

#319916

Common among adolescents who are chemically dependent were observed, including irritability, amotivational syndrome, problems with authority, poor impulse control and antisocial personality traits. Pervasive mood is that of severe depression. Hospitalization is required because of the risk of suicide. The subject admitted to an interest in the occult.

CLINICAL INTERVIEW

When asked to describe herself the subject stated, "I'm friendly to my friends but I can get pissed off easily. I'm not a happy person". She stated that her personal strength was that she "liked to help people". Her weakness was "sensitivity to what people say about me". She explained, "I get pissed off when people put me down. They say I'm fat. I've been hearing that I'm fat all my life from my family and everyone else". The subject's goals were "to be happy, get off drugs and control my anger". The subject stated that her interests included, "Drugs and going to concerts are mosh pits". She added, "That's like in head bangers". She listed a number of clubs which she goes to with friends.

The subject lives with her mother and father. A 10 year old sister lives independently. The subject's mother teaches school. The subject stated that her mother has no time for her and spends all her time "taking care of my alcoholic father". She added, "He won't even let her go out of the house. He drinks all the time and is on oxygen because of emphysema". He has been unemployed for the last 1 1/2 years. The subject stated that her father was verbally abusive to her and the mother. When asked if the mother or subject attended Alanon or Alateen the subject stated with anger, "My mother doesn't admit that my father's an alcoholic. She doesn't even know I use drugs. When I was arrested for drug use she just pushed it off. She has no clue to my problems. When I tired to commit suicide she just said 'why don't you see your friends. It'll make you feel better' (sic)". The subject stated that she attempted suicide because she "wanted to die". She added, "When I get in a depressed mood I go into it deeper and really feel like shit".

She admitted to daily use of cannabis over the last two years. Use began four years ago. Research has shown that extensive and chronic use of marijuana can result in irreversible organicity, impaired memory and impaired ability to learn. It is probable that abuse of drugs has resulted in organic brain damage. With abstinence some of the problems might be remediated. The subject also admitted frequent use of hallucinogens, amphetamines and alcohol.

ASSESSMENT RESULTS

The subject obtained the following scores on the WAIS-R:

- Verbal
- Information
- Digit Span
- Vocabulary
- Arithmetic
- Comprehension
- Similarities

- Performance
- Picture Completion
- Picture Arrangement
- Block Design
- Object Assembly
- Digit Symbol

*Age scale scores