

**Note 1:* this addiction is different from the Technology Addiction topic, which has more to do with behavior using technology & devices vs. this one which is geared toward substances and pleasure circuits in the brain.

***Note 2:* as with other topics, this one often crosses paths with the mental health and the homelessness topics. However, make sure if you're choosing this one, that the primary focus is on the addictive behavior rather than the potential effects of that behavior (i.e. homelessness or mental health issues).

Possible Topics/Directions/Angles:

Alcohol addiction/alcoholism

Illegal narcotics addiction/illicit drug use

Prescription drug addiction

Opioid epidemic

Methadone addiction

Tobacco/nicotine addiction

Addiction to vaping

Gambling addiction

Pornography addiction

Work addiction

Exercise addiction

Food addiction; eating disorders

Compulsive buying; hoarding

Treatment or recovery options for addiction: detox, inpatient rehab, outpatient rehab, group therapy, cognitive behavioral therapy, 1-on-1 counseling, support groups, court-ordered, sober living program, holistic rehab, cold turkey, deprivation, surgical treatments, hypnotism, prison programs, wraparound programs (for youths and adults)

Genetic disposition

Genetic/biological vs. social/environmental influences

Clean needle programs

Supervised injection sites

Effects on social services, police services, and health professionals (EMTs, doctors & nurses, hospital staff, clinics, etc.)

Government &/or Background Resources:

What is addiction?

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3860451/>

The neurobiology of addiction

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6767400/>

Behavioral Addiction versus Substance Addiction: Correspondence of Psychiatric and Psychological Views

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3354400/>

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Substance Abuse Disorders:

<https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/services-programs/behavioral-health/about-substance-use-disorder>

(Washington State) Gov. Inslee signs new drug possession law after special legislative session

<https://www.kuow.org/stories/gov-inslee-signs-new-drug-possession-law-after-special-legislative-session>

Sample Topic: Pro (Supervised Injection Sites Are Helping) or Con (Supervised Injection Sites are Hurting)-

Pro:

The Case for Supervised Injection Sites in the United States by Dr. Jorge Fink and Dr. Jie Chan

<https://www.aafp.org/pubs/afp/issues/2022/0500/p454.html>

Understanding Morals Is Key to Accepting Safe Injection Sites by Alexandra Plante

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/understanding-morals-is-key-to-accepting-safe-injection-sites/>

Con:

Safe injection sites aren't safe or legal by Andrew Lelling

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/the-boston-globe-opinion-andrew-elling-safe-injection-sites-arent-safe-or-legal-jan-28-2019/download>

"Safe Injection Sites" Aren't Safe, Effective or Wise. Just Ask Canadians

<https://www.heritage.org/public-health/commentary/safe-injection-sites-arent-safe-effective-or-wise-just-ask-canadians>