



# THE NEWSLETTER



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## STUDY SHOWS LINKAGES BETWEEN DRUGS AND CRIME

A pilot study which examined issues involving the relationship between drugs and crime, among inmates at Her Majesty's Prisons, Grenada in July 2010, reveals linkages between the use of drugs and crime committed by inmates prior to incarceration. The target for the survey was the prison population which consisted of convicted and remand prisoners. The sample size was 104 (72 convicted and 32 remand prisoners), which represented 25 % of the prison population. Among the respondents, 90.38 % (94) were male and 9.62 % (10) female.

The findings revealed that forty percent (40%) of the crimes committed by the respondents occurred under the influence of drugs. The results also revealed that the drug with the highest intoxication that resulted in crime was alcohol. Another finding was sexual assault, physical assault, and malicious damage were the crimes committed under the influence of drugs. Further, the most prevalent drug used by the respondents was marijuana, followed closely by tobacco.

Respondents were asked to rate the importance of the relationship between drugs and crime. Twenty-two percent (22%)

reported that there is no relationship between drugs and crime. Of the seventy-six percent (76 %) who consider the relationship between crime and drugs to be important, forty-nine percent (49 %) rated the relationship from important to very important, while the remainder rated the relationship as having little importance to somewhat important.

In determining the role of drugs in the crime committed by remand and convicted prisoners, they were asked whether the crime they committed and for which they are imprisoned was related to drug and whether the crime was committed under the influence of drugs. Thirty-three percent (33 %) of the respondents acknowledged that the crimes committed were related to drugs and twenty-five percent admitted to have been under the influence of drugs when their crimes were committed.

Of the prisoners whose crimes were committed under the influ-

ence of drugs (25 %), more than half (13%) were committed under the influence of alcohol. Marijuana (6%), cocaine (4%) and crack (2%) were the other named drugs influencing the perpetrators of the crimes.

Nineteen percent (19 %) of the twenty-five percent prisoners whose crimes were committed under the influence of drugs stated that the crimes would not have been committed if they were not under the influence of drugs. Eight percent of respondents stated that the crime would still have been committed even if they were not under the influence of drugs.

(cont'd on page 3)

**GANJA** is illegal in Grenada, Carriacou & Petite Martinique

### OUR MISSION

*The Drug Control Secretariat would endeavour to create an atmosphere of non-tolerance towards drugs, through the implementation of appropriate programmes, which would promote the well-being of all persons in the State of Grenada.*

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**FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**



*Dave Alexander, Drug Control Officer*

The pilot study on drugs and crime at the Prisons in Grenada, 2010, has established linkages between drug use and crime. Several of the inmates who participated in the study indicated that they were under the influence of the drugs when they committed the offences which resulted in their incarceration.

Meanwhile, statistics from the Royal Grenada Police Force, the Prisons and medical facilities indicate significant use of alcohol, marijuana and to a lesser extent, cocaine/crack. Given the above situations, and other data which is available, the question arises of the need for treatment services for incarcerated persons at the prisons.

In 2006, two assessments were conducted at the Prisons, which addressed the need for treatment services for the inmates. Both assessments recommended that treatment and rehabilitation services be established at the Prisons, for inmates who have drug-related medical and psychological problems. *The Newsletter* endorses these recommendations and urges that the relevant authorities give attention to this issue. If unattended then some of these inmates would continue to experience these problems associated with drug use and may continue their criminal behavior, upon release from incarceration.

**DRUG-RELATED STATISTICS**

The following is a summary of key drug-related statistics, collected by GRENDIN, for the period 1 January to 30 June 2010.

**Arrested For Drug-Related Offences**

Number of persons arrested and charged for drug-related offences: 361  
(Males: 325; Females: 36)

Number of persons twenty years and under: 43  
(Males 39; Females 4:)

**Convictions For Drug-Related Offences**

Number of persons convicted for possession of drugs: 28  
(Males: 25; Females: 3)

Number of persons convicted for trafficking of drugs: 1  
(Males: 1)

**Persons Sentenced to Prisons For Drug Related Offences**

Number of persons: 33  
(Males: 30; Females: 3)

Age (years) range of persons  
15 to 19: 2  
20 to 24: 5  
25 to 29: 8  
30 to 24: 4  
35 to 29: 8  
40 and over: 6

**Criminal Deportees**

Number of deportees: 17  
(Males: 14; Females: 3)

**Types And Quantity Of Drugs Confiscated By The Royal Grenada Police Force**

Cocaine: 4.8 g  
Cannabis Plants: 1,510 units  
Cannabis: 278.73 kg  
Cannabis cigarettes: 976 units

**Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, And Other Related Materials Confiscated In Relation To Arrests For Illicit Drug Trafficking Offences**

Number of persons arrested and charged: 4

Number of firearms confiscated: 1

Number of ammunition confiscated: 18 rounds

**Drug-Related Admissions To Carlton House Treatment Centre**

Number of patients: 13  
(Males: 10; Females 3)

**Financial Crimes**

Number of reports of suspicious transactions in relation to drugs: 0

Details on the above statistics can be obtained from the Drug Control Secretariat, at telephone 14734407911, or email: [dave.alexander@gov.gd](mailto:dave.alexander@gov.gd)

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**GRENDIN ANNUAL MEETING HELD**

December 10, 2010, witnessed the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Grenada Drug Information Network and the National Observatory on Drugs (GRENDIN/NOD). Highlight of the meeting was the feature presentation on the topic, *'Results of the Study on the Linkages Between Drug Use and Crime in Grenada'*. The research was conducted by Dr. Wendy Crawford-Daniel, Associate Professor at the St. George's University.



*Dr. Wendy Crawford-Daniel at GRENDIN Meeting*

An update on the programmes implemented by GRENDIN in 2010, and the status of the Multilateral Evaluation mechanism (MEM), were also presented.

Established in 2002, GRENDIN is the mechanism through which the Government of Grenada collects and disseminates drug-related statistics. The Drug Control Secretariat is the national Observatory on Drugs.

**STUDY SHOWS LINKAGES BETWEEN DRUG USE AND CRIME**

Twenty percent of respondents, who were under the influence of drugs at the time of their crime, declared that they did not consume drugs in order to boost their courage to commit the crimes. Eight percent of the respondents admitted to using drugs to boost their courage to commit the crimes.

The type of drug activities for which prisoners were incarcerated ranged from drugs for personal use to marketing and selling drugs. Eleven percent of respondents claimed that their drug activity violated drug laws. Eleven percent reported that their drug activity involved the production, selling and trafficking of drugs and another twelve percent claimed their crimes were linked to the drug market. Fewer, (7%), claimed that their crimes were linked to drugs for personal consumption.

Respondents were also asked to evaluate the impact of their crimes and imprisonment on their family. The aspects of their lives most affected by the prisoners' crimes were their social, economic and their familial relationships. Twenty-six percent of the respondents said that their drug use had a significant impact on their family's economic situation. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the respondents reported that their crime and imprisonment has a significant impact on their family relationships .

The objectives of the study were inter alia: Determine the prevalence rate of psychoactive substance use among the adult (18 year old and above) prison population; Analyze the link between criminal behavior and psychoactive substance use of the identified prison population; Determine the link between criminal behavior and drug use; Establish the impact of drug use on the prison population, individual and family environments. It was conducted by Dr. Wendy Crawford-Daniel, Associate Professor, St. George's University, Grenada. Funding was provided by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD).



*Her Majesty's Prisons, Grenada*

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**IN THE NEWS**

**G**renada's Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) received a donation of eight computers and a digital camera, from the Embassy of the United States of America, at a presentation ceremony on 13 September 2010. Valued at US \$8,500, the new computer equipment and camera were fully funded by the U.S. Government and respond to priorities identified by Grenada during the visit of US Attorney General Eric Holder to Barbados in May 2010. The new equipment would replace obsolete computers and accommodate the recent increase in staff at the FIU. The new equipment will improve the capability and operational effectiveness of the FIU in confronting any Grenada-based money laundering operations.

**R**evision of Indicators used by GRENDIN, has been completed. The revised data would streamline data collected and improve on the quality of such data. The Indicators provide over ninety-five percent of the statistical data requested by the Multilateral Evaluation mechanism (MEM) of CICAD, and are used by local policy makers to guide the formulation of policies and related programmes. Implementation of the revised Indicators would commence in 2011.

**PHOTOS:  
GRENDIN ANNUAL  
MEETING,  
10 DECEMBER 2010**



*Elizabeth Japal,  
Assistant Drug Control Officer  
&  
Officer Responsible for GRENDIN  
at GRENDIN Meeting*



*Veronica Alexander,  
Senior Laboratory Technologist  
at  
GRENDIN Meeting*

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**THANKS**

**T**he Drug Control Secretariat wishes to thank the Government and people of Grenada, and all local, regional and international Organizations, for their financial and technical support in in the area of drug control in 2010. Special thanks to the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), for its assistance in the area of the Multilateral Evaluation mechanism (MEM), and the study on the linkages between drug use and crime.

Despite the harsh economic challenges, and thereby limited resources, the support of all persons and Institutions was unwavering. We are most grateful for your steadfast support. Your assistance has redounded to the success of our antidrug initiatives. We look forward to your assistance in 2011.

**NOW PLAYING:  
'LIVING DRUG-FREE'  
On GIS Television,  
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A production of the  
Drug Control Secretariat  
&  
Government Information Service**

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