates in the university environment, and can universities reduce it through the application of preventive awareness practices?). The research has great importance in drawing attention to the importance of clarifying these economic factors and their impact on drug abuse rates and directing attention to the role that universities can play in raising awareness about the dangers of drugs and reducing the spread of this phenomenon in the university student environment.
Accepted: 7 th August 2025	Despite the generality of the problem of drug abuse and its variables, it has extended beyond young people with a limited and simple educational level to university youth, as its danger lies in the negative effects on the abuser and not only that, but also on societies themselves. Thus, the main hypothesis of the research was formulated, which aims to find both the correlation and the impact of the research variables, namely: (There is a statistically significant moral impact of university awareness on the economic factors leading to an increase in drug abuse in the university environment). To test these hypotheses Field research was adopted, which was applied in a number of governmental and private universities in Baghdad. Data was collected based on a questionnaire form, and the research sample amounted to (380) individuals , male and female students in the universities, the research sample. Statistical methods were adopted, represented by the programs (EXCEL 2010) , (SPSS V 28) , (AMOS V.26) In analyzing this data in order to calculate the coefficient of variation, standard deviation, and correlation coefficient and test the research hypothesis, the research results reached: The respondents' awareness of the seriousness of economic determinants and their prominent role in pushing students towards drug use. The results also showed a general agreement that poverty, unemployment, low family income, and the resulting psychological crises are all direct factors that increase the likelihood of drug use, in addition to their negative repercussions on the national economy and the increase in the illicit wealth of drug dealers.

Keywords: Economic Factors, Drugs, Preventive Awareness

THE INTRODUCTION

University youth are the most vital and active age group, capable of work and production. They are the conscious, thinking mind that determines the vision and goals of society. They are a great energy that must be preserved and invested in a sound manner, as they represent the wheel that moves all vital fields . And development requires protecting them from all problems , and the problem of drug abuse is one of the most dangerous health, social and psychological problems facing the entire world, as many studies and research have confirmed the connection between the youth stage and drugs in a very large way among this group, which is expected to have an effective and significant role in building and developing society. Therefore, all nations have realized the importance and seriousness of this problem, as societies are making every effort to raise awareness and prevent it, explain its dangers, confront it and eliminate it.



Universities have the most prominent role, as societies are currently seeking to achieve the process of sustainable development by investing and developing material, human and organizational resources. The development process faces many problems that stand in the way of achieving its goals and require the necessity of confronting them. Among the most important of these problems is drug addiction, as it causes many psychological, social and economic problems and leads to the loss of public security, which works to achieve a state of chaos and instability. Despite the diversity of prevention and control efforts and programs, the spread of drugs is increasing. Therefore, the research addresses the economic factors behind the spread of the phenomenon of drug abuse and aims to shed light on them by identifying the economic effects resulting from drug abuse on young people. Or on the economy alike, as universities have an effective impact in preventing them through awareness and continuous follow-up.

Chapter One: Research Methodology and Previous Studies

Chapter One: Research Methodology

1. Research problem

The research problem was represented in knowing whether university awareness as an independent variable is able to influence the economic factors leading to the increase in drug use in the university environment, as it is clear that the use of drugs and narcotic substances represents a problem in our society despite the various measures taken to reduce it, as the phenomenon of drug use has transformed from a behavioral problem to a threat with economic effects that affect development and progress practices. Based on that, the research sought to identify the economic factors or causes that contribute to the increase in demand for drugs and what is the effect of university awareness in reducing the impact of these factors. Thus, the research problem stems from its own question, which is (Does university awareness affect the economic factors leading to the increase in drug use in the university environment?), from which a number of sub-questions branch out, which are:

- What is the level of interest of public and private universities in preventive awareness practices against the dangers of drug abuse? What are the proposals to activate the role of universities in preventing the dangers of drug abuse ?
- What are the economic factors leading to the increase in drug abuse in university settings and what are its consequences?
- What is the level of impact of university awareness in reducing the impact of economic factors leading to increased drug use?

2. The importance of research

The research gains its importance through finding a solution to the problem that was presented and the research elements that the research addresses in the study together and the benefits achieved from its application and the extent of its contribution to the adoption of university awareness practices by the researched sample as follows:

- Explaining the importance of university awareness practices regarding the dangers of drug abuse and their impact in reducing this phenomenon.
- Highlighting the economic factors that have led to the increase in drug abuse among university students, which poses a threat to the individual, society, and the economy.
- The research examines its variables by presenting the theoretical aspect of these variables, clarifying their importance and dimensions , arriving at conclusions and recommendations, and proposing working mechanisms that help activate the role of universities in protecting the student community from drug abuse.
- This research provides decision-makers with data and information that enable them to understand the importance of implementing university awareness practices and their impact on addressing the economic factors leading to drug abuse.

3. Research objectives

In light of its problem and importance, the research aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Defining the role of universities in preventing students from drug abuse and detecting its effects.
- Identify and study economic factors that may lead individuals to take Drugs and narcotics in the university environment.
- Identify the effects of increased drug abuse.
- Providing the necessary information to activate the role of universities in preventing the danger of drug abuse.

4. Research hypotheses

The research adopted the following main hypothesis:

There is a statistically significant effect of university awareness on the economic factors leading to increased drug use in the university environment.

5. Research methodology



The research relied on the descriptive and analytical approach using statistical methods in order to reach accurate results. This approach is distinguished by its comprehensive view and the combination of describing the case with its analysis.

6. Hypothetical research plan

The hypothetical plan of the research was formulated based on its main hypothesis as follows:

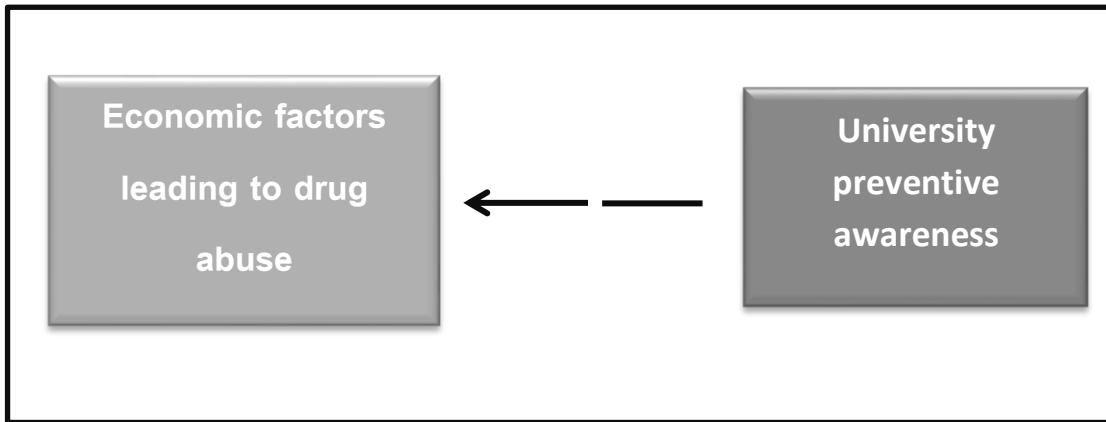


Figure (1) Hypothetical research plan

7. Research limits

- Time limits: It was represented by the time period in which both the theoretical and practical aspects of the research were prepared, which extended between (2024-2025.)
- Spatial boundaries: The research was applied in a number of private universities in Baghdad Governorate.
- Human limits: The research sample included 360 male and female students from different university departments.

8. Data collection methods

- Theoretical aspect: In order to obtain this aspect, the researcher relied on Arabic and foreign books, university theses, academic dissertations available in libraries or published on the Internet, articles, periodicals, and research.
- Practical aspect: In this aspect, the researcher relied on the questionnaire form in order to obtain data and information related to the research topic to choose to accept or reject the hypotheses. It included (20) questions, and the validity of the questionnaire form was tested by presenting it to the arbitrators to benefit from those notes, which enriched the paragraphs of the questionnaire and its scientific soundness. The final version of the questionnaire was prepared, in addition to distributing (480) questionnaires and obtaining (380) usable questionnaires, and (100) questionnaires were neglected due to their invalidity.

9. Approved statistical methods

Section Two: Previous Studies

A- Study (Abu Ziad, 2023)

Factors associated with drug abuse among University youth and planning to confront them	Study title
Factors associated with drug use among university students and planning to address them	
Study the effects of factors associated with drug abuse, identify the most influential factors, and plan to reduce their impact.	Study problem
Identifying factors associated with drug use among university students and planning to address them	Study objectives
Descriptive approach.	Study methodology
Questionnaire.	Study tools
Personal factors greatly influence drug abuse, and family factors play a major role in pushing young people towards addiction.	The most important results

B- Study (Gerra , et al., 2020)



Socioeconomic Status, Parental Education, School Connectedness and Individual Socio-Cultural Resources in Vulnerability for Drug Use among Students Socioeconomic status, parental education, school attachment, and individual sociocultural resources influence exposure to drug use among students.	Study title
Measuring socioeconomic status among youth and its association with various forms of illicit substance use is difficult and remains unclear, as families living in socioeconomic disadvantage face greater stress in their daily lives than more affluent families.	Study problem
Expanding current research on the relationship between socioeconomic status and illicit drug use among adolescents.	Study objectives
Data were drawn from the European School-Based Survey on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD) project.	Study methodology
Questionnaire.	Study tools
Drug policies must be combined with measures to remove barriers to social inclusion attributed to adolescents' socio-economic background.	The most important results

C- Study (Nagelhout , et al. , 2017)

How economic recessions and unemployment affect illegal drug use : A systematic realist literature review	Study title
Economic downturns may affect illicit drug use through various mechanisms such as increased use due to greater psychological distress or decreased use due to lower incomes and purchasing power.	Study problem
Learn how economic downturns and unemployment affect illicit drug use among adults.	Study objectives
A systematic realist literature review, an interpretive method that aims to understand the underlying mechanisms linking an event to an outcome in a given context. A systematic search was conducted in EconLit , Embase , Medline , PsycINFO , Socindex , and Web of Science for studies investigating the mechanisms that explain how periods of recession or unemployment affect illicit drug use.	Study methodology
Questionnaire.	Study tools
The increase in recession and unemployment leads to psychological distress, which increases drug abuse.	The most important results

Chapter Two: The Theoretical Aspect

First topic: University preventive awareness

The problem of drug addiction has social, economic, security, religious, educational and other dimensions, and therefore it falls within the scope of interest of most state agencies and various institutions. The issue of addiction and addicts is primarily a societal security issue. The university is the stronghold of human thought at its highest levels, and a source for investing and developing the most important and valuable wealth of society, which is human wealth. Universities specialize in everything related to university education and scientific research conducted by its colleges and institutes in order to serve society and advance it culturally. The university can play its role in treating and preventing the phenomenon of drug abuse through its assigned functions, as defined by university law. Through teaching (education), courses and curricula are studied that address the phenomenon of drug abuse and clarify its health, social and other effects. Also, through the scientific research function, specialized scientific research is conducted on the phenomenon of drug abuse, by studying the various causes that led to it and analyzing its results to reach recommendations for treating the phenomenon. Competitions are also held for students about this phenomenon with the aim of providing their culture through research with information related to this phenomenon and methods of treating it (Sufyan, and Bin Wahiba, 11). 2018).

1. The concept of university youth

They are a national energy with its capabilities, ideas and unleashed emotions. These capabilities are considered social, the sum of skills and experiences that they acquire and spread through trade and their relationships with society. They are the ones who possess a conscious mentality that is aware of reality, open to the other world, looking forward to its



experiences and enjoying scientific capabilities that push them to keep pace with scientific, technical, literary and cultural development, as it is a stage of life ranging between (18-25) years. This stage includes males and females alike, and they are the students who study in theoretical and scientific colleges. This stage is also distinguished by strength and activity, as they are the force that moves the wheel of development forward, and they are distinguished by impulsiveness, love of adventure and experimentation (Abu Zaid, 2023: 261)

2. Prevention of delinquency and drug abuse.

Prevention of drug abuse is the first step to overcoming the conditions and circumstances that lead individuals to engage in criminal behavior, or to commit acts that are considered crimes by law or custom, or deviant or abnormal behaviors. It is the process of taking the necessary measures to prevent superstition and drug abuse and is not separate from the social, economic and political conditions prevailing in society. It reflects the flexibility of the rules on which it is based, and expresses human values and the civilized structure that must be far from factors of corruption and disorder. It is based on two basic elements: general prevention and specific prevention (Al-Otaibi, 2023: 50)

3. The role of universities in drug prevention

The role of the university in confronting the phenomenon of drug use among students is determined by limiting its spread within the university environment, using one of the strategies indicated by the United Nations, including the demand reduction strategy by reducing the desire to obtain and use drugs through preventive awareness programs, or the supply reduction strategy by tightening monitoring and limiting their availability within the university. Among the university's functions regarding the phenomenon of drug use is conducting scientific research, by studying the causes that led to it, and through the community service function by forming awareness groups of specialists to identify the dangers to them (Haqshah, et al. 2016: 43). Universities worldwide are interested in adopting targeted protection policies to protect students from the risk factors that lead to the spread of the problem of drug use and following integrated policies at the level of education, awareness, education, accommodation, and protection and containment programs for student problems. These policies mostly adhere to the standards approved by the authorities concerned with drawing up plans to confront the drug phenomenon in educational institutions, as they seek to (Al-Zaben, et al. , 2021: 468):

- Reducing the rate of substance abuse (alcohol, drugs, and smoking) by reviewing and evaluating the annual anti-drug policies in the university environment.
- Spreading awareness and culture about the dangers of substance abuse among university students, faculty members, and administrative staff.
- Instilling convictions that reject the use of psychotropic substances, and providing the information and skills necessary to protect behavior from the danger of use.
- Raising the rates of health care and awareness in following a lifestyle and nutrition that is preferable to the healthy individual model.
- Providing students with skills to avoid psychological and nervous stress and educating them about the mechanism for maintaining mental health.
- Addressing all factors that may threaten students or increase their risk of becoming addicted to psychotropic substances by adhering to religious teachings and moral discipline.
- Training and educating faculty members on ways to detect signs of drug abuse, how to deal with drug abuse cases, and how to follow up on them.

4. The effects of drug abuse on sustainable development

Drug abuse causes great harm to humanity and public safety in all countries of the world, which leads to obstructing sound development in many societies and hinders their ability to perform their functions. Every country tries to achieve and support development, and in order to do so, there must be a great deal of mental and physical effort, which is exerted by the human power of the people of that country in pursuit of sustainable human development and catching up with the civilizational bandwagon. Since drug abuse reduces the ability to exert effort, exhausts the greatest amount of energy, and weakens the ability to create, research, and innovate, this causes an obstruction to the process of sustainable development (Ali, 2022: 527).

Chapter Two: Economic factors affecting the phenomenon of drug abuse

Economic crises mostly affect people with low incomes and increase the social exclusion of the most vulnerable groups. Evidence suggests that people experiencing unemployment and poverty, as well as those experiencing family disruptions, are at greater risk of developing mental health disorders, such as depression and alcohol use disorders. Among other identified factors, unemployment appears to be a major factor in the increase in mental health problems during economic crises. There is a wide body of evidence describing how drug use and unemployment are related. Recent research analyzes changes in drug consumption patterns and attitudes towards them in relation to youth unemployment rates caused by the recession. The authors also found evidence suggesting that drug use, particularly



hard drug use (opiates, cocaine, and crack cocaine), is associated with an increased risk of unemployment, regardless of age or gender. Casal , et al., 2020: 155).

1. Drug abuse

The World Health Organization (WHO) has described substance abuse as the harmful or hazardous use of substances or mind-altering agents, including drugs and alcohol. Drug abuse can also be described as the maladaptive act of drug use that leads to clinical problems (Sarkingobir , 2023: 77) . It is also defined as the excessive, maladaptive, or addictive use of drugs without a medical purpose. It is also defined as an emotional and sometimes physical state, characterized by a compulsion to continually take drugs to experience their psychological effects. Drugs provide physical and psychological relief to addicts, as psychological dependence relieves mental, emotional, biological, or physical, social, and economic instability (Nyameh , 2013: 100) .

2. Factors leading to drug abuse

The factors leading to drug abuse can be listed according to (Khattab, 2008: 90) as follows:

- Economic factors : The rise in the standard of living places many burdens on the individual, making him helpless in dealing with them, which pushes him to take drugs in an attempt to escape his social reality and unemployment, as a result of the great pressures it leaves in facing life and as a result of what it deals with from the lack of life opportunities, and the expectation of free time in addition to the increase in life requirements in general, as there is no longer what is called luxury needs, as it was, but rather a necessary behavior, this comes in comparison to the lack of an increase in individuals' income in parallel with market prices.
- Psychological factors: There is a group of psychological factors that have a noticeable impact on the person, forcing most of those exposed to them to surrender, and the result is that they practice escaping from reality and fall prey to drug or alcohol abuse, or both. Among these factors are great psychological pressures resulting from frustration in a particular job or endeavor or meeting a particular need, and a feeling of inferiority complex as a result of a particular disability or handicap or not keeping up with others at certain social, cultural, or other levels, and a feeling of failure, inability, and incompetence, and a personal desire to experiment, love of conclusions and risks, or the illusion that abuse indicates independence and strength, in addition to alienation and non-normativity, or in general, an intersection with the prevailing values of society due to their failure to keep pace with life development or what the age of the person who abuses may reach.
- Social factors : Lifestyles, social factors and values, and close connection to religion have an effective impact on the likelihood of drug and alcohol addiction. There are a number of factors that no researcher or interested person can ignore or ignore, including sitting with or keeping bad company, feeling empty, and traveling abroad, in addition to family disintegration, excessive cruelty to children, and imitation and copying of a specific person by the deviant person, which led him to this state. The impact of the residential neighborhood also plays a major role, as many studies have confirmed that the nature of the residential area has a significant negative impact if the area is infected, and this is more common in marginal or poor areas, shantytowns, or random areas, in addition to addiction of one of the parents and the availability of addictive substances through smugglers and promoters. The influence of the media and the leniency in the use of narcotic drugs and leaving them uncontrolled Also, the absence of the school's message The role in that.

3. The role of economic factors (poverty and unemployment) in drug abuse.

- Poverty: The importance of socioeconomic inequalities on mental health has been established, suggesting that economic deprivation across the life course may influence substance use and disorders. While several studies indicate that children from socioeconomically poor families are more likely to have poor mental health than their non-poor peers, with a higher prevalence in girls than boys, others have reported that early mental health status is a risk factor for substance misuse. Previous studies have shown that exposure to poverty in childhood is associated with an increased risk of mental disorders, including mood and anxiety disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), and substance use disorders, in adulthood (Manhica et al., 2022:1) .) , as found in a study by Manhica et al., 2020:1753 . Almost all poverty trajectories during childhood and adolescence were associated with a higher risk of substance use disorders and drug convictions in young adulthood, with the exception of males and females who exited poverty during adolescence. Individuals who entered poverty in adolescence were more likely to have a substance use disorder and drug convictions in adulthood than those who had never lived in poverty.
- Unemployment: Research findings have revealed and divided the physical and psychological consequences of unemployment. However, the focus on substance use disorders (SUDs) remains absent from research. Initially, research on unemployment and substance use disorders focused on alcohol use. Eventually, other psychoactive substances, such as tobacco, as well as illicit and prescription drugs, were studied in the context of unemployment. Causal direction has also been an important aspect of this field (Nolte - Troha et al., 2023:2) . Empirical evidence has consistently indicated that unemployment may lead to psychological problems, including substance use,



sparking a decades-long debate about the nature of this association. Three main lines of thought have emerged from this debate: the stress hypothesis, the income loss hypothesis, and the social selection/deviance hypothesis. The stress hypothesis suggests a countercyclical association, i.e., job loss is associated with increased substance use. Specifically, the stress hypothesis posits that stressors, especially salient stressors such as unemployment and associated stressors such as economic hardship, may lead to increased substance use, with people using substances as a coping mechanism, especially in young adulthood, which represents a period of constant transition in different aspects of life. Young adults go through a "turbulent" period of short-term employment as they move between different career paths and different employers (Lee, et al., 2016:3) . Azagba , et al., 2021:8) also confirmed that economic distress is associated with increased drug use, meaning that treatment of some substance abuse should remain a priority even during periods of economic recession.

4. University environment and drug addiction

The social environment of the university campus plays an important role in students' involvement in drug addiction . The alarming increase in the number of students addicted to drugs is due to the availability of drugs on campus without many restrictions. Drug-addicted senior college students become a source of addiction among newcomers. When new students enter a university, they begin to interact with their senior students frequently to get acquainted with the university environment and seek guidance in studying. When freshmen notice that seniors involved in drug addiction are also making progress in their studies, they assume that drug addiction does not seriously affect their ability to obtain good grades in exams. Inspired by the seniors, freshmen also begin using drugs for fun, as undergraduates at universities are typically particularly immature. Newly enrolled young students tend to look up to older students as role models. Ahmed, et al., 2020:3).

Chapter Three : The Practical Side

First: Questionnaire stability

1. Using Cronbach's alpha coefficient

The concept of reliability generally refers to the ability of a tool or scale to produce similar results when reapplied to a similar group of individuals or under similar conditions after a specified period of time. Cronbach's alpha coefficient is one of the most common methods for estimating reliability, requiring a value of (≥ 0.70) to be considered statistically acceptable. Table (1) shows that all Cronbach's alpha coefficient values exceeded this minimum, reflecting a good level of reliability. Accordingly, it can be said that the scales used in this study are highly reliable, which enhances the possibility of relying on them for collecting and analyzing data with confidence and objectivity.

Table (1) Cronbach's alpha coefficient results

Cronbach's alpha coefficient	Number of paragraphs	The symbol	Scale
0.893	10	UPA	University preventive awareness
0.916	10	EFLDA	Economic factors leading to drug abuse

SPSS V.28 output

2. Internal consistency of the scale (split-half)

To ensure the internal consistency of the scale , the researcher used the split-half method as one of the reliability indicators. The results showed that the Spearman-Brown coefficient reached (0.892), while the Gutman coefficient reached (0.890), which are high values and indicate a good level of internal consistency. This reflects that the scale used has a high degree of consistency, which allows it to be relied upon under different conditions and times, and enhances the reliability of the extracted data for use in scientific research purposes with confidence and objectivity.

Table (2) "Split-half test"

.893	Value	Part 1	Cronbach's Alpha			
10	N of Items					
0.916	Value	Part 2				
10	N of Items					
20	Total N of Items					
0.806	Correlation Between Forms					
0.892	Equal Length					
0.892	Unequal Length					
0.890	Guttman Split-Half Coefficient					

SPSS V.28 output



Second: Confirmatory construct validity

1. University preventive awareness

(2 shows the university preventive awareness model , which consists of (10) indicators. It is clear from the figure that all indicators are within the acceptable limits and standards, indicating that the model has a good level of sufficiency, which allows it to be relied upon in conducting subsequent statistical analyses with a high degree of reliability.

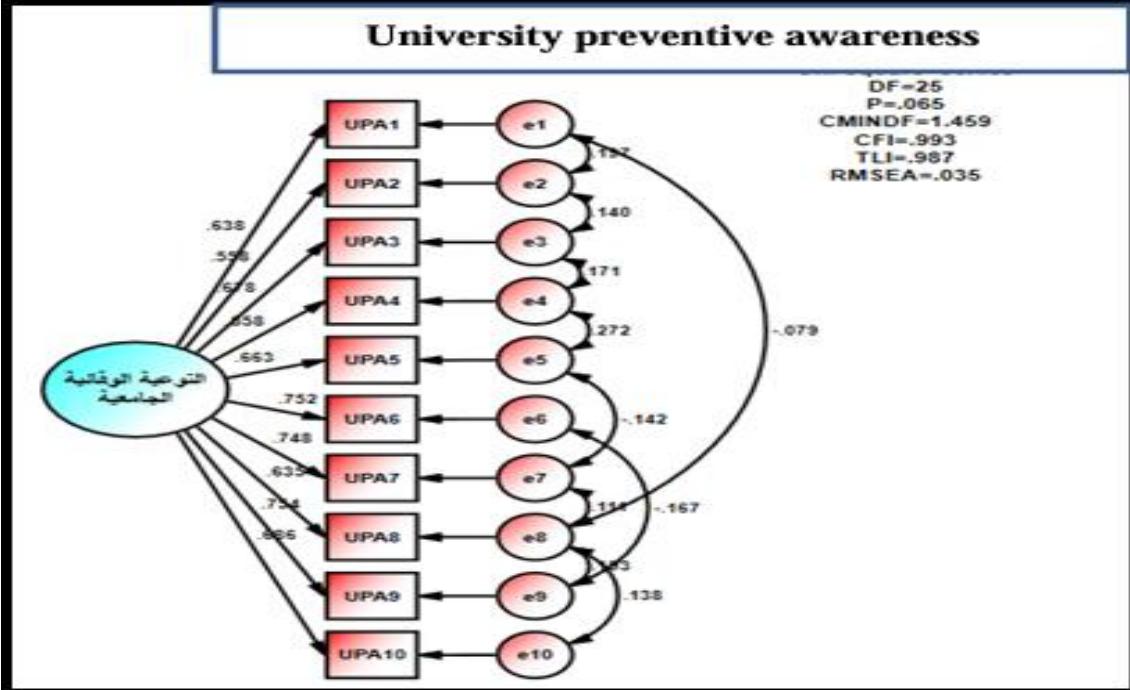


Figure (2) Confirmatory factor analysis of the university preventive awareness variable

Source: AMOS V.26

It is clear from Table (3) the values of the estimates for all questions of the university preventive awareness variable, as it is clear that they are significant, as is clear from the extracted critical values (CR) which were greater than the critical value (CR) of (1.96) and which indicate the significance of the paragraphs, and this indicates the validity of the questions and is a good indicator.

Table (3) Indicators of confirmatory factor analysis of the university preventive awareness variable

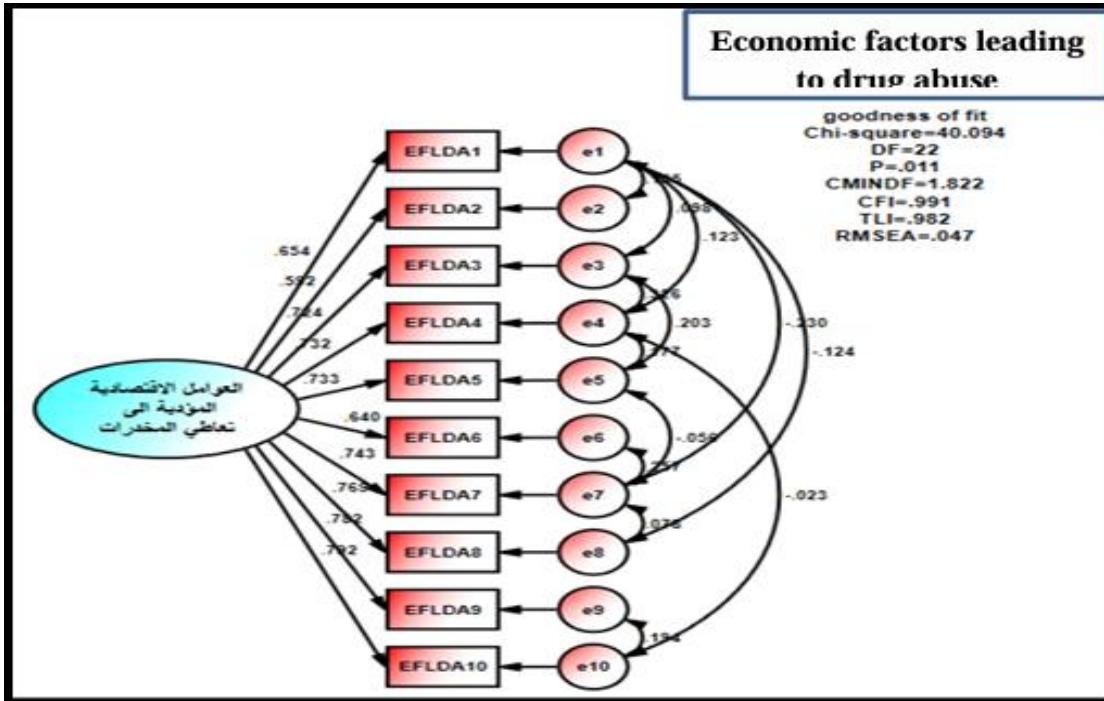
decision	P	CR	Estimates	Dimensions	The path	Questions
influential			.638	University preventive awareness	--->	UPA1
influential	***	10,555	.558		--->	UPA2
influential	***	11,162	.678		--->	UPA3
influential	***	9,442	.558		--->	UPA4
influential	***	10,877	.663		--->	UPA5
influential	***	11,958	.752		--->	UPA6
influential	***	11,986	.748		--->	UPA7
influential	***	9,901	.635		--->	UPA8
influential	***	11,955	.754		--->	UPA9
influential	***	11,274	.686		--->	UPA10

Source: AMOS V.26

2. Economic factors leading to drug abuse

(3) shows the model of economic factors leading to drug abuse , which consists of (10) indicators. It is clear from the figure that all indicators were within the acceptable standard limits, indicating that the model has the appropriate statistical quality and sufficiency to conduct subsequent tests and analyses with a reliable degree.

Figure (3) Confirmatory factor analysis of economic factors leading to drug abuse



Source: AMOS V.26

Table (4) shows that the estimated values for all questions were significant, and the critical values (CR) for all items reached values greater than the standard critical value (CR) adopted, which is (1.96). This indicates the significance and validity of the questions, making them a good indicator.

Table (4) Indicators of confirmatory factor analysis of the variable of economic factors leading to drug abuse

decision	P	CR	Estimates	variable	The path	Questions
influential			.654	Economic factors leading to drug abuse	<---	EFLDA1
influential	***	10,946	.592		<---	EFLDA2
influential	***	12,406	.724		<---	EFLDA3
influential	***	12,567	.732		<---	EFLDA4
influential	***	11,812	.733		<---	EFLDA5
influential	***	10.672	.640		<---	EFLDA6
influential	***	10,908	.743		<---	EFLDA7
influential	***	11,794	.769		<---	EFLDA8
influential	***	12,339	.782		<---	EFLDA9
influential	***	12,431	.792		<---	EFLDA10

Source: AMOS V.26

Third: Descriptive analysis of research variables

1. University preventive awareness

Table (5) shows the results of the sample responses regarding the economic factors leading to drug abuse . The overall arithmetic mean was (3.608), with a standard deviation of (0.732) and a coefficient of variation of (20.29). The general trend was at the "agree" level, reflecting the respondents' awareness of the seriousness of economic determinants and their prominent role in pushing students towards drug abuse. Paragraph (6) "Drug abuse leads students to commit crimes in order to quickly earn money" achieved the highest arithmetic mean (3.771) and the lowest coefficient of variation of (25.23), indicating the strength of agreement that financial need represents a direct motive towards committing criminal behavior. It was followed by paragraph (5) "Drug abuse leads students to waste large sums of money to purchase these substances" with a mean of (3.732) and a "agree" trend, reflecting the respondents' awareness s of the depletion of individual financial resources due to drug abuse. Paragraphs (1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10) showed a general agreement that poverty, unemployment, low family income, and the resulting psychological crises are all direct factors that increase the likelihood of drug abuse, in addition to their negative repercussions on the national economy and the increase in the illicit wealth of promoters . In contrast, paragraph (8) "Drug abuse leads to a decline



in individual productivity, which leads to a decline in the productivity of society" had the lowest arithmetic mean (3.316) and the highest coefficient of variation (34.30) in a "neutral" direction, which indicates a discrepancy in the opinions of the respondents regarding the extent to which drug abuse is linked to a decline in the productivity of society. In general, the results confirm the economic factors that lead to drug abuse, as the pressures of poverty, unemployment, and low income combine with financial and psychological effects to create a fertile environment that contributes to the spread of this phenomenon among students.

Table (5) Descriptive statistics for the university preventive awareness variable

Trend	coefficient of variation	deviation	The middle	Questions	T
I agree	25.54	0.935	3.661	Environmental and economic conditions are among the most important problems that lead students to drug abuse.	1
I agree	26.58	0.944	3,553	Poverty and the need for money lead students to take drugs.	2
I agree	28.49	1.024	3.595	Unemployment and the student's inability to find a job leads him to take drugs.	3
I agree	28.40	1.036	3.647	Low income for some families leads students to drug abuse.	4
I agree	27.07	1,010	3.732	Drug abuse leads to students wasting large amounts of money on these substances.	5
I agree	25.23	0.951	3.771	Drug abuse leads students to commit crimes in order to make quick money.	6
I agree	26.62	0.983	3.695	Drug abuse weakens a country's economy.	7
neutral	34.30	1.137	3,316	Drug abuse leads to decreased individual productivity, which leads to decreased productivity in society.	8
I agree	31.35	1.107	3,532	Drug abuse leads to illicit wealth for the group that trades and promotes these substances, while the country's economy is weakened.	9
I agree	30.95	1.109	3,584	The spread of psychological problems and illnesses resulting from poverty and unemployment leads to drug abuse among students.	10
I agree	20.29	0.732	3.608	The general arithmetic mean for university preventive awareness	

Source: SPSS V.28

2. Economic factors leading to drug abuse

Table (6) shows the results of the sample members' responses regarding university preventive awareness, as the general arithmetic mean was (3.567) with a standard deviation of (0.800) and a coefficient of variation of (22.42). The general trend was at the "agreed" level, which indicates that the respondents are aware of the university's role in promoting prevention of drug abuse through its various programs and procedures. Paragraph (2) "There are special preventive programs for students who show early signs of drug abuse at university" recorded the highest mean (3.853) and the lowest coefficient of variation (25.71), which reflects the strength of the respondents' awareness of the importance of having specialized and early preventive programs to limit the spread of the phenomenon. It was followed by paragraph (9) "The university publishes magazines and bulletins within the university that direct attention to the harms of drug abuse" with a mean of (3.679), which indicates that written and media awareness methods have a tangible presence in preventive activity within the university. The rest of the paragraphs, such as (1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10), all came in the direction of "agreed," which confirms the existence of a conviction that the university encourages students to conduct scientific research, provides financial support to those with limited income, and pays attention to the economic and social conditions of students, in addition to organizing seminars and lectures, providing social guidance programs, and cooperating with community institutions, as well as adopting controls to deal with cases of drug abuse,



and rewarding participants in social activities. As for paragraph (5) , "The university organizes seminars and lectures to educate students about the dangers of drugs," it had the lowest arithmetic mean (3.411) and the highest coefficient of variation (33.61), which indicates the presence of a relative difference in the opinions of the respondents about the effectiveness of this aspect or its regularity within the university compared to the rest of the procedures. In general, the results confirm that university preventive awareness , whether through direct programs (early prevention, seminars, social guidance), or through indirect support (grants, monitoring economic conditions, and encouraging scientific research), enhances its role in protecting students and limiting the spread of this phenomenon. , indicating a good level, with a standard deviation of (0.987) and a coefficient of variation of (28.81%).

Table (6) Descriptive statistics for the variable of economic factors leading to drug abuse

Trend	coefficient of variation	deviation	The middle	Questions	T
I agree	30.45	1.107	3.634	The university encourages students to conduct scientific research that demonstrates the dangers and harms of drugs.	1
I agree	25.71	0.990	3.853	There are special prevention programs for students who show signs of drug use early on in college.	2
I agree	30.44	1.053	3,461	The university provides financial aid and grants to students with limited income.	3
I agree	28.61	1.023	3.576	The university is keen to know the student's economic circumstances upon enrollment.	4
I agree	33.61	1.146	3,411	The university organizes seminars and lectures to raise students' awareness of the dangers of drugs.	5
I agree	30.91	1,099	3.555	The university cooperates with community institutions to prevent students from drug abuse.	6
I agree	28.45	0.992	3,487	There are specific controls for dealing with students who use drugs within the university.	7
I agree	30.53	1.078	3,532	The university provides social guidance programs for students during the academic year.	8
I agree	29.05	1.069	3.679	The university publishes magazines and bulletins within the university that focus attention on the harms of drug abuse.	9
I agree	29.24	1.018	3,482	The university rewards students who participate in social activities at the university.	10
I agree	22.42	0.800	3,567	The general arithmetic mean of the economic factors leading to drug abuse	

Source: SPSS V.28

Fourth: Testing research hypotheses

1. Test the first hypothesis

There is a significant correlation between university preventive awareness and economic factors leading to drug abuse Table (7) and Figure (4) show that the value of the correlation coefficient between university preventive awareness and the economic factors leading to drug abuse reached (0.806) at a significance level of (0.000), which is less than the significance level of (0.05), indicating the existence of a strong significant correlation between university preventive awareness and the economic factors leading to drug abuse. The extracted value of (Z) reached (21.659), which is greater than the tabular value of (Z) of (1.96). The statistical results indicate that there is a significant correlation between university preventive awareness and the economic factors leading to drug abuse , which reflects that the role of the university in adopting preventive and awareness programs contributes to mitigating the impact of economic



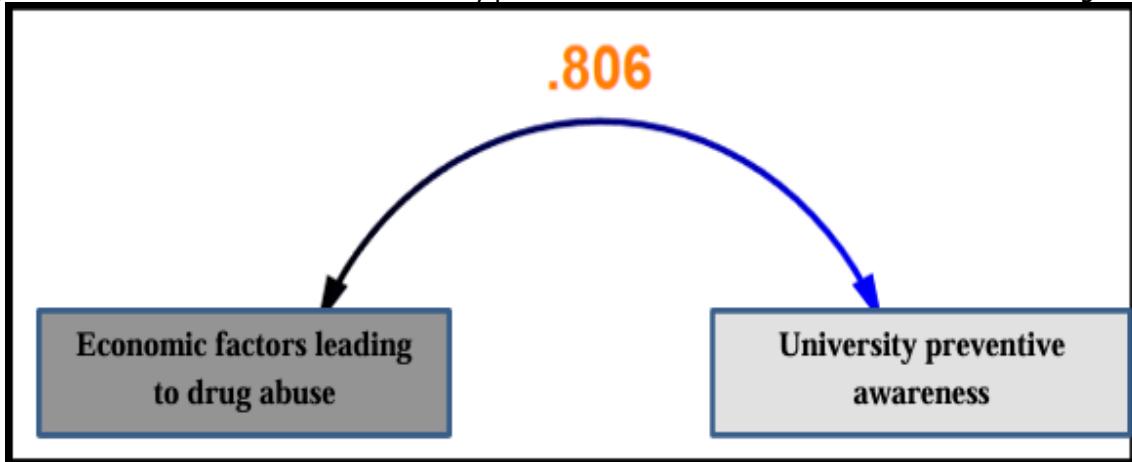
determinants (such as poverty, unemployment, low income) on students' behavior towards drug abuse. This result demonstrates that the relationship between the two variables is fundamental, such that a high level of preventive awareness leads to a reduction in the effects of economic pressures that may push students towards drug use, which highlights the importance of integrating preventive strategies within the university environment to confront the economic and social dimensions of this phenomenon.

Table (7) Correlation values between university preventive awareness and economic factors leading to drug abuse

decision	Sig	significance	Strength and direction of the relationship according to the results	Z	R	independent variable	dependent variable
Accept the alternative hypothesis	0.000	moral	strong positive direction	21,659	0.806	University preventive awareness	Economic factors leading to drug abuse

Source: SPSS V.28

Figure (4) shows the correlation between university preventive awareness and economic factors leading to drug abuse.

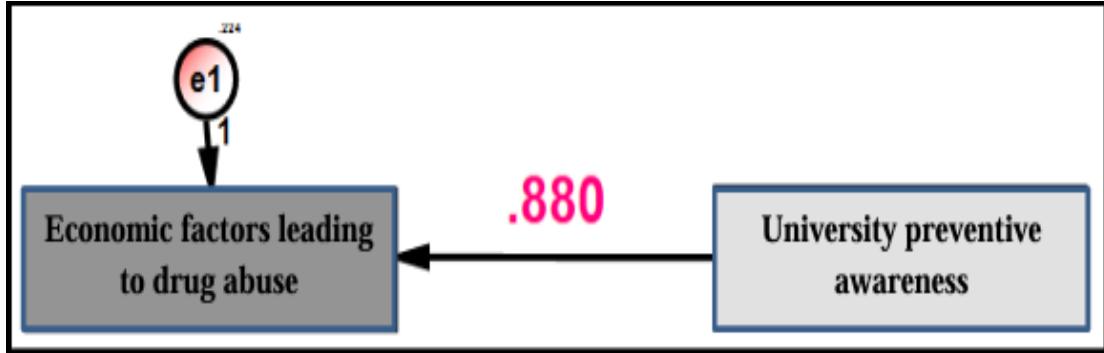


Source: AMOS V.26

2. Testing the second hypothesis

There is a significant effect of university preventive awareness on the economic factors leading to drug abuse. It is clear from Table (8) and Figure (5) that the calculated (F) value between university preventive awareness on the economic factors leading to drug abuse reached (699.466), which is greater than the tabular (F) value of (3.94) at a significance level of (0.05). The results indicate that there is a significant effect of university preventive awareness on the economic factors leading to drug abuse, as this effect shows that the awareness programs and activities provided by the university (such as seminars, early preventive programs, financial support, and social guidance) contribute to reducing the severity of the economic factors that pressure students, represented by poverty, unemployment, low income, and the psychological and social problems associated with them. Thus, university preventive awareness is not limited to the educational role only, but extends to play an effective role in mitigating the effects of economic variables that may push students towards drug abuse behaviors, which highlights its importance as a strategic tool in confronting the phenomenon, as it was able to explain about (64%) of the changes in the level of economic factors leading to drug abuse. The calculated (t) value for the university preventive awareness variable reached (26.447), which is higher than the tabular (t) value of (1.984) at a significance level of (0.05), which confirms the significance of the (β) coefficient for the strategic vision. The results indicate that increasing university preventive awareness by one unit can increase the level of economic factors leading to drug abuse by (88%).

Figure (5) Analysis of the impact of university preventive awareness on the economic factors leading to drug abuse



Source: AMOS V.26

Table (8) Analysis of the impact of university preventive awareness on the economic factors leading to drug abuse

dependent variable	Sig	(F)	(R 2) Adj	(R 2)	(t)	independent variable		
Economic factors leading to drug abuse	0.000	Economic factors leading to drug abuse	0.648	0.649	3,189 26,447	0.391 0.880	(a) B	University preventive awareness

Source: SPSS V.28

Chapter Four: Conclusion

The general trend of the results reflects the respondents' awareness of the seriousness of economic determinants and their prominent role in pushing students towards drug use. Drug use also leads students to commit crimes in order to quickly earn money, due to financial need, which represents a direct motive towards committing criminal behavior. The results also showed general agreement that poverty, unemployment, low family income, and the resulting psychological crises are all direct factors that increase the likelihood of drug use, in addition to their negative repercussions on the national economy and the increase in the illicit wealth of promoters.

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