

Date rape drug - modern man's fetish!

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WE live in an age of abuse. Laws are abused, policies are abused, institutions are abused, in fact, abuse has become a way of life. Should it then be of any surprise that we abuse one another in quest of momentary pleasures? Sexual exploitation has been in vogue since the advent of mankind.. Human history is all about abductions and mass rapes. But, the use of coercive chemicals to subjugate the female for sexual exploitation is a barbaric fetish of modern man! The relentless quest for brutish sensuality has led to the formulation of a unique drug, known as Rohypnol. It has a variety of titles - like, "**Forget Pill**", "**Roofies**", "**Ruffies**", "**Roche**", "**R-2**", "**Rib**", "**Rope**", "**Predator Drug**", and of course the "**Rape Date Drug**". This drug is used as an assault - chemical of choice due to its disinhibitory and amnesiac effect.

Rohypnol is a brand name for Funitrazepam (a Benzodiazepine), a very potent tranquilizer similar in nature to Valium (Diazepam), but many times stronger. The drug produces a sedative effect, amnesia, muscle relaxation, and a slowing of psychomotor responses. Sedation occurs 20 - 30 minutes after administration and lasts for several hours.

Rohypnol is often combined with alcohol, marijuana, or cocaine to produce a rapid and very dramatic "high". Even when used by itself, users can appear extremely intoxicated, with slurred speech, no coordination, swaying and blood shot eyes. This drug is generally administered on females in hopes of lowered inhibitions and facilitating potential sexual conquest.

Rohypnol when mixed with alcohol or other drugs may lead to respiratory depression, aspiration, and even death. When taken repeatedly, it can lead to physical and psychic dependence, which increases with both dose and duration. An amnesia producing effect of Rohypnol may prevent users from remembering how or why they took the drug? This makes investigation of sexually related offences very difficult to prove, for a 2 milligram dose can put a person into an excited, agitated and disinhibited state, leaving only amnesia. Often predators simply slip the drug into the drinks of unsuspecting victims. This has enabled the drug to acquire the title "Predator Drug".

Rohypnol in combination with Ketamine or "Special K" is a rapist's delight. They're extremely popular as recreational drugs, in the Rave scene. Another popular drug is Gamma-hydroxy-butyramine (GHB) which also has sedative-hypnotic-amnesiogenic effects.

Chemically assisted date rape is becoming a problem in today's increasingly estranged and schismatic world. Steroids, stimulants, hormones, blood-boosters and even insulin have been combined in potentially life threatening cocktails by drug enthusiasts. Steroid Tetrahydrogestrinone (THG), blood booster Erythropoietin (EPO), Human Growth Hormone (HGH), the stimulant Modafinil are commonly used as drugs of abuse. Another abused mixture is Testosterone and hormone Epitesterone, colloquially known as "cream".

Our Enforcement agencies are still in pursuit of traditional drugs like Heroin and Cocaine, whereas the users have upgraded their consumption patterns to all kinds of crazy synthetic chemical combinations. Knowledge levels and detection capabilities about such synthetic drugs are very low in official circles .Emerging drug abuse patterns are too frightening to contemplate and difficult to detect. But these are not problems for just law enforcement and drug counselling services; this is a problem for society to combat.

(The views expressed are personal of the author)