

Station 2: Factors of Addiction

Three major factors can play a role in addiction:

Life style choices

Environment

Genetics

Life style choices, environmental factors, and genetics can cause abnormalities to occur during embryonic development as well as later in life.

Making the choice to include drugs, alcohol, and/or smoking cigarettes in your daily life can lead to addiction and do serious damage to your body.

Living in an environment where toxic substances and drug abuse exist makes it easier for an individual to become pressured to live that life style and engage in those activities.

Scientists are conducting many studies to determine if there is a specific gene linked to addiction. It is clear that if a pregnant woman drinks alcohol, smokes or does other drugs very serious if not fatal damage can impact the fetus (baby before it is born). As genes are passed on from parents to offspring, it is possible that the trait of addiction may be passed on, as well.

YOUR TASK:

1. According to this passage, what are the 3 factors that can influence a person's chances of developing an addiction?
2. Brainstorm with your group to come up with 2 explanations (other than those mentioned) of HOW each factor can influence addiction. You should have a total of 6 explanations.

