

NDRI invites you to

Substance use by adolescents in residential youth care institutions

Free public seminar with

Veerle Soyez

*Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Vrije Universiteit
Brussels, Belgium and NDRI Visiting Fellow*

Wednesday, 9 September 2015 @ 1.00pm

National Drug Research Institute Seminar Room
Curtin University Health Research Campus,
Level 2, 10 Selby Street, Shenton Park, WA

Prevalence research on substance use in adolescents is often performed in classic school contexts. As a result, a large group of 'vulnerable' young people are un- or under-represented in these studies. The current study tries to fill this gap. In this presentation, I outline the results of a multi-method study conducted in Flanders (Belgium) in which we compared data from two surveys on youth substance use, namely a group of adolescents staying in residential youth care and a group of secondary school students. Both groups were given the same questionnaire, and matched on age, education level and gender criteria. Additionally, in-depth interviews with 40 adolescents in residential youth care were conducted. Implications for daily practice and policy will be discussed.

Veerle Soyez is a lecturer at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences at Vrije Universiteit Brussels/VUB (Belgium) and clinical coordinator in a therapeutic community for substance users in the Ghent region. She is currently visiting fellow at the National Drug Research Institute at Curtin University. Trained as a master in 'Orthopedagogiques' (special education and social work) and a system therapist, Veerle completed a PhD at Ghent University on the impact of involving family members during therapeutic community treatment on retention and success. She has built a broad expertise in qualitative research, mainly in the field of therapeutic communities. The impact of substance abuse on family members has been another main focus of her work. In this context she has recently conducted research focusing on the impact of parental substance use on children and adolescents and substance use in adolescents in contact with youth care.

RSVP to (08) 9266 1600 or ndri@curtin.edu.au by Friday 4 September, 2015.