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Application Paper

 This class has really opened up my eyes to a new world. When I first started the class I was just thinking it was going to be a breeze and that I was not going to learn much since I work at a hospital as a medical assistant. I have taken numerous medical classes; I have my CNA, and am working towards my nursing degree. Surprisingly I learned a lot about drugs, alcohol, and addiction. I learned about what medications, drugs, and alcohol can actually do to your body. I learned what addiction actually is and how easy someone can fall into addiction.

 The world we live in today is all about drugs and alcohol. In every movie there is at least something to do with it, if it is not completely about it. Drug use is becoming younger and younger. In this class on every drug we talked about we learned percentages and ages of those who used the drugs. I was floored to see that children so young were using drugs. It put into perspective of why teenagers are having more pregnancies, deaths, and diseases.

 What I learned in this class is really going to help me in my future. It is already helping me understand more of my current job. As I stated earlier I work in a hospital as a medical assistant. Our job involves about 90% medication. Most all of the calls I get in one day is about prescription refills. They always want more or a higher dose. We deal with a lot of addiction with pain medication with our patients. This class helped me get an understanding of why they get so addicted. It also helped me know to certain medications that can be more addicting than others. When our patients that I deal with get addicted to pain medication it is hard to wing them off of it. We can’t just have them quit cold turkey because it can lead to a lot of harm to the patient. It is also hard when we operate on a patient and when we prescribe them the normal dose of pain medicine we would to anyone else; it honestly won’t even touch their pain. We have to prescribe those who are addicted an even higher dose, which could kill those who are not used to narcotics instantly. When we prescribe these high doses there is a very likely chance that the patient will get immune to it and will need more and higher dosing. This is a very serious issue that our doctors have to deal with daily. It is the doctor’s choice on the plan to take to help the patient get off of the medication.

 From this class I got a lot of information on how to deal with addictions. We read a lot of different articles that gave some really good cites for people with addictions to go to. For one of our assignments we had to find information about addiction near our home town. I found a couple rehab places right near where I live that I didn’t know existed. This really made me open up my eyes to what help is offered around me. Chapter seven was my favorite chapter it hit home to me, it was all about alcohol. My soon to be father in law is an alcoholic we have tried multiple things with him to try and get him off using alcohol. It is a hard thing to get addicts off of. With this class I got some great insights to rehabs that could potentially help him and the family overcomes this. I also found many hotlines that I can call to get information from to help him get over the addiction. They have people to talk to too help the family cope with it. It is stressful seeing someone you love have to hit rock bottom like my soon to be father in law has. This information is going to greatly help me in my near future deal with everything I am going to have to deal with. He is a great man but unfortunately addiction can control and ruin a person’s life. Addiction does not care who you are. Just like I learned from a lot of the stories I read. This class gave me great insight on life in things that I do deal with and things that I will have to.