Sex Work Substances

Effects Upon the Body That We Can Sometimes Overlook

by Bill Robertson


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Speed (amphetamines, for the uninitiated) for example has an action of drying up mucosal linings within the body. You might recall how thirsty you can become after a speed binge. This will mean that your body's ability to produce natural lubricant is diminished markedly. In neo-vaginal, vaginal and anal sex it may be necessary to use extra lube so the likelihood of soreness and irritation is reduced. This in turn will give you the ability to turn some more tricks instead of justifying knocking off work “... because I'm too sore”: Giving head becomes a little more difficult also due to the lack of saliva available in the mouth. A trick here is to drink water just prior to the job with real lemon juice squeezed into the water. The lemon juice stimulates the salivary glands and produces some extra saliva. Speed can affect non-operative transgender workers or male workers in getting an erection, once you get one it often takes forever to go down and it can take an age to come. The use of devices to get or maintain an erection (cock rings, etc.) can cause permanent damage if not used with discretion and being mindful of the time they are used. Cocaine has similar action upon the body as speed does.

Some anti-depressant medications e.g. Prozac, have been reported as causing sexual dysfunction in between 30 to 40 percent of persons taking the drug.

Benzodiazepines (Valium, Serepax ®, Rohypnol ®, Normison ®, etc.) can have toxic effects producing lethargy, light headedness, sedation, impaired mental and psychomotor function, confusion, and reduced reaction time. Benzos can be particularly dangerous when mixed with alcohol.

Opiates (heroin, methadone, morphine, etc.) are strong pain killers. As well as suppressing emotional pain and suffering they have the ability to diminish any pain that the body is suffering. Some sexual behaviours may feel okay while stoned on these substances but in reality they could be hurting you or causing some damage.

Remember, if you feel pain of any description it is our body's warning mechanism to us to take it easy. Listen to what your body says to you. Do not solely rely on what you think, therefore justifying and rationalising the warning messages anyway.

References:


The Gender Centre is committed to developing and providing services and activities, which enhance the ability of people with gender issues to make informed choices. We offer a wide range of services to people with gender issues, their partners, family members and friends in New South Wales. We are an accommodation service and also act as an education, support, training and referral resource centre to other organisations and service providers. The Gender Centre is committed to educating the public and service providers about the needs of people with gender issues. We specifically aim to provide a high quality service, which acknowledges human rights and ensures respect and confidentiality.