SEX, DRUGS & ALCOHOL
USE AND OVERUSE

An Elder Academy Event

Researchers from the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research will put a personal face on the people who are marginalized by sex, drugs and alcohol overuse, and, argue that responsive government policies and laws are an essential part of providing effective services and support to individuals and their families.

DATES: Saturdays, January 11, 18, 25, 2020 (3 sessions)

Jan 11: Sex Trafficking vs. Prostitution: The Need for Evidence-Based Laws and Policies

PRESENTER: Cecilia Benoit, PhD

Jan 18: Cannabis, Alcohol and Other Drugs: Science Behind Laws for Impaired Driving & the Workplace

PRESENTER: Scott MacDonald, PhD

Jan 25: heART Space: Compassion Building Around Overdose

PRESENTER: Marion Selfridge, PhD

TIME: 10:00am to noon

WHERE: University of Victoria, David Turpin Building (DTB), Room A102

COST: $15.00 for the series (3 sessions)

REGISTRATION, FURTHER DETAILS, AND PAYMENT AT:

https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/sex-drugs-alcohol-tickets-82292490053

Students attend free and do not need to pre-register. Just present your student’s card at the venue’s attendance desk

INFORMATION: uvra@uvic.ca
Sex Trafficking vs. Prostitution: The Need for Evidence-Based Laws and Policies

In this presentation, Dr. Benoit will unpack the common conflation of the terms “sex trafficking” and “prostitution/sex work” and provide an overview of the current Canadian laws that govern these activities. She will report on the negative impact of punitive prostitution laws on sex workers and what they want regarding their working conditions and social rights. She will argue that we need better documentation of labour exploitation in sex work, as well as in other precarious jobs done by marginalized people in Canada and around the world.

Biographical description

Cecilia Benoit, Ph.D., is a Scientist at the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research and Professor Emeritus in the Department of Sociology at UVic. In addition to research focused on midwifery and the organization of maternity care in Canada and internationally, she has been involved in a variety of projects investigating social inequities faced by marginalized groups, including Indigenous women in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, street-involved youth in transition to adulthood, pregnant women confronting substance use and poverty, and adults in sex work.
Cannabis, alcohol and other drugs: Science behind laws for impaired driving and the workplace

In this presentation, Dr. Macdonald will provide an overview of Canadian policies for impaired drivers and workers, focusing on a comparison between alcohol and cannabis. He will address the scientific issues behind laws and policies for impaired driving and the workplace. He will draw on his experiences over his career for this presentation.

Biographical description

Scott Macdonald, now retired, was the Assistant Director at the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research (CISUR) and Professor at the School of Health Information Science (University of Victoria) for 14 years. With over 40 year’s research experience on substance use issues, he has published over 100 papers. His primary area of research is the relationship between alcohol/drug use and injury related outcomes. He has been an expert witness in numerous Canadian hearings on drug testing in the workplace.
heART Space: Compassion Building Around Overdose

This presentation will share the experience of “heART space”, pop-up collaborative and community-engaged art show. Using an empty storefront in Victoria, BC, heART space showcased art created by people who have died from overdose, art created to memorialize and honour those that have died, and art produced from those that have been impacted by overdose.

Starting with a snapshot of the current state of the opioid crisis in BC and Canada, changes to laws and protocols to support calling 911 during an overdose and innovative treatment protocols, this presentation highlights how the participatory, collaborative, and community-engaged arts practices used during heART space created alternate avenues for support and dialogue concerning substance use, homelessness, and grief by directly involving youth in project design, program and event facilitation, and the development of knowledge mobilization that was meaningful to them.
Biographical Description

Marion Selfridge is a research coordinator, focusing on HIV and Hepatitis C treatment at the Cool Aid Community Health Centre and is a post-doctoral fellow at the Canadian Institute for Substance Use where she coordinates the Youth Experiences Project, that asked youth who use illicit substances about their lives and their experiences with police. She recently completed her PhD in the Social Dimensions of Health program at the University of Victoria. Her dissertation research focused on street-involved youths’ use of social media to deal with grief and loss. For 5 years Marion was a medical social worker at the Victoria Youth Clinic, a drop-in clinic for youth that provides food, access to resources and harm-reduction medical care. She has worked with many youth, including youth who, for a variety of reasons, live close to or on the streets. The life stories that they have been so generous in sharing with her inspired her to come back to school to make sense of how youth end up marginalized and in severe poverty, how they care for themselves and each other. She teaches dance to stay sane.

USEFUL INFORMATION

PARKING: On Saturday parking is $3.50 for all day. Cash or Credit Card. New parking regulations require you to enter your license plate number when purchasing your ticket. You do not have to return to your car to place the ticket on the dash as it is all done electronically.

SUGGESTED PARKING: Lot 6 at McGill Road and Ring Road

CAMPUS MAP: www.uvic.ca/home/about/campus-info/maps/pdf/parking-map.pdf

BUS ROUTES: www.uvic.ca/home/about/campus-info/maps/maps/

NEED HELP? Please contact uvra@uvic.ca, giving name of the event, if you want more information, have a question, or need help with registering.