Toxicological Profile of Glue Sniffing in Experimental Animals

Thesis Submitted for Partial Fulfilment of Master Degree of Clinical Toxicology

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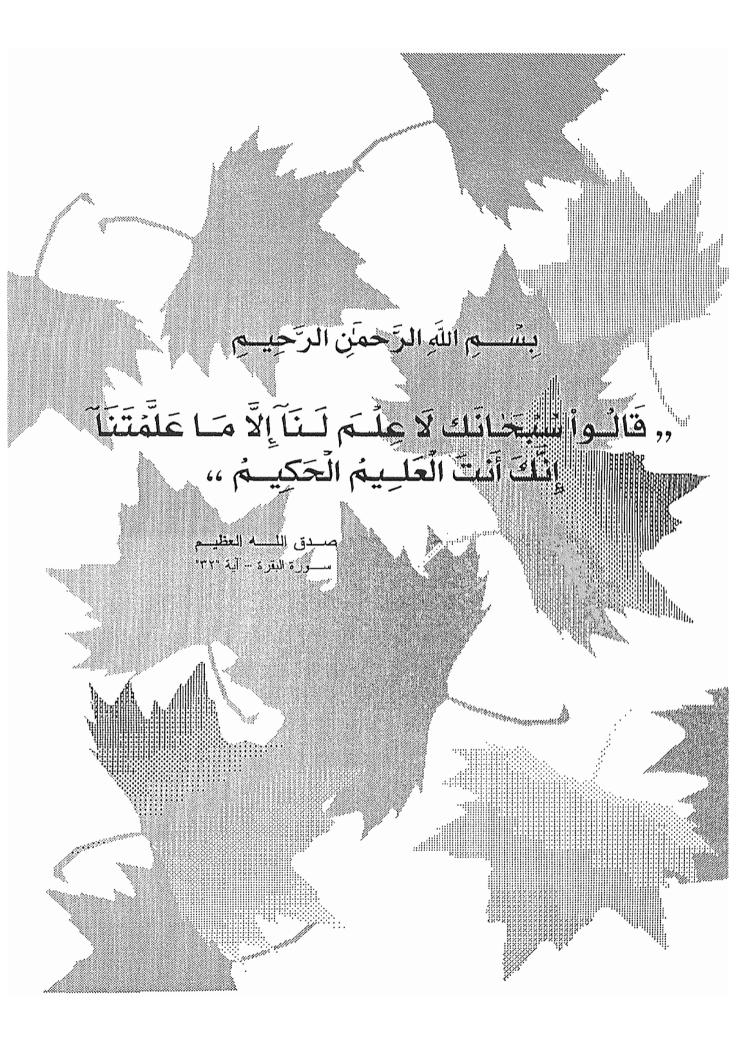
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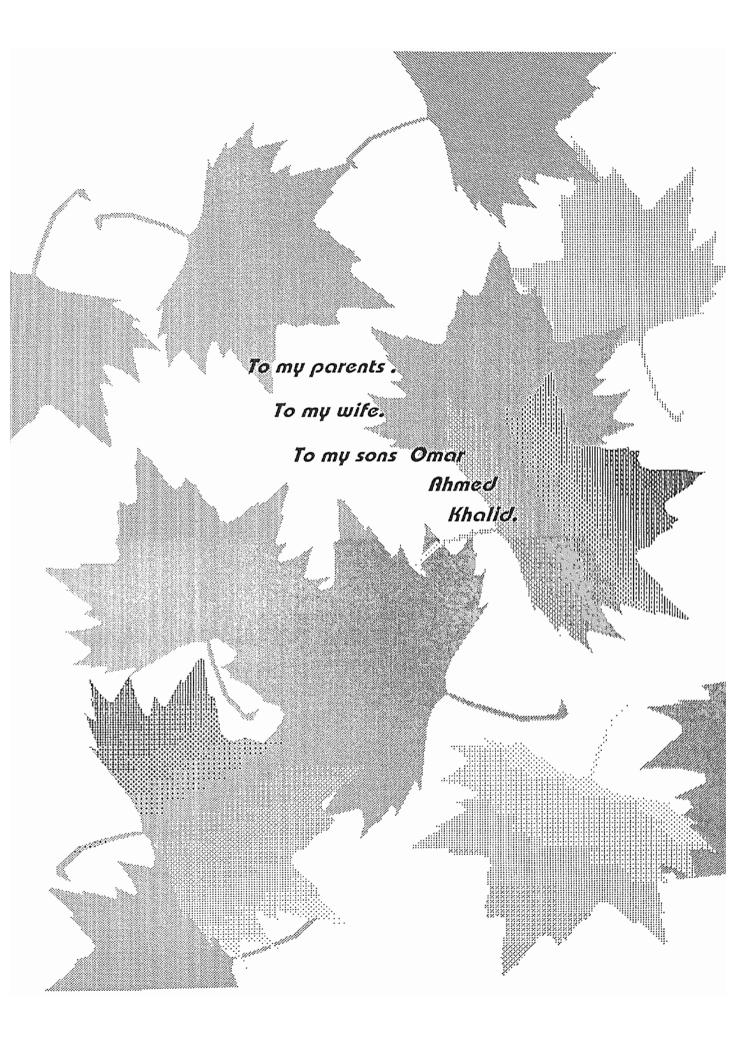
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACGH American Conference of Government Industrial Hygiene.

CESARS Chemical Evaluation Search and Retrieval System.

HSDB Hazardous Substances Data Bank.

NIOSH National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

RTECS Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances.

mEq/L Milliequivalent per litre.

mg% Milligram percent.

u/l unit per litre.

AST Aspartate Transaminase.

ALT Alanine Transaminase.

PEEP Positive End Expiratory Pressure.

CT Computed Tomography.

MRI Magnetic Resonance Imaging.

RTA Renal Tubular Acidosis.

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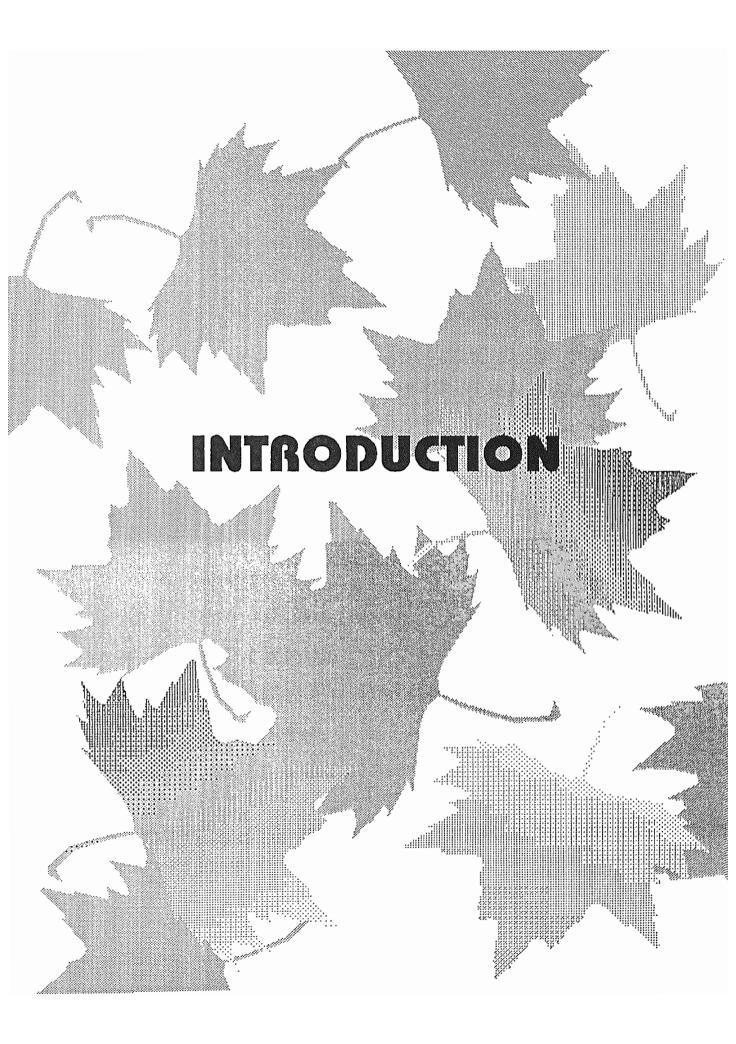
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INTRODUCTION

Solvent abuse is a potentially lethal practice that involves a wide range of volatile, fat soluble substances which easily cross from gaseous phase in the lungs to the blood and subsequently to the lipids of the brain, organs and body fat. Once within the brain, these compounds can disrupt it's function by affecting neuronal membrane ion channels and may cause changes in consciousness ranging from mild intoxication through hallucinatory states to coma with cardio-respiratory depression.

True dependence may occur, and the development of isolated, solitary sniffing practices may be indicative of increasing dependence. The management of this problem depends on the recognition and treatment of underlying psychological problems. Solvent abuse is generally a habit of young teens, but may be persist into the mid-twenties. Peer group pressure may be an important factor

Legislation seems unlikely to affect the prevalence of solvent abuse due to the large number of chemicals involved and their widespread use in the home and industry. Perhaps the most useful