

## Alcoholism

Coming back from war and returning to country where crime and anarchy are ruling, and there was no work for honest people in ruin economy, forced one part of veterans to gave themselves to alcoholism in order to run away from reality in that way. Alcoholism brought violence in many veteran's families and surroundings where veterans live and work. Consequence of alcoholism, and often taking medicines like and Bensendin (which has hallucinogen effects when mixed with alcohol) is asocial behavior, which is difficult for surrounding to take on with.

Example for this subject can be a part from science work of Sladjana Dragisic-Labas from Institute for neuropsychiatric diseases "Dr Laza Lazarevic" in Belgrade. It's title is "Social factors in etiology of suicidal behavior of invalids of 1991-1995 war";.

Number of inquired that drink, or use alcohol every day or several times a week, increased on the front. It is important fact that number of inquired that get drunk on the front increased for about 90% when compared to prewar period. Larger quantities of drinks, mainly strong drinks, were consummated on the front, when compared to prewar period. About 15% of the inquired, from the group on the front, had symptoms of toxicological alcoholism (loss of control, alcohol amnesia, impossibility of abstinence, decrease of tolerance). In the postwar period number of inquired that drink decreased (to 72 % - 35.64%), when compared to period spent on the front (131 % - 64.85%). That fact gives information about situational drinking, drinking in order to remove symptoms caused by significant stress. Anyway, data about postwar drinking has to be taken as partially correct, since it has been noticed by personnel in rehabilitation centers and explorers, that one part of the inquired had typical alcoholic faces, alcohol was often hidden in the rooms, some of the inquired were anxious while answering questions about alcohol, one part of the inquired smelled by alcohol, and that some of the inquired were spending time on places where alcohol was drunk. The first symptoms of alcoholism appeared for the first time on the front on 23.07% of the inquired. Presence of the over toxic and toxic phase in the postwar period is probably caused by a lot of unsolved social and psychic problems.

Large number of foreign authors is speaking about increased use of alcohol in war conditions, and about development of psychical disorders in the postwar period (Behar, 1997; Branchey, Davis, 1984; Brett, 1988; Brinson, 1988; Solomon, 1992; Eberly, 1991; Helzer, 1984; Jelinek, 1994; McFall, 1992; Siegal, 1995; Wasserman, 1992). Domestic authors also notice increased use of alcohol on the front, and beginning and development of various psychical disorders in the postwar period (Bukelic, 1994; Dimitrijevic, 1994; Jovicic, 1995; Kalicanin and assistants, 1994; Petrovic, 1992) - end of citation.

Our organization is going to try to organize a serial of lectures, about possibilities of normal life and stopping alcoholism between veterans, in order to educate it's members, their families and community, to recognize the problem and take a part in it's solving. In this work we are expecting help firstly from the professionals who have years of experience, but we also expect help from the wider social community.