

THE WORD 'ABUSE' ☹️

The word 'abuse' means 'to use wrongly, improperly or misuse.' When 'abuse' is used in relation to alcoholic beverages, it signifies that there is then a 'right and proper use' of alcohol as a drink. This can be very misleading to the general public, including children and youth, especially if the word is used by groups who are teaching **TOTAL ABSTINENCE**.

**TOTAL
ABSTINENCE**

Therefore, the word 'abuse' cannot have any part in the WCTU work of educating people about the harmful effects of alcoholic beverages or other drugs. Using the word 'abuse' is negative to the message of **TOTAL ABSTINENCE**.



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We first heard the phrase 'alcohol abuse' by the liquor interests and those groups who do not endorse **TOTAL ABSTINENCE**, and therefore, want people to think that consuming alcoholic drinks, at least a little, is harmless and acceptable.

We need to kindly inform and correct those who, meaning well, but consciously or unconsciously, say 'alcohol abuse' rather than 'alcohol **USE!**' It's the alcohol that causes the problems! The word 'abuse' is heard many times by other welfare organisations or even within some Churches. The liquor interests want people to see and hear this phrase to 'condition their thinking' to accept alcoholic beverages as part of normal living.

Say ... 'alcohol **USE!**'



We have a responsibility to **TEACH THE TRUTH**, so 'tell it like it is!' To think there is a 'right and proper' use of alcohol is like saying, 'There is a right and proper way to live with snakes.' Both are poisons that can eventually turn on the individual, bringing death and destruction.



What message is given when someone says, 'Don't drink too much'? Young people are not fooled by such standards, and the results can be disastrous.

NO COMPROMISE

TOTAL ABSTINENCE means **NO COMPROMISE!** If we get involved with other temperance organisations, be sure they stand for **TOTAL ABSTINENCE**, not 'moderation', as some believe! Carefully examine their literature and magazines to see what they are actually promoting. Some think they have to appease all segments of society to get more attention and acceptance. Also, beware of organisations that say 'We'll put on big programmes for you and do your work, if you just give us your money.' **WCTU MUST NOT COMPROMISE!**

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'What is Use? What is Abuse?' by Mrs. Alberta Christ. In 2010, her permission was requested for anyone to freely reprint this article. She was very pleased to permit this.

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TELL IT LIKE IT IS.

**WHAT IS
USE?**



**WHAT IS
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