

CHAPTER SEVEN

4th TAKEDOWN:

MANMADE DRUGS OF ANY KIND:

ASPIRIN/SYRUP/PREScription/COCAINE/CRACK/HEROIN/
OPIUM/LSD/ALCOHOL

That **poison** does nothing but damage Our Temple (per Our Father, Temple means Our Body, not the Buildings they're dedicating to Saints, Deities and gods).

2 CORINTHIANS 6:16 AND WHAT AGREEMENT HATH THE TEMPLE OF GOD WITH IDOLS? FOR YE ARE THE TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD; AS GOD HATH SAID, I WILL DWELL IN THEM, AND WALK IN THEM, AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE.

.He's inside of us, we shouldn't be destroying His Home, nor taking it apart (PLASTIC SURGERY).

)
PLEASE SEE POCKETS

POCKET



What the Scriptures say about the Temple of God.

1 Cor 6:19-20 "19 Do you not know that your body is the temple (the very sanctuary) of the Holy Spirit Who lives within you, Whom you have received {as a Gift} from God? You are not your own,
20 You were bought with a price [purchased with a preciousness and paid for, made His own]. So then, honor God and bring glory to Him in your body."

1 Cor 3:16-17 "16 Do you not discern and understand that you [the whole church at Corinth] are God's temple (His sanctuary), and that God's Spirit has His permanent dwelling in you [to be at home in you, collectively as a church and also individually]? 17 If anyone does hurt to God's temple or corrupts it [with false doctrines} or destroys it, God will do hurt to him and bring him to the corruption of death and destroy him. For the temple of God is holy (sacred to Him) and that [temple] you [the believing church and its individual believers] are."

2 Cor 6:16 "16 What agreement {can there be between] a temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God; even as God said, I will dwell in and with and among them and will walk in and with and among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

Eph 2:19-22 "19 Therefore you are no longer outsiders (exiles, migrants, and aliens, excluded from the rights of citizens), but you now share citizenship with the saints (God's own people, consecrated and set apart for Himself); and you belong to God's [own] household.
20 You are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus Himself the chief Cornerstone.
21 In Him the whole structure is joined (bound, wedded) together harmoniously, and it continues to rise (grow, increase) into a holy temple in the Lord [a sanctuary dedicated, consecrated, and sacred to the presence of the Lord].
22 In Him [and in fellowship with one another] you yourselves also are being built up [into this structure] with the rest, to form a fixed abode (dwelling place) of God in (by, through) the Spirit."

MANMADE DRUGS

All manmade drugs start out as a natural ingredient growing out of God's earth.

EXAMPLES:

Marijuana comes from the Cannabis Plant

Poppy Seeds are needed to make Opium

Cocoa Plant is the main ingredient in Cocaine,
etc, etc ...

Man takes God's Gifts and uses it for his own SELFISH DEVICES. When I saw the brevity of the situation, I was nauseous! I'm no goody two-shoes! ! God has worked with me OVERTIME.

Especially when it comes to CANABIS SATIVA!

So please believe me when I say, I had no idea the weight of my choice to smoke weed. As a matter of fact, up until today (4-24-2016) I still

LOVE WEED. It's my shameful secret and guilty pleasure. AND IT'S ALSO WRONG. I do NOT have time to be taking Weed Vacations. Not now, maybe never. Weed is definitely one of the major downfalls for our race. It's very difficult for a person to remain active after SMOKING weed. Which brings another issue to the forefront: PAPER or BLUNT SMOKE. It is entering our lung and common sense warns us that ANY smoke is bad for you, but ESPECIALLY TOBACCO SMOKE. This is the very curse we were in fields picking. A combination of problems play out. First and foremost, the black community can't afford weed, literally. We'll lie to ourselves that we can, but look at our communities, our children and ourselves. We're constantly looking for a come-up so we can live "better-off". We have people who live on their jobs, never seeing their family. We've got our Brothas, and now our Sistas too, selling it,

taking Jail/Prison chances. The greatest majority of smokers are "BLUNT" connoisseurs, as opposed to "PAPERS", which of course is a tobacco property. Lung infections and diseases are at a ALL TIME HIGH; that includes our Babies lungs when they are getting second hand smoke from irresponsible adults. The list is as long as my extensions (5 on it!). Don't think I didn't see the IRONY in me riting this, knowing it all applied to me! That's the reason I quit! I cannot SERVE 2 Masters, either. And the bottomline is, we have work to do to put our Fam back on it's path with God/Allah, and Marijuana is harmful to the plan. Pagans know that, as they do with ALL of the "set-ups" they use against us. Marijuana may be less harmful then the Poppyseed or Cocoaplant, but eventually it's all used to take us down. I'll include articles and additional research I feel is pertinent. The Drug Trade is MASSIVE and though this is a serious

problem, I can only include so much in the Quick Ref. Please, once again, continue to DIG AROUND using any info I provided.

About 565,000 results (0.52 seconds)

Scholarly articles for marijuana pros and cons

Cannabinoids and cancer: pros and cons of an ... - Bifulco - Cited by 135
Pros and cons: The criminals who play in the NFL - Benedict - Cited by 72
... death in epilepsy (SUDEP)? Pros and Cons - Brodie - Cited by 45

Top 10 Pros & Cons - Medical Marijuana - ProCon.org

medicalmarijuana.procon.org/view.resource.php?resourceID=000141

May 6, 2009 - Pro and con quotes related to the core question - Should marijuana be a medical option? Read sourced pros and cons from top experts, ... Similar
Physician Perspectives • Medical Organizations' Opinions

Pros and Cons of Weed | New Health Advisor

www.newhealthadvisor.com/Pros-and-Cons-of-Weed.html

Are you curious about the pros and cons of weed? Here is a list of over 10 pros of weed and over 8 cons of weed. Read them now to fulfill your curiosity. Similar

Using Marijuana Every Day: The Pros and Cons | Marijuana News

<https://www.hellomd.com/health.../using-marijuana-every-day-the-pros-and-cons>

Feb 23, 2016 - Is consuming marijuana everyday a good idea? What are the pros and cons? Should you be concerned?

Marijuana's Public Health Pros and Cons | For Better | US News

health.usnews.com/health-news/patient.../marijuanas-public-health-pros-and-cons

Oct 12, 2016 - If that proves to be the case, legalization will bring with it some perhaps surprising public health pros and cons – and voters need to weigh both ...

The Pros and Cons of Marijuana Legalization - Fortune

fortune.com/video/2016/11/10/pros-cons-marijuana-legalization/

Nov 10, 2016 - NYU professor of public policy Mark A. R. Kleiman explained the pros and cons of marijuana legalization.

The Pros & Cons of Colorado's Marijuana Legalization | Leafly

<https://www.leafly.com/.../one-year-later-the-positives-and-negatives-of-colorados-leg...>

One Year Later: The Pros and Cons of Colorado's Legal Recreational Cannabis Market. Lisa Cachet Rough. Some considered it a social experiment. Others say it's a ...

Pros and Cons of Weed | Med Health Daily

www.medhealthdaily.com/pros-and-cons-of-weed/

Marijuana is very popular in the United States of America and over 1 in 3 people there have inhaled this substance in some manner or the other.

Pros and Cons of Marijuana - Is Weed Bad For You

www.isweedbadforyou.org/pros-and-cons-of-cannabis-use/

Here you can see the positive and negative weed effects and the benefits of marijuana. Similar

What are the pros and cons of smoking weed? - Quora

<https://www.quora.com/What-are-the-pros-and-cons-of-smoking-weed>

For me personally, cannabis helps greatly with clear creative thinking. Fascinated by this, I ... That is to say pros and cons are amazingly logical. The impacts of ...

Legalizing Recreational Marijuana – Pros and Cons - Drugrehab.us

www.drugrehab.us/news/pros-cons-legalizing-recreational-marijuana/

As recreational marijuana is legalized in more states, some continue to doubt the harmful effects of the ... Pros and Cons of Legalizing Recreational Marijuana. Similar

Searches related to marijuana pros and cons

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The positives and negatives: How marijuana affects your brain and body

While there are recreational uses and recognised medical applications of the drug, it can also be damaging to our bodies and minds.

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RECENTLY LEGALISED IN the [Washington](#) and [Colorado](#), marijuana has medical and recreational uses but can also be damaging to our bodies and minds.

The high you get from marijuana comes from a chemical called Tetrahydrocannabinol, also known as THC, which is found in varying potency.

Most of THC's effects happen in the brain, where the chemical interacts with receptors on brain cells called cannabinoid receptors. Our bodies actually make chemicals very similar to THC, which are used in normal brain function and development. THC co-opts these natural pathways to produce most of its effects.

image

General manager David Martinez labels containers of retail marijuana, behind a sales bar fitted with a brochure available to customers, at 3D Cannabis Center in Denver. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)

It blocks memory formation.

The active ingredient in marijuana acts in the part of the brain called the hippocampus to alter the way information is processed and how memories are formed. Animal studies have shown that this is particularly true [while the brain is still developing](#) - specifically why the legal smoking age is 21 in the states that have legalised it.

This blockage of memory formation can cause cognitive impairment in adulthood if use happens during adolescence, at least in rats. It can also quicken age-related brain cell loss, though marijuana has been shown to [slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease](#).

THC messes with your balance.

THC messes with brain areas called the cerebellum and basal ganglia, which regulate balance, posture, coordination, and reaction time. When these brain areas are disturbed, the user has a harder time walking and talking correctly, becoming quite clumsy. It also impacts their ability to drive.

Cannabis use may increase the risk of depression.

Although there is no conclusive evidence that marijuana makes users depressed (it's just as likely that people who are depressed use pot), one recent study from the Netherlands found that smoking cannabis increases the risk of depression for young people who have a genetic vulnerability to the mental illness.

In the long-term, smoking marijuana increased depressive symptoms in subjects with a special serotonin gene responsible for increased risk of depression.

image

An employee weighs portions of retail marijuana to be packaged and sold at 3D Cannabis Center in Denver. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)

Intense anxiety, fear, distrust, or panic are common side effects.

Somewhere between 20 and 30 percent of recreational marijuana users react with intense anxiety after taking the drug, making it one of the most commonly reported side effects. 1

Marijuana users may experience psychosis.

Marijuana users who have taken large doses of the drug may experience acute psychosis, which includes hallucinations, delusions, and a loss of the sense of personal identity. These episodes may be related to the link between marijuana use and psychosis, but are distinct.

image

Marijuana being smoked during a Prohibition-era themed New Year's Eve party celebrating the start of retail pot sales, at a bar in Denver. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)

But it's not all bad - Marijuana also makes us feel good.

When THC hits brain cells, it causes them to release dopamine, a feel-good brain chemical. This is a part of the brain's reward system, which makes you feel good when you do things that ensure the survival of yourself and your offspring. These things include eating and having sex.

When over-excited by drugs, the reward system creates feelings of euphoria.

It controls epileptic seizures.

Marijuana use can prevent epileptic seizures, a 2003 study showed.

Robert J. DeLorenzo of Virginia Commonwealth University, gave marijuana extract and synthetic marijuana to epileptic rats. The drugs rid the rats of the seizures for about 10 hours. Cannabinoids like

the active ingredient in marijuana, tetrahydrocannabinol (also known as THC), control seizures by binding to the brain cells responsible for controlling excitability and regulating relaxation.

The findings were published in the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.

Marijuana treats inflammatory bowel diseases.

Patients with inflammatory bowel diseases like Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis could benefit from marijuana use, studies suggest.

University of Nottingham researchers found in 2010 that chemicals in marijuana, including THC and cannabidiol, interact with cells in the body that play an important role in gut function and immune responses. The study was published in the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.

THC-like compounds made by the body increase the permeability of the intestines, allowing bacteria in. The plant-derived cannabinoids in marijuana block these body-cannabinoids, preventing this permeability and making the intestinal cells bond together tighter.

image

An employee of a marijuana store, attaches radio frequency tracking tags, required by law, to pot plants maturing inside a grow house. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)

THC slows the progression of Alzheimer's disease.

Marijuana may be able to slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease, a study led by Kim Janda of the Scripps Research Institute suggests.

The 2006 study, published in the journal Molecular Pharmaceutics, found that THC, the active chemical in marijuana, slows the formation of amyloid plaques by blocking the enzyme in the brain that makes them. These plaques are what kill brain cells and cause Alzheimers.

A chemical found in marijuana stops cancer from spreading.

One chemical found in marijuana, called cannabidiol, prevents cancer from spreading, researchers at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco reported in 2007.

Cannabidiol stops cancer by turning off a gene called Id-1, the study, published in the journal Molecular Cancer Therapeutics, found. Cancer cells make more copies of this gene than non-cancerous cells, and it helps them spread through the body.

The researchers studied breast cancer cells in the lab that had high expression levels of Id-1 and treated them with cannabidiol. After treatment the cells had decreased Id-1 expression and were less aggressive spreaders.

Five Industries Set To Profit From Legal Marijuana

02.10.14

Five Industries Set To Profit From Legal Marijuana

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It's the Wild West.

Businesses are popping up everyday. Shopkeepers report \$20,000-a-day sales figures. Until recently forbidden by their superiors, off-duty police officers were making a little money on the side working as security personnel for large vehicles laden with cash. No one is sure what's illegal or what's allowed, but in the meantime, everyone wants their cut of the profits.

It's the Wild West. It's Colorado. And right now, all of America and much of the world is watching to see how the U.S.A.'s first experiment with legal marijuana is going to play out.

For sure, there's a lot of money to be made. Legal marijuana vendors in Colorado are expected to bring in over \$600 million in 2014 on just the sale of bud and edible product (THC infused food or drink). As Colorado's tax rate on recreational marijuana is 27.9 per cent (much higher than the standard 2.9 per cent sales tax), the state stands to collect an estimated \$100 million in taxes by year's end, more than twice what the state collected for the sale and use of alcohol in 2013. Of that \$100 million, \$40 million of those tax dollars have been earmarked to build and maintain schools.

With only 35 of Colorado's 348 approved licensed retailers currently in operation, early calculations have the state earning over \$1 million in taxes between January 1st and January 27th alone. What's more, there are profits to be realized from the wide array of businesses that support or compliment the sale of marijuana - everything from marijuana bars to private party planners, from smoking paraphernalia to child-proof storage containers - none of which factored into the initial sales estimates, all of which will make money for the State of Colorado and individual business owners.

But, despite the enthusiasm of the Colorado contingent, a tension underlies this great experiment. While both Colorado and Washington have legalized marijuana, the federal government continues to classify the drug a Schedule I narcotic. Banks won't deal with pot vendors for fear of being labeled money launderers. Business owners aren't entirely sure that they can't be raided by the DEA, despite assurances from Attorney General Eric Holder that the federal government won't prosecute marijuana retailers in states who have voted to legalize. And it's in these grey areas that the truly lucrative industries have arisen.

While there's no denying that small business owners are making good money from legalization, if the success of Colorado proves enticement enough for other states to follow suit and recreational use becomes widespread, these are the industries positioned to become the future foundation of Big Marijuana. You might want to invest now.

#5 Payment Solutions

payment

"Too much money" is rarely listed as a liability for most business owners, but in the case of marijuana retailers, both medical and recreational, it's a very real problem. Banks are subject to federal oversight and, as the federal government still considers cannabis an illegal substance, marijuana vendors have had problems with everything from depositing the cash they've taken in to maintaining a bank account in the first place. Getting traditional point-of-sale devices that will accept credit and debit cards? Don't be silly. Many of these businesses have been operating as cash only ventures- a risky move when your sales sit at \$20,000 a day.

While the Attorney General has made statements that banks should open themselves to marijuana operators, the banks themselves are wary of the Department of Justice's repeated flip-flopping on the issue. It published the Ogden memo in 2009, stating that, while selling marijuana remained a federal offence, it wasn't in the DoJ's financial interest to pursue small-time retailers and growers in states that had authorized their activity. It then countermanded that in 2011, telling banks that they were required to enforce federal legislation and that the Ogden memo was never meant to shield vendors and cultivators in violation of federal law.

In response to this erratic federal push and pull and the uncertainty it's creating, an industry of intermediary devices has arisen. For a fee, companies such as Guardian Data Systems, Mediswipe, and Medical Marijuana Merchant Systems can provide a marijuana retailer with an option: a cashless ATM or alternative sales platform. These allow customers to pay using credit and debit cards, cutting down on the amount of cash handled and stored on-site. Unlike a traditional debit or credit machine, however, the system doesn't code the transaction with the business name or the product sold, instead

logging the interaction as a cash withdrawal which is then electronically transferred into the business' bank account.

These devices are an elegant solution to a legislative problem, letting vendors and consumers sell and shop in the manner to which they have become accustomed, whilst adding a layer of plausible deniability on the part of banks who, let's be honest, really do want the money. If legalization becomes widespread and the federal government continues to twiddle its thumbs, these devices could become staples in pot shops across the country, and the companies who distribute will become extremely wealthy.

#4 Private Lending

loan

The pot providers of the 21st century are a different breed. Gone in large part are the hemp leaves and the hokey Cheech and Chong iconography. Today's marijuana vendors have niches, budgets, and business plans. But, no matter how well-researched and financially sound a start-up may be, if it's tough to get or keep a bank account as a pot seller, imagine trying to get a small business loan.

To bridge this funding gap, private equity firms and angel investment networks have begun to crop up. Groups like the HT Growth Fund (backed by the popular cannabis-themed publication High Times), The Arcview Group (an investment collective), and Privateer Holdings (an investment firm) believe that once other states, especially those with cash flow problems, see the money Colorado brings in, the legal marijuana market will explode. When it does, these groups want a piece of the strongest, most ambitious companies in the field.

Membership in these groups can be costly - The Arcview Group requires an investment of at least \$50,000 and payment of a yearly fee of between \$3,000 and \$5,000 to be a member- but the payoff may be worth it. In 2011, Privateer acquired a website called Leafly, which lists pot strains, their effects, and where they can be bought within the user's vicinity. At the time, the website was not profit generating. Today, based on traffic numbers, the website brings in roughly \$100,000 a month. On the strength of this acquisition, Privateer was able to raise \$7 million in further investment capital during its 2013 funding round. The firm expects to clear at least \$25 million in its next capital search.

As the market for legal marijuana grows, these groups represent one of the only funding options for many business start-ups, which means their influence is bound to grow. For those with \$50,000 to spare, it could prove a lucrative investment.

#3 Specialty Insurance

insurance

We have insurance for everything these days - house insurance, car insurance, life insurance. Even insurance companies have insurance to insure their insurance policies. But for many marijuana vendors, business insurance is a non-starter. If they can't get the bank to give them a business loan or a bank account, no established financial institution will take the risk to insure their illegal inventory.

To cater to this need, marijuana business-specific insurance companies have begun to form. For a healthy fee, companies such as Cannassure will insure people at every stage of production in the marijuana industry- from growers to food manufacturers - against theft or fire, for workers compensation, and beyond. These policies are a welcome safety blanket for vendors that keep large amounts of cash on hand and question how much protection authorities will provide them against reprisals from the illegal drug market.

As the number of legal marijuana-related businesses begins to flourish, companies like Cannassure can sit back and watch the money roll in.

#2 Testing Labs

testing

If Colorado is going to make recreational marijuana legal, then it's also going to make sure that that marijuana is safe. By October 2014, the state government will require that all cannabis merchants have their wares laboratory tested to check THC levels, as well as to screen for the presence of e.coli, salmonella, and pesticides.

For edibles, the testing will be required even sooner, as of May this year. Seeing an opportunity, businesses such as CannaLabs are trying to establish themselves as the go-to testing facilities for medical- and non-medical-grade marijuana products.

Should other states decide to legalize, it's all but guaranteed that they too will attempt to regulate product quality, and business for labs with product experience will boom.

#1 Branding

brands

The tobacco industry spends billions of dollars each year on marketing and branding. A fortune goes into convincing someone that they're a Virginia Slims woman, not a Dunhill kind of girl, and by and large, most of that convincing is strictly image-based. As the marijuana industry grows in importance and power, the potential money in marijuana marketing is massive.

Leafly, self-proclaimed to be the largest cannabis strain resource, lists 696 distinct strains of marijuana, each of which claims to have different potency and effect. That's potentially 696 distinct products to market and sell. While some marketing agencies may be leery of becoming involved with such a legally ambiguous industry, agencies such as Cannabrand are getting in on the ground floor of this marketing cash cow.

If Cannabrand and their ilk can get a solid foot hold on the entire legal marijuana market, we could be looking at a new generation of marketing giants, built on the back of the cannabis business revolution.

Marijuana's History: How One Plant Spread Through the World

By Agata Blaszcak-Boxe, Contributing Writer | October 17, 2014 04:15pm ET

An artist's image shows marijuana plants overshadowing the Earth.

Credit:

Triff/Shutterstock.com

[View full size image](#)

From the sites where prehistoric hunters and gatherers lived, to ancient China and Viking ships, cannabis has been used across the world for ages, and a new report presents the drug's colorful history.

In the report, author Barney Warf describes how cannabis use originated thousands of years ago in Asia, and has since found its way to many regions of the world, eventually spreading to the Americas and the United States.

"For the most part, it was widely used for medicine and spiritual purposes," during pre-modern times, said Warf, a professor of geography at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. For example, the Vikings and medieval Germans used cannabis for relieving pain during childbirth and for toothaches, he said.

"The idea that this is an evil drug is a very recent construction," and the fact that it is illegal is a "historical anomaly," Warf said. Marijuana has been legal in many regions of the world for most of its history.

Where did pot come from?

It is important to distinguish between the two familiar subspecies of the cannabis plant, Warf said. *Cannabis sativa*, known as marijuana, has psychoactive properties. The other plant is *Cannabis sativa L.* (The L was included in the name in honor of the botanist Carl Linnaeus.) This subspecies is known as hemp; it is a nonpsychoactive form of cannabis, and is used in manufacturing products such as oil, cloth and fuel. [\[11 Odd Facts About Marijuana\]](#)

A second psychoactive species of the plant, *Cannabis indica*, was identified by the French naturalist Jean-Baptiste Lamarck, and a third, uncommon one, *Cannabis ruderalis*, was named in 1924 by Russian botanist D.E. Janischevsky.

Cannabis plants are believed to have evolved on the steppes of Central Asia, specifically in the regions that are now Mongolia and southern Siberia, according to Warf. The history of cannabis use goes back as far as 12,000 years, which places the plant among humanity's oldest cultivated crops,

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Reefer Madness is a 1936-1939 American drama film revolving around the melodramatic events that ensue when high school students are lured by pushers to

Plot Cast Production and history Reception

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• 1:39

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Reefer Madness (1937) - YouTube

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Reefer Madness: Mid-Century Anti-Marijuana Propaganda in Movies ...flashbak.com/reefer-madness-mid-century-anti-marijuana-propaganda-in...

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"MARIJUANA WARS" LED TO THE '60's FIGHT
WITH ELITIST, THE GOVERNMENT, HIPPIES
AND "MINORITIES"

PROS - BROUGHT "THE LITTLE PEOPLE" CLOSER
TOGETHER AT A TIME WHEN GOD SEPERATED
US FOR A REASON (AS USUAL).

CONS - NUMB MINDING, LAZINESS, SMOKE
INSIDE THE LUNGS.

JUST SAY NO- NANCY REAGAN'S CAMPAIGN

AMSTERDAM

WEED IS "NOT" LEGAL, THE AUTHORITIES
SIMPLY LOOK THE OTHER WAY!

2.5 MILLION IN SALES TAXATION AND
TOURISM.

AMSTERDAM IS THE MOST DANGEROUS CITY
IN CRIME, IN THE NETHERLANDS AND FOURTH
IN EUROPEAN CAPITALS WITH HIGHEST PER
CAPITA NUMBER OF MURDERS AND
UNNATURAL DEATHS.

THE REDLIGHT DISTRICT IS HOME TO WHORES,
PROSTITUTES AND PICKPOCKETERS, AS WELL
AS DRUGS (ALL DRUGS, NOT JUST WEED).

A QUICK SIDEBAR, OCCULTISM/AGANISM IS
REALLY BIG IN AMSTERDAM, AS WITH MOST
EUROPEAN CITIES/COUNTRIES. FOR INSTANCE,
THEY CELEBRATE THE "HOLIDAYS" WITH A

MASCOT CALLED BLACK PETE AKA ZWARTE PIET, HE IS A MINSTREL NIGGER FEATURED IN THE ST. NICK PARADE (SINTERKLAUSS)

QUOTE: THOUGH BLACK PIET HAS ALWAYS BEEN A MOORISH ATTENDANT (THEIR TRANSLATION: NIGGER SLAVE) THE BLACK, SOOTY FACED PETE ALLEGEDLY POPPED UP DURING THE 1800's, 11 YEARS BY THE ABOLISHMENT OF SLAVERY. IN THE NETHERLANDS, PER HISTORY, ST NICHOLAS AND HIS SERVANT (SEX SLAVE) ARE ALWAYS SEEN TOGETHER.

WHEN THE ONE BLACK CITIZEN (WHO GREW UP BEING RIDICULED AND HARRASSED BY THE CHARACTER) JOINED WITH 20+ OTHER RESIDENTS TO COMPLAIN TO THE MAYOR, THEY DID NOTHING BUT REMOVE PIET's GOLD EARRINGS. HOWEVER, THE BLACK SKIN, BIG RED LIPS, AND AFRO REMAINED AND THE

PARADE CONTINUED (THIS WAS IN 2013).

FANS OF BLACK PIET PUT A PETITION ON FACEBOOK TO KEEP OR DEMAND THAT BLACK PIET STAY, "AS IS". IT GOT ONE MILLION LIKES ON THE FIRST DAY. OVER 600 PEOPLE PROTESTED IN THE STREETS IN THE HAGUE TO SUPPORT THE RACIST CRAP.

UNITED NATIONS AGREED WITH THE RACISTS BUT VANCOUVER (CANADA) HAS ALLEGEDLY BANNED IT BECAUSE OF COMPLAINTS.

The Women Who Smoke Weed While Pregnant

By [Sophie Saint Thomas](#)

November 22, 2015

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Photo [via](#) Daniel Berehulak / Getty

Stoner moms are vibrant members of the cannabis community, and the legal weed industry is making sure to capitalize on women and the power of the pussy. But there's also an under-the-radar population of female cannabis consumers that isn't as openly talked about: pregnant women*.

Medical marijuana is becoming increasingly accepted in the US, with 23 states plus Washington, DC legalizing the drug for those in need of its remedial benefits. During pregnancy, women endure many of the health issues medical marijuana is often prescribed for, be it nausea via morning sickness, loss of appetite, anxiety, and more. But to many, smoking weed while expecting is akin to pre-natal child abuse, and some doctors (and lawmakers) may even consider pregnant marijuana use worthy of a call to child protection services.

But the facts about pot's effects on fetuses remain unclear. A report issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment earlier this year found that THC is indeed passed to children through the placenta and breast milk. Among the report's findings was "mixed" evidence of weed's association with low birth weight, and "moderate" evidence that pot during pregnancy is associated with infants suffering from attention problems, cognitive impairment, or low IQ.

This week, however, the American Medical Association agreed to push for regulations that require medical and recreational cannabis products to include the message "Warning: Marijuana use during pregnancy and breastfeeding poses potential harms." This is less severe than the warnings on tobacco or alcohol products, but the move is still disconcerting to some who think the message is premature.

Cannabis supporters, on the other hand, like to point out a 1994 study focused on newborns in Jamaica as proof that bud and babies aren't really a bad combination. Due to limited research and a lack of long-term studies on cannabis's effects on fetuses, though, we still don't know a whole lot on the subject.

Smoking weed while pregnant may be less damaging than alcohol, but it's arguably more of a taboo. Yet even with the stigma attached, certain soon-to-be mothers are still down to hit the vape. We spoke to four women (whose names have been changed) about why weed benefitted them during pregnancy, how their husbands encouraged smoking (while their doctors didn't), and if they ever worry if weed has affected their children's development.

Continued below.

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Pot-smoking parents explain the rules of getting high at home around ...

[www.theguardian.com , Opinion , Parents and parenting](http://www.theguardian.com/Opinion/Parents-and-parenting) The Guardian

Apr 20, 2014 - I didn't smoke weed around my kids when they were younger, not because I was ashamed of my drug use, but because it is illegal and I didn't ...

Why Smoking Weed With Your Parents Is The Ultimate Sign Of ... - Mic

<https://mic.com/Iwhy-smoking-weed-with-your-parents-is-the-ultimate-sign-of-adult>

Aug 21, 2015 - My mother, who hadn't smoked weed in 20 years, managed to get every ... Cached
marijuana and plenty of potheads admit to smoking with their kids ...

parents smoking marijuana around their children, how bad is this ...

[www.steadyhealth.com, ... , Addiction & Recovery, Cannabis Addiction](http://www.steadyhealth.com/Addiction&Recovery/CannabisAddiction)

Sep 11, 2016 - no probably not. if these parents are smoking weed in closed qJDintlE!:(like in a car with the windows closed) with their kids may be slightly ... Similar

Police: 17-year-old makes toddler smoke weed, then uploads video on ...

www.cnn.com/2016/09/23/hea/th/child-marijuana-video-lrnd

CNN

Sep 23, 2016 - (CNN) When you hear of peer-pressured pot smokel\$ajOO<:Picture first-year college students or coming-of-age teens, not toddlers. That's why a ...

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Police: 17-year-old makes toddler smoke weed FOX31 Denver

kdvr.com/2016/09/24/police-17-year-old-makes-toddler-smoke-weed/

KDVR

Sep 23, 2016 - LITTLE ROCK, Ark. - When you hear of peer-pressured pot <Oadk!ts, you picture first-year college students or coming-of-age teens, not ...

Toddler seen 'smoking marijuana' as 'adults are heard laughing' in ...

www.dailymail.co.uk/JW/Jere-parents-Toddler-seen-smoking-marijuana-a...

Daily Mail

Apr 11, 2014 - The video shows an unidentified toddler allegedly smoking a joint of nSill!jailna while wearing a Mickey ... Baby smoking weed posted on Vine ...

Someone Let a Baby Smoke Weed and Posted It to Vine - Gawker

gawker.com/someone-let-a-baby-smoke-weed-and-posted-it-to-vine-1562244...

Gawker

Apr 11, 2014 - An idiot is potentially in trouble over a disturbing (now-deleted) Vine vide,tsclaatt>ddler smoking weed - if the internet can find the original ... Similar

Shocking Video Show Toddler Smoking A Joint (Warning: You Will Get ...

herb.co/2016106/18/shocking-toddler-smoking-joint/

Jun 18, 2016 - Last year, another uproar happened when VifitlacIIRChief Smokes uploaded a video of a child smoking what appeared to be weed as well.

'Toddler filmed smoking pot' video draws investigation - NY Daily News

www.nydailynews.com/Jtoddler-filmed-smoking-pot-video-d...

New York Daily News

Dec 3, 2015 - A video showing a toddler smoking what looks like marijtSmilar. two hits off what appears to be a joint or a blunt under the guidance of a man ...

Searches related to SMOKING JOINTS AND BLUNTS WITH CHILDREN

smoking joints vs blunts

stoner parents

is it better to smoke joints or blunts

moms who smoke cigarettes

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parents who let their kids smoke

parents who smoke cigarettes

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Chemist who created synthetic pot never expected epidemic - NY ..

www.nydailynews.com/.../chemist-created-synthetic-pot-expect...

New York Daily News

Aug 10, 2015 - Chemist who unwittingly created synthetic marijuana say!Sllailover expected street drugs epidemic: I guess someone opened Pandora's Box'.

Synthetic marijuana is a weird and confusing drug. Here's what you ...

www.slate.com/.../synthetic_marijuana_is_a_weird_and_confusing_drug_here_s...

Slate

Jul 15, 2016 - A man prepares to smoke K2, a type of synthetic marijuana. along a buUCactau:vw that there has been a full-on epidemic of people becoming ..

33 Suspected of Overdosing on Synthetic Marijuana in Brooklyn - The ...

www.nytimes.com/.../k2-synthetic-marijuana-overdose-in-brooklyn... The New York Times -

Jul 12, 2016 - In Brooklyn. 33 people who were suspected of overdosing on K2 - a synthetic drug - were transported to hospitals on Tuesday.... In the area around the subway station at Myrtle Avenue and Broadway, emergency workers transported 33 people who were suspected of overdosing on K2 to ...

Synthetic marijuana overdose turns dozens into "zombies" in NYC ...

www.cbsnews.com/.../synthetic-marijuana-overdose-tum-dozens-into-zomb...

CBS News v

Jul 13, 2016 - NEW YORK -- We were reminded again of the nightmare of drug abuse(JaEtWy when synthetic marijuana seemed to turn people into zombies .

Synthetic Marijuana: Everything You Need to Know About the Drug K2 ...

www.rollingstone.com/.../synthetic-marijuana-everything-you-need-to-k...

Rolling Stone

Jul 13, 2016 - Over 30 people were hospitalized yesterday in New York City, the 14leehl(fent in an epidemic that's been affecting the country's poorer ..

Synthetic marijuana epidemic sweeps NYC, users go into 'zombie' like ...



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yjzWrbU-Af4>

• 3:50

Jul 18, 2016- Uploaded by RT America

The use of synthetic marijuana, known as K2 or spice, is becoming a significant problem in New York City. The...

Fight the Synthetic Marijuana Epidemic | Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/FightTheSyntheticMarijuanaEpidemic>

Synthetic marijuana is sweeping the nation, claiming young teen lives an(lil'.!)leading to normally well grounded adults. Recent bans on the sale of this drug.

Similar

What Is Spice / K2? The Facts About Synthetic Marijuana

spiceaddictionsupport.org/1at-is-spice/

Dec 28, 2015 - In other words, synthetic marijQlmao!<K2 / Spice is completely different outbreak of overdoses related to one of the newer street Gffiiifffit:als.

Images for SYNTHETIC WEED EPIDEMIC

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'Unprecedented' Spice Overdose Epidemic Strikes Florida - TheBlaze

www.theblaze.com/.../looked-like-one-of-our-zombie-movies-unprecedente...

TheBlaze

Mar 20, 2016 - Florida investigators are saying that they recently have come across eched "unprecedented" epidemic of synthetic marijuana overdose calls that ..

Searches related to SYNTHETIC WEED EPIDEMIC

synthetic weed names	k2 overdose video
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buy synthetic weed online	k2 overdose symptoms
how to make synthetic weed	how do you die from k2

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The Crack Epidemic - The History of Crack Cocaine - Drug-Free World

www.drugfreeworld.org/.../crackcocainela-short-h... Foundation for a Drug-Free World

While the use of coca leaves as an intoxicant dates back thousands of years, crack cocaine, a crystallized form of cocaine, was developed during the 1970s.

Crack epidemic - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crack_epidemic Wikipedia

Jump to CIA and Contras cocaine trafficking - Main CIA involvement in Contra cocaine. that the CIA contributed to the rise of the epidemic. Similar History · CIA and Contras cocaine ... Impact by region · Crime

Crack Epidemic - History of South Central, Los Angeles

www.southcentralhistory.com/crack-epidemic.php

Crack Epidemic? Crack is a form of the drug cocaine. It is one of the most highly addictive and destructive drugs in the world. Small doses of it are smoked in the ...

Documenting the ravages of the 1980s crack epidemic | Al Jazeera ...

america.aljazeera.com/.../documenting-the-ravages-of-the-1980s-crack-epidemic... Al Jazeera

Mar 23, 2014 - Documenting the ravages of the 1980s crack epidemic. March 23 ... Al Joobaj Similar Cocaine True. Cocaine Blue documents the brutal realities facing ...

Our Lives Matter: The Crack Cocaine Epidemic of the 80's & 90's ...



24:59

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EmDrv4UINSg>

Mar 23, 2015 - Uploaded by CB 470 Similar The Crack Cocaine Epidemic during the mid-80's until the early 90's affected the urban African-American ...

America's First Cocaine Epidemic - jstor

<https://www.jstor.org/stab/e/40257908> JSTOR by OF Musto - 1989 - Cited by 40 - Related articles AMERICA'S FIRST. COCAINE EPIDEMIC. Only a decade ago, many prominent Americans tolerated and even touted the use of cocaine. From Capitol Hill to ...

A Complete History of Crack Cocaine - Rehabs.com

www.rehabs.com/a-complete-history-of-crack-cocaine/

Feb 23, 2013 - It was the scourge of the '80s and '90s, but how did crack cocaine come about? ... The 80s cocaine epidemic was much bigger than the crack ... Similar

The crack epidemic's toxic legacy - latimes

articles.latimes.com/.../collections-news

Aug 7, 2010 - There was applause this week when President Obama signed legislation cutting the federal penalties for possession of crack cocaine. Fair ...

Cheaper, More Addictive, and Highly Profitable: How Crack Took Over ...

www.villagevoice.com/.../cheaper-more-addictive-and-highly-profitable... The Village Voice

Aug 12, 2014 - It was nothing more than a different version of cocaine. The crack epidemic has precipitated an explosion of violent crime, ... Similar

Key Figures In CIA-Crack Cocaine Scandal Begin To Come Forward ...

www.huffingtonpost.com/.../gary-webb-dark-alliance_n_596174... The Huffington Post

Oct 10, 2014 - Key Figures In CIA-Crack Cocaine Scandal Begin To Come Forward ... "The big lie is that we started it all - the crack epidemic - we were just... Similar

Searches related to cocaine epidemic

crack epidemic cia

crack epidemic documentary

crack epidemic black community

80s crack epidemic documentary

crack epidemic timeline

who invented crack cocaine

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Cheap, synthetic 'flakka' dethroning cocaine on Florida drug ... - Reuters

www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-florida-flakka-idUSKBN0OQ1PE20150610 Reuters

Jun 10, 2015 - MIAMI For decades, South Florida has battled drug traffickers who loaded Patloads of cocaine from South America. Now the region is dealing with a new epidemic - synthetic drugs that arrive from China through the mail. ... In 2014, the first year it appeared in the state.

The surprising disappearance of flakka, the synthetic drug that pushed ...

<https://www.washingtonpost.com.../the-mysterious-disappearance-...> The Washington Post

Apr 4, 2016 - Experts say drug epidemics almost never burn out like this. Look at the ... The result was a rare reprieve in the fight against synthetic drugs.

The Crack Epidemic - The History of Crack Cocaine - Drug-Free World

www.drugfreeworld.org/drugfacts/crackcocaine/a- Foundation for a Drug-Free World

The Crack Epidemic - The History of Crack Cocaine - Drug-Free World The Truth About Synthetic Drugs. It is a synthetic drug? Synthetic Maillffffit.

Fentanyl laced heroin fuels new synthetic drug epidemic in ...

www.local10.com/.../fentanyl-laced-heroin-fuels-new-synthetic-drug-epidemic... WPLG

May 14, 2016 - Heroin use in South Florida is on the rise and outdoes the crack epidemic. It outdoes the cocaine epidemic, according to epidemiologist Jim ...

What is flakka and why is it so dangerous? - CNN.com

www.cnn.com/2015/05/26/health/flakka-gravel-illega-drugs/ CNN

May 26, 2015 - Flakka, also called gravel, is a synthetic drug that is added to cocaine but is considered ... DEA: Heroin 'epidemic' creeping across U.S. Similar

Crack Babies: The Epidemic That Wasn't- The New York Times

www.nytimes.com/2009/01/27/health/27coca.html The New York Times

Jan 26, 2009 - When the use of crack cocaine became a major epidemic in the 1980s and '90s, there were widespread fears that prenatal exposure to ...

Sisa: Cocaine of the Poor | United States

www.vice.com/video/sisa-cocaine-of-the-poor-part-1 Vice

A new drug called sisa is tearing its way through Athens' poor ingredients are basically meth and filler things like batter, acid, engine oil, shampoo, and ... Similar

Veteran narcotics officer: 'Cocaine was king, until this year'

www.businessinsider.com/cheap-synthetic-flakka-dethroning-cocaine-... Business Insider

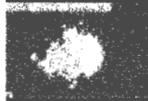
Jun 10, 2015 - Now the region is dealing with a new epidemic - cheap, synthetic drugs that arrive from China through the mail. As authorities in the Sunshine.

Synthetic Cathinones ("Bath Salts") - National Institute on Drug Abuse

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/.../drugfacts/synthetic-cat...> National Institute on Drug Abuse

What are synthetic cathinones? Synthetic cathinones, more commonly known as "bath salts," are synthetic (human-made) drugs chemically related to cathinone.

CIA Allegations of Cocaine Trafficking Conspiracy - Crack Epidemic ...



• 1:27:41

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcKMXoByzRw>

Jul 7, 2013 - Uploaded by The Film Archives

The American crack epidemic refers to the surge of crack cocaine use in major ... We lied and made fake .

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Declaring an Ecstasy Epidemic | NBC Bay Area

www.nbcbayarea.com/.../editorialsDeclaring-an-Ecstasy-Epidemic-138225504...

K N T V -

Santa Clara County has taken a bold step, declaring an "ecstasy epidemic," and produced a documentary showing young people denouncing the drug. Ecstasy .

MOMA ('ecstasy') and other 'club drugs'. The new epidemic. - NCBI

www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/.../11993291

National Center for Biotechnology Information -

by SC Koesters - 2002 - Cited by 103 - Related articles

Pediatr Clin North Am. 2002 Apr;49(2):415-33. MOMA ('ecstasy') and other 'club drugs'. The new epidemic. Koesters SC(1), Rogers PD, Rajasingham CR.

Focus: The great ecstasy epidemic | Society | The Guardian

www.theguardian.com/society/drugs

The Guardian -

Sep 27, 2003 - The great ecstasy epidemic. Millions of people swallowed an 'E' last night ... and the criminal gangs behind the trade are counting the profits ...

Britain on verge of ecstasy epidemic | Daily Mail Online

www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article.../Britain-verge-ecstasy-epidemic.html

Daily Mail -

Ecstasy use has almost doubled in the past five years and is about to overtake the stimulants and cocaine combined. Around 730,000 Britons have taken the drug

Questions & Answers: The Ecstasy Epidemic - Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/quests-answers-ecstasy-epidemic-158691

Aug 3, 2000 - The party drug MDMA, commonly known as ecstasy, is no longer a problem. Popular for some years with club goers in urban areas in

Update on the Ecstasy Epidemic

www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.3109/1088460009041772

by MS Gold - 2000 - Cited by 2 - Related articles

Update on the Ecstasy Epidemic. Mark S. Gold, M.O. and Haleh Tabrah. M.t12. Abstract. Interest in the drug Ecstasy, by users, researchers, educators and

Prevent Disease.com - Ecstasy Use Called 'Epidemic' Among Teens

preventdisease.com/news/articles/ecstasy_use_ca/led_epidemic.shtml

.. The use of Ecstasy is an epidemic now with teenagers," said Dr. Peter D. Rabinowitz, associate professor of pediatrics at the Ohio State University College of ...

Reczek, Justyna - "Ecstasy: The Overlooked Epidemic"

cbe.uchc.edu/education/max_old/pdfs/project_examples/max-reczek-ecstasy.pdf

Ecstasy: the overlooked epidemic. Justyna Reczek MSIII. Max Project. March 2001 ... Ecstasy is now used more than cocaine. 'Monitoring the Future' Survey.

Ecstasy Epidemic - PravdaReport

www.pravdareport.com/news/russia/07-05-2002/42272-0/

Designer drug ecstasy is being consumed by more and more young people in Spain, convinced it is a safe recreational drug. The rising number of deaths tell a ...

MAPS - Critics Counter Countys Claim of Ecstasy Epidemic

www.maps.org/.../2881-critics-c...

Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies

Critics Counter Countys Claim of Ecstasy Epidemic. Written on January 26, 2012 . Originally appearing here. A dark-haired boy writhes against the tiled wall of a

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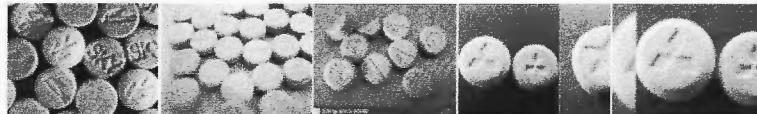
Fake Ecstasy Drug Kills Six in Florida -ABC News

abcnews.go.com/US/story?id=95562

A knockoff of the popular "club drug" Ecstasy is blamed for the deaths of six young people in Florida and at least three in suburban Chicago since May, law ...

Images for FAKE ECSTASY PILL EPIDEMIC

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How to Identify Ecstasy (MOMA) -- Test Kit Plus

testkitplus.com/drug-info/how-to-identify-ecstasy-mdma

Unfortunately, fake Ecstasy is far too common. Getting ... of Ecstasy! MDMA is generally available in pill form, in capsules, as a powder, and as small crystals. Similar
Missing: OfklemiG

Fake valium epidemic: Blue pills flooding Scotland's streets and killing -

www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3255888/Valium-epidemic-blue-pills-flooding-Scotlands-streets-killing.html

Jul 25, 2016 - **Fake valium epidemic: Blue pills flooding Scotland's streets and killing ...** "If there is one death through dodgy ecstasy it's all over the papers.

How different are the effects of a 'fake' ecstasy pill compared to the real ...

https://www.reddit.com/r/MDMAJ_101/how_differently_are_the_effects_of_a_fake_ecstasy_pill_compared_to_the_real_pill

Nov 29, 2015 - I've never used Ecstasy but I have a friend who has done it for a pretty long time. Finally convinced me to try it out and I'm very excited ...
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'Death pill': fentanyl disguised as other drugs linked to spike in US ...

www.theguardian.com/society/drugs

The Guardian

May 10, 2016 - For Kurtz, the confusion over the fake Xanax pills are symbolic of the opioid epidemic at large. "In the US, we're in the early parts of the problem ...

TheDEA.org: The Drugs

www.thedea.org/drugs.html

Seized by police: A batch of "Milk" logo Ecstasy pills..... With the exception of PMA, 'fake' pills aren't particularly dangerous. It's a disappointment if you ...

Drug tests at music festivals in Australia: Fake drugs not uncommon

www.news.com.au/drug/a25d6eaf98c2781c327de51bf55aa534 News.com.au -

Feb 15, 2016 - Why deaths won't stop the party: Drug test kits gain popularity as festival ... An ecstasy pill might cost \$20 and keep the user high for four hours..... make a kit that tests for ice, in the wake of Australia's burgeoning ice epidemic.

Adulterated ecstasy epidemic South East TEXAS Houston / Galveston ...

www.bluelight.org/1759044-Adulterated-ecstasy-epidemic-South-East-TEXAS-Houston-Galveston

[Cached](#)

May 28, 2015 - 6 posts - 4 authors
Most of these are not on pillreports or ecstasydata. So I am here posting pictures and later or similar personal experiences. Off the top of my head ...

[MEGA] Bunk Pill/Powder/Crystal discussion - Be safe, use ...

www.bluelight.org/1674248-MEGA-Bunk-Pill-Powder-Crystal-discussion-Be-safe-use

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Dec 14, 2012 - 25 posts - 17 authors
That is ridiculous compared to the 55% tested as pure MOMA in 2001, just ... these days, and similar America especially it has become a near epidemic. ... than "ecstasy" pills, but in reality it is MUCH easier to make fake "Molly" or ...

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Why is the street name for xanax "handlebars"? - Drugs.com

<https://www.drugs.com/.../why-is-the-street-name-for-xanax-handlebars-233492.html>

May 30, 2010 - I ask because I am doing a report on it for school and I have heard people call 'handlebars' or simply 'bars'. I just want to know why, ...
Missing:

Urban Dictionary: handlebars

www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=handlebars Urban Dictionary

"I can't wear handlebars around him anymore. he damn near pulled my hair out last time." ...
Handlebars. Slang term for the prescription drug Xanax. Hey, you know what I mean?
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Xanax "bars," "zanies" or "planks" the Deadly High - Recovery Today

www.recoverytoday.net/archive/19/47-xanax-bars-zanies-or-planks-the-deadly-high/

Around school, however, it's referred to as "bars," "zanies" or "planks" and used to get a feel good high similar to intoxication. This over-prescribed drug is becoming a ...
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Hometown by Handlebar / Cowtown as seen from a very narrow ...

hometownbyhandlebar.com/?iframe=true&width=900&height=450&paged...

Jul 16, 2016 - ... suturing knife wounds. excising bullets. treating drug overdoses. etc. In the hospital's early challenges was the flu epidemic of 1918.

Street Names for Drugs: A List of Popular Drug Slang Terms

www.teenrehabcenter.org/>Resources for Parents

Explore the Street Names and Slang Terms for Drugs Like Marijuana, Cocaine, LSD.... Study Drugs Epidemic- Teen Drinking Stats: Facts Regarding Underage Alcohol ... Xanlies; Bars; Z-Bars; Zanbars or Xanbars; Handlebars; Planks; Bricks ...

Counterfeit "Xanax" pills contain fentanyl, could cause overdose ...

fox2now.com/.../counterfeit-xanax-pills-contain-fentanyl-could-cause-overdose...

KTVI

Feb 1, 2016 - MONROE COUNTY, IL (KTVI) - Illinois State Police are issuing a deadly warning to drug dealers are now counterfeiting Xanax, a popular ...

Bulletin of Pharmacy - Volume 34 - Page 162 - Google Books Result

<https://books.google.com/books?id=DtNAAAAMAAJ>

1920

... tune of ten dollars: "Twinkle, twinkle, little star, O'er the speed cop's handlebar.... It was one day toward the end of the "flu" epidemic of last winter, when a well- ... a half-dozen burglaries came to mind, among them being the East drug store, ...

The Television Genre Book - Page 43 - Google Books Result

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1844578984>

Glen Creeber - 2015 - Performing Arts

... Twatter' (Stephen Walters), who has an enormous handlebar moustache and runs a ... In turn, underage drinking, drug use and casual sex are portrayed not as ... proliferation of television medical dramas had reached epidemic proportions.

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1920 - Pharmacy

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bars pills side effects	handlebars urban dictionary

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Heroin in America: The scarring of the next generation - CNN.com

www.cnn.com/2016/09/16/hea/th/huntington-heroin/ CNN

Updated 5:45 PM ET. Fri September 16, 2016 The highl'1!!ctle!l!ice say the heroin epidemic in Huntington, West Virginia, has left virtually no place in town.

Heroin overdoses reported in Ohio as state battles epidemic - CNN.com

www.cnn.com/2016/09/11/hea/th/akron-ohio-overdose-deaths/ CNN -

Ohio authorities reported at least 21 heroin overdoses in Akron as th ed>attles a drug epidemic. ... Updated 8:58 PM ET, Mon September 12, 2016...

Prescription Opioid and Heroin Epidemic Awareness Week, 2016

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/..120161../presidential-proclamation-prescri...> White House -

September 16, 2016 ... During Prescription Opioid and Heroin Epidemic Awaren fl1itlek, we pause to remember all those we have lost to opioid use disorder, ...

PDF] Opioid Addiction 2016 Facts & Figures -American Society of Addicti...

www.asam.org/..lopioid-addiction-disease-f... American Society of Addiction Medicine

Opioids are a class of drugs that include the illicit drug;al!reilll as well as the licit ... Opioid addiction is driving this epidemic, with 18,893 overdose deaths r91i\$NI\$r...

'This is unprecedented': 174 heroin overdoses in 6 days in Cincinnati ..

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/..120161../this-is-unprecedented-..> The Washington Post *

Aug 29, 2016 - Law enforcement agencies nationwide are struggling to stop a growing heroin epidemic from spreading across the United \$)ates.

Seattle's Potential Solution for Heroin Epidemic: Places for Legal Drug ...

www.nytimes.com/20161../seattles-potential-solution-for-heroin-e... The New York Times *

Aug 25, 2016 -25, 2016. Continue reading the main story Share This Page ... A task force established to combat a heroin epidemic in the Seattle metropolitan .

America's Addiction to Opioids: Heroin and Prescription Drug Abuse ...

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/..!2016/americas-addicti...> National Institute on Drug Abuse

The abuse of and addiction to opioids such as heroin, morphil'.leclled prescription pain relievers is a ... To address the complex problem of prescription opioid and heroin abuse in this country, we must recognize and ... January 27, 2016 ... What is the Federal Government Doing to Combat the Opioid Abuse Epidemic?

Heroin Epidemic - Huffington Post

www.huffingtonpost.com/news/heroin-epidemic/ The Huffington Post

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Mother Found Passed Out From Heroin With Baby In Car

October 11, 2016 Iby Michael Doherty

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A booking photo of Alyssa Bazala.A booking photo of Alyssa Bazala.

A Pennsylvania mother has been arrested after she was discovered passed out in the front seat of her car after police believe she took heroin. Her one-year-old son was found in the back seat of the car.

A police officer reportedly found Alyssa Bazala, 25, "in a daze" sitting in her front seat at a gas station in McKeesport with her car's engine still running. Bazaar's one-year-old son was sitting in the back seat, according to Daily Mail. Officers said that after they knocked on the windows, Bazala seemed disoriented and took a full minute to open the car door.

Officers saw that Bazala was holding a bag, which she told them had "nothing good" inside. Police opened the bag to find several empty bags for heroin stamps and a needle. Police also found five empty heroin bags in the baby's diaper bag.

After the incident, authorities arrested Bazala and took the infant to the hospital to ensure that he was unharmed. The one-year-old boy is now being taken care of by his grandmother.

The case bears similarities to another recent story where a small child was found in the back seat after a couple passed out behind the wheel from a possible heroin overdose.

Police in East Liverpool, Ohio, found two adults, who investigators believe were on heroin, unconscious in the front seat of a car. Officers found a four-year-old boy sitting in the back seat.

The driver, James Acord, had almost slammed into a school bus that was dropping children off. EMS were able to treat Acord and his female passenger, Rhonda Hasek, with Narcan, a drug used to treat those who have overdosed on heroin, according to KTLA.

The child was taken into custody by children's services.

The city of East Liverpool posted pictures of the incident to Facebook, saying that authorities wanted to show "the dark side" of the drug, apologizing if the images offended users.

"The poison known as heroin has taken a strong grip on many communities not just ours, the difference is we are willing to fight this problem until it's gone and if that means we offend a few people along the way we are prepared to deal with that," said the post.

. Mother, daughter overdose on heroin with toddler in car, deputies say

Marilyn Roth, Leah Roth charged with child neglect

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A local mother and daughter are accused of child neglect after authorities said they got high on heroin and passed out in a moving car with a toddler inside, according to the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

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Deputies said Marilyn Roth, 52, pumped gas at the Shell gas station on West Oak Ridge Road Sunday, then got into the driver's seat and crashed the car into some nearby bushes.

A witness said Marilyn Roth and her daughter, Leah Roth, 29, were found unconscious, and Leah's 2-year-old daughter was found in the back seat, according to an affidavit.

Paramedics told deputies that they found a needle in Leah's hand when they arrived. They also said they found more heroin paraphernalia in Leah's diaper bag, the affidavit said.

The women were treated for heroin overdoses at Orlando Regional Medical Center and were later arrested, deputies said.

Also see: Police video shows confrontation with suspect

The child was placed in the custody of the Department of Children and Families.

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British East India Company had a complete monopoly on the Indian opium trade. In 1799, all opium trade was banned in China, but by then millions of Chinese were addicted. In some coastal provinces, 90% of Chinese adults were opium addicts by the mid-1830s.

Not to be outdone, the British Levant Company began, in 1800, to purchase nearly half of all of the opium coming out of Smyrna, Turkey for export to Europe and the United States.

In 1803, Friedrich Sertuemer of Germany synthesized morphine (principium somniferum) for the first time, and discovered the active ingredient of the opium poppy, which Linnaeus had first classified in 1753 as *papaver somniferum*. The discovery of morphine was considered a milestone. The medical community declared that opium had been "tamed." Morphine's reliability, long-lasting effects, and safety were extolled. In fact, despite its potential for addiction, morphine is still the premier drug used for extreme pain in hospitals and for end-of-life care.

Following the 1799 ban on opium in China, opium smuggling began to be a crowded industry, with several well-known Americans entering the trade. Charles Cabot and John Cushing, of Boston, worked separately to amass opium-smuggling wealth. John Jacob Astor of New York City smuggled ten tons of opium into China under his American Fur Company banner, but later confined his opium selling to the English trade.

English artists, writers, and other luminaries were famously experimenting with and becoming addicted to opium in the early 19th century. By 1830, British use of opium for both medicinal and recreational purposes was at an all time high. 22,000 pounds of opium were imported from Turkey and India that year.

Laudanum continued to be popular, and was actually cheaper than beer or wine. Patent medicines (non-prescription "cures" of all descriptions,) and opium preparations such as Dover's Powder were readily available. The incidence of opium dependence grew steadily in England, Europe, and the United States during the first half of the 19th century by means of these treatments. Working-class medicinal use of products containing opium as sedatives for children was especially common in England. Those using opium for recreational purposes seem to have been primarily English literary and creative personalities, such as Thomas de Quincey, Byron, Shelley, Barrett-Browning, Coleridge, and Dickens.

The First Opium War between China and England began in 1839 as a result of a Chinese ban on opium traffic, and an order for all foreign traders to surrender their opium. In 1841, the British defeated the Chinese and took possession of Hong Kong as part of their bounty. The Second Opium War of 1856 finally made the importation of opium into China legal again, against the wishes of the Chinese government.

Dr. Alexander Wood of Edinburgh discovered the technique injecting morphine with a syringe in 1843. The effects of injected morphine were instantaneous and three times more potent than oral administration.

Heroin (diacetylmorphine) was first synthesized in 1874 by English researcher, C.R. Wright. The drug went unstudied and unused until 1895 when Heinrich Dreser working for The Bayer Company of Germany, found that diluting morphine with acetals produced a drug without the common morphine side effects. Heroin was considered a highly effective medication for coughs, chest pains, and the discomfort of tuberculosis. This effect was important because pneumonia and tuberculosis were the two leading causes of death at that time, prior to the discovery of antibiotics. Heroin was

touted to doctors as stronger than morphine and safer than codeine. It was thought to be nonaddictive, and even thought to be a cure for morphine addiction or for relieving morphine withdrawal symptoms. Because of its supposed great potential, Dreser derived his name for the new drug from the German word for 'heroic.'

After decades of promoting the consumption of opium, Britain in 1878 passed the Opium Act to reduce opium consumption in China, India, and Burma. Under the new regulation, the selling of opium was restricted to registered Chinese opium smokers and Indian opium eaters.

In 1886, the British acquired Burma's northeast region, the Shan state. Production and smuggling of opium along the lower region of Burma thrived despite British efforts to maintain a strict monopoly on the opium trade. To this day, the Shan state of Burma (now known as Myanmar) is one of the world's leading centers of opium production.

During the early years of the 20th century, the Chinese leadership worked in a variety of ways to stop the flow of opium into their country. In 1910, after 150 years of failed attempts to rid the country of opium, the Chinese were finally able to convince the British to dismantle the India-China opium trade.

Despite the 1890 U.S. law-enforcement legislation on narcotics, which imposed a tax on opium and morphine, consumption of the drugs, along with heroin, grew rapidly at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries. Various medical journals of the time wrote of heroin as a morphine step-down cure. Other physicians argued, on the other hand, that their patients suffered from heroin withdrawal symptoms as severe as morphine withdrawal.

Finally, in 1905, the U.S. Congress banned opium. The following year, Congress passed the Pure Food and Drug Act, which required pharmaceutical companies to label their patent medicines with their complete contents. As a result, the availability of opiate drugs in the U.S. significantly declined. In 1909, Congress banned the import of opium. In 1914, Congress passed the Harrison Narcotics Act, which aimed to curb drug abuse and addiction. It requires doctors, pharmacists, and others who prescribed narcotics (cocaine and heroin) to register and pay a tax.

In 1923, the U.S. Treasury Department's Narcotics Division (the first federal drug agency) banned all legal narcotics sales, forcing addicts to buy from illegal street dealers. Soon, a thriving black market opened up in New York's Chinatown.

In the 1920s and 30s, the majority of illegal heroin smuggled into the U.S. came from China. In the 1940s, Southeast Asia, (Laos, Thailand and Burma, referred to as the 'Golden Triangle,') became a major player in the profitable opium trade. In fact, during World War II, the French occupiers of Southeast Asia encouraged Hmong farmers to expand their opium production so that the French could retain their opium monopoly. After the war, Burma gained its independence from Britain, and opium cultivation and trade began to flourish in the Shan state.

In the U.S., the heroin trade between 1948 and 1972 was dominated by Corsican gangsters and U.S. Mafia drug distributors. The raw Turkish opium was refined in Marseilles laboratories (the "French Connection,") and sold to junkies on New York City streets. In the 1950s, the U.S. preoccupation with stopping the spread of Communism led to alliances with drug producing warlords in the Golden Triangle. The U.S. and France supplied the drug warlords and their armies with ammunition, arms, and air transport for the production and sale of opium. The result was an explosion in the availability and illegal flow of heroin into the United States and into the hands of drug dealers and addicts. During

the U.S. war in Vietnam, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) set up a charter airline, Air America, to transport raw opium from Burma and Laos. During this period, the number of heroin addicts in the U.S. reached an estimated 750,000.

After the Vietnam War, the heroin epidemic in the U.S. subsided somewhat. Until 1978, "Mexican Mud," temporarily replaced "China White" heroin as the most common source of heroin in the U.S. In 1978, the U.S. and Mexican governments cooperated to eliminate the source of Mexican opium. They sprayed the poppy fields with Agent Orange. The amount of "Mexican Mud" in the U.S. drug market declined rapidly. Another source of heroin cropped up in its wake, from the Golden Crescent area of Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

During the 1970s and 80s, officials tried to eradicate marijuana, coca, and opium poppy farms by introducing crop substitution programs in the Third World, but the technique produced very disappointing results.

In the late 80s, the establishment of a dictatorship in Burma increased the production of opium in that country. The world's single largest heroin seizure was made in 1988 in Bangkok. The 2,400-pound shipment of heroin, en route to New York City, was suspected to have originated in the region controlled by the Burmese drug warlord, Khun Sa. Khun Sa was indicted in the U.S. in 1990 on heroin trafficking charges, but was still at-large in Burma.

In 1992, Colombia's drug lords introduced a high-grade form of heroin into the United States at prices that severely undercut Asian sources. Despite a 1993 joint operation between the Thai army and U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, among others, efforts to eradicate opium at its source remained unsuccessful in the mid-90s. The new U.S. focus adopted the approach of attempting to "[strengthen] democratic governments abroad, [to] foster law-abiding behavior and promote legitimate economic opportunity."

In 1995, the Golden Triangle region of Southeast Asia was the leader in opium production, yielding 2,500 tons annually. According to U.S. drug experts, there were new drug trafficking routes from Burma through Laos, to southern China, Cambodia, and Vietnam. In January 1996, the Burmese warlord Khun Sa "surrendered" to the ruling junta of Burma. The junta allowed Khun Sa to retain control of his opium trade if he would end his 30-year-old revolutionary war against the government. In 1998, it appeared that approximately 18% of the heroin smuggled into the U.S. came from the Golden Triangle.

CIA Fueling New U.S. Drug Epidemic Using Cheap Afghani Heroin?; CIA, Obama Team Up to Hide Darkest Secrets

March 26, 2014 AFP [5 Comments](#)

13. CIA, Heroin

- Across the U.S., heroin use has skyrocketed. But how are these drugs getting into the country, and is the CIA back to its old tricks, using drugs money to fund covert operations?

By Victor Thom -

The tragic overdose death of Academy Award winning actor Philip Seymour Hoffman on February 2, brought renewed interest to the subject of cheap heroin on America's streets. Across the country, heroin use is on the rise, despite the billions of dollars spent by United States law enforcement fighting it. Recently, southwestern Pennsylvania suffered 22 overdoses in little more than a week's time from tainted heroin, and dozens of users were hospitalized in Camden, New Jersey due to a highly potent batch that was being sold on the streets of that city.

One of the big questions asked by naive media talking heads is: Where does all of this heroin come from? The answer is the same as it was a decade ago following a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)-led invasion of Afghanistan: 75%-80% of the world's heroin is exported from Afghanistan. In spite of the fact that the U.S. military controls a great deal of that mountainous country, production levels hit record highs last year.

Since American forces have been entrenched in Afghanistan for a dozen years and have squandered over \$700B to date, AMERICAN FREE PRESS has long been one of the few publications to openly address a highly taboo subject. Namely, elements within the CIA having been heavily involved with illegal narcotics trafficking since the Vietnam War in the 1960s and 1970s and Iran-Contra in the 1980s.

On March 13, this reporter contacted investigative historian Robert Morrow, whose research into the murder of CIA-sanctioned pilot Barry Seal is unparalleled. Seal claims to have run drugs for U.S. intelligence.

When asked about official criminality associated with Afghan's opium business, Morrow replied: "U.S. government involvement in the drug trade ebbs and flows depending on a particular administration's level of corruption. If a Bush or Clinton is in office, you better believe it's rip-roaring."

Morrow provided more insights. "Or, maybe their complicity is so institutionalized that presidents don't even control it. Intelligence agencies and the military do. The government has many faces. One DEA [Drug Enforcement Administration] agent could be entirely honest while another is on the take from drug cartels and the government."

Delving into deep state secrets, Morrow stressed: "The people who ran all the drugs into America during the Iran-Contra era were George Bush, Sr., CIA Director William Casey, Oliver North and both Clintons. Airports like the one in Mena, Arkansas that Bill and Hillary operated stretched all across the southern U.S. You need to remember that Barry Seal [who allegedly flew more cocaine into America than any pilot in history] was personal friends with Bill Clinton. He also spoke with Bush, Sr. on a weekly basis."

Morrow turned his attention to Clinton's partner-in-crime.

"As Vice President, George Bush, Sr. had all aspects of law enforcement answering to him," said Murrow. "That way, legitimate police officers weren't arresting his CIA drug dealers."

Ending on a riveting note, Morrow said: "These topics aren't expressed in the mainstream media because it would be detrimental to the government's credibility. Nobody is supposed to know that certain elements running our country are drug dealers, murderers and thugs."

On March 13, this reporter also spoke with Dean Henderson, author of the book *Big Oil & Their Bankers in the Persian Gulf Four Horsemen, Eight Families & Their Global Intelligence, Narcotics & Terror Network*.

In terms of CIA links to the Afghan heroin trade, Henderson said: "They've been running it from the get-go, all the way back to when the Mujahideen were formed. It's been the same game starting with Jimmy Carter's people through Reagan, the Bushes, Clinton and now Obama."

Henderson provided more details: "After the Vietnam War when heroin stopped coming out of the Golden Triangle, the CIA set up bases near Afghanistan in the late 1970s. CIA asset Osama bin Laden helped train these men, and soon warlords were planting poppies. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure this out. Obama's advisors work for the same neocons as did Bush's. These same people do the dirty work."

How Opium is Keeping US in Afghanistan: CIA's Shady History of Drug Trafficking

Posted on January 3, 2014 by abby

opiumByBeggsEven though present-day Afghanistan flies under the news radar, it remains to be the longest military quagmire in US history. Aside from troops still occupying the country, thousands of private contractors are on the ground that the Pentagon can't even account for. Considering how Obama's foreign policy strategy has been to replace ground troops with drone strikes, the administration's logic behind continuing the occupation remains unclear.

War has always been about resources and control. Alongside the supposed surprise discovery of Afghanistan's \$1 trillion wealth of untapped minerals, the Taliban had successfully eradicated the opium crop in the Golden Crescent before the US invasion. Now, more than 90% of the world's heroin comes from the war torn country.

As reported by Global Research:

"Immediately following the October 2001 invasion, opium markets were restored... By early 2002, the opium price (in dollars/kg) was almost 10 times higher than in 2000. In 2001, under the Taliban opiate production stood at 185 tons, increasing to 3400 tons in 2002 under the US sponsored puppet regime of President Hamid Karzai."

After more than twelve years of military occupation, Afghanistan's opium trade isn't just sustaining, it's thriving more than ever before. According to a recent report from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, 2013 saw opium production surge to record highs:

"The harvest this May resulted in 5,500 metric tons of opium, 49 percent higher than last year and more than the combined output of the rest of the world."

Wow, that's a lot of opium - and a lot of money being made. So, who is reaping the spoils?

How Opium Greed is Keeping US Troops in Afghanistan

Many people outright dismiss the notion of the CIA overseeing the trade of illegal drugs as crazy talk. However, history shows that it's crazy not to entertain such a notion, especially during times of war profiteering.

In 2012, a Mexican government official from Juarez told Al Jazeera that the CIA and other international security forces "don't fight drug traffickers" and that instead, the agency tries to "manage the drug trade."

Back in the fifties, the CIA turned a blind eye to drug trafficking through the Golden Triangle while training Taiwanese troops against Communist China. As William Blum reports in *Rogue State*:

"The CIA flew the drugs all over Southeast Asia, to sites where the opium was processed into heroin, and to trans-shipment points on the route to Western customers."

These are far from isolated incidents. During the eighties, the CIA financially and logically backed anti-communist contras in Nicaragua who also happened to be international drug traffickers.

Former Representative Ron Paul elaborated on the CIA's notorious corruption when speaking to a group of students about Iran-Contra:

"[Drug trafficking] is a gold mine for people who want to raise money in the underground government in order to finance projects that they can't get legitimately. It is very clear that the CIA has been very much involved with drug dealings. We saw [Iran-Contra] on television. They were hauling down weapons and drugs back."

Surprisingly, mainstream publications still regard the Iran-Contra CIA drug trafficking scandal as a 'conspiracy theory.' I explain why it's not on Breaking the Set:

Iran-Contra and the CIA's Cocaine Trafficking

Circumstantial evidence aside, there is no conclusive proof that the CIA is physically running opium out of Afghanistan. However, it's hard to believe that a region under full US military occupation-with guard posts and surveillance drones monitoring the mountains of Tora Bora- aren't able to track supply routes of opium exported from the country's various poppy farms (you know, the ones the US military are guarding).

In today's globalized world of rule-for-profit, one can't discount the role that multinational corporations play in US foreign policy decisions either. Not only have oil companies and private military contractors made a killing off the occupation, big pharmaceutical companies, which collectively lobby over 250 million dollars annually to Congress, need opium latex to manufacture drugs for this pill happy nation. As far as the political elite funneling the tainted funds, the recent HSBC bank scandal exposed how trillions of dollars in black market sales are brazenly being laundered offshore.

Multinational corporations are in it for the long haul, despite how low public support is for the war. A little mentioned strategic pact has already been signed that will allow a US troop presence to remain in Afghanistan until 2024.

The US' goal of sustained warfare to oversee the world's opium trade has been alleged by many, including foreign military officials. In 2009, a former commander in the Russian invasion of Afghanistan, General Mahmut Gareev, said to RT:

"Americans themselves admit that drugs are often transported out of Afghanistan on American planes. Drug trafficking in Afghanistan brings them about 50 billion dollars a year - which fully covers the expenses tied to keeping their troops there ... [the US military doesn't] have any planned military action to eliminate the [Taliban]."

The unwinnable nature of the war becomes more apparent when learning that the US government was paying Taliban insurgents to protect supply routes and "switch sides" in an attempt to neutralize the

insurgency. The logic of funding both sides of the war to "win" is too incomprehensible a concept to grasp. Clearly, this war is meant to be sustained.

Baseless rhetoric aside, here's the hard, hypocritical truth: this government is fighting a multi-billion dollar 'War on Drugs' worldwide, resulting in thousands of deaths every year and millions of nonviolent drug users rotting away in prison. Yet, the US is at the very least protecting the largest source of the deadliest and most addictive drug on the planet. If not for the obvious, then why?

Written by Abby Martin for Media Roots

The Only Place Where They'll Inject You With Heroin for Free

by Paul Hiebert

Every day, Randy McKinley walks into a nondescript building located in downtown Vancouver to shoot up. For no cost at all, an examiner provides him with a sterilized syringe and pure narcotic, which he then injects into his blood stream. After about 20 minutes or so, McKinley gets up and leaves, only to return two more times before the day is over.

Throughout his 50 years of life, McKinley has experienced multiple ups and downs. He has a university degree, but began struggling with drug addiction as a teen. He has a daughter, but lost his second spouse to a heroin overdose. He's worked as a paralegal, but has also earned money as an escort, stripper, and thief. He's owned a home, but now lives in a shelter, which is only open from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.

On his peculiar arrangement with the free drugs, McKinley says, "It's been a godsend."

SITUATED IN VANCOUVER'S NOTORIOUS Downtown Eastside-often referred to as Canada's poorest postal code-is the four-year clinical trial known as SALOME (Study to Assess Long-Term Opioid Maintenance Effectiveness). It's the only place in North America where government-sanctioned researchers are providing drug addicts with heroin to see if a dependable supply of the substance will improve their lives.

The basic idea is this: 322 chronic opiate users with a history of failing at conventional treatments, such as rehab or methadone programs, are divided into two groups. One group receives hydromorphone, the active drug found in the licensed medication Dilaudid; the other group receives diacetylmorphine, the principal ingredient of heroin. None of the participants know which group they're in. Between one to three times per day, participants enter the clinic, receive their designated drug, inject it under the supervision of a nurse, then exit back onto the street where they're free to do whatever they want. No one is arrested, forced into detox, or judged for his or her habit.

Now for a reasonable question: Why give heroin to a heroin addict?

"It's about creating some stability in their life," said Kurt Lock, a research coordinator for SALOME. "Rather than their days being consumed by acquiring the drug, they're provided with it so they can work on the other issues that got them into this destructive lifestyle. It's basically a timeout."

That means time to seek counseling, secure housing, find work, and perhaps even repair broken relationships with friends and family.

Furthermore, SALOME researchers are curious to know if an endless access to either Dilaudid or heroin-both of which are opium-based, though only the former is legal-is more effective at getting an addict to voluntarily remove him or herself from the drug ecosystem and all its harms. Will crime rates go down? Will the spread of HIV and Hepatitis C through shared needles decrease? Will frequent visits to the hospital and courthouse decline? Will the annual amount of overdoses drop?

According to a report published by the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse, in 2002 illegal drugs cost the nation an estimated \$8.2 billion (CAD) in terms of health care, law enforcement, and lost productivity due to illness and premature death. Therefore, if an addict is given the pure substance her

body craves in a controlled environment, will this arrangement make things better for both the individual and society at large?

McKinley considers his involvement with SALOME a complete reprieve. It's allowed him time and mental space to work on his housing situation, pay outstanding bills, finish his divorce from his third spouse, and generally just clean up life's loose ends with the aid of a social worker not associated with the study.

"With the daily hustle gone, it's improved my life 100 percent," he said. "I'm not reinventing myself, but I'm rediscovering myself, and it's wonderful."

For Dr. Eugenia Oviedo-Joekes, who serves as the principal investigator of SALOME, the question is a very pragmatic one. "People are going to use drugs, like it or not," she said. "What are we going to do with that? So far, what we've been doing isn't working, so let's bring them here and see what we can do."

Will crime rates go down? Will the spread of HIV and Hepatitis C through shared needles decrease? Will frequent visits to the hospital and courthouse decline?

Heroin Kills White People More Than Anyone Else - And Nobody Is Sure Why

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By Tess Owen

January 27, 2016 1 8:56 pm

The reality of America's heroin epidemic hit Dr. Jeremy Engel one summer's day in August 2012. Engel, a family practitioner in northern Kentucky, recalled how five of his 18 patients told him they had a child or grandchild using heroin; or who had overdosed. Another woman came into his practice after hours and said her daughter needed heroin addiction treatment. Then his colleague in the emergency department casually mentioned that they had also admitted a patient for kidney dialysis who was overdosing on heroin.

Similar scenes have unfolded at doctor's offices across America. According to data compiled by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) from 60 million death certificates, the rate of fatal heroin overdoses almost tripled between 2010 and 2013. The deaths were not concentrated in any region, and the users were both rich and poor. But the vast majority had one thing in common: They were white.

A recent analysis of the CDC data by the New York Times found that the rising death rates of white adults between the ages of 25 and 34 made them "the first generation since the Vietnam War years of the mid 1960's to experience higher death rates in early adulthood than the generation that preceded it." But while the mortality rate for whites has been steadily rising, the death rates of blacks and Hispanics has continued to fall.

Nobody can seem to agree why this is happening.

"It has hit every white socioeconomic class," said Dr. Andrew Kolodny, chief medical officer at Phoenix House, a nonprofit institution that treats substance abuse in 10 states. "The key driver is exposure to opioids."

Related: [Why America's Ongoing Heroin Epidemic May Soon Run Its Course](#)

Kolodny thinks the correlation between opioid prescriptions and addiction explains why the problem is so overwhelmingly white. Between 1997 and 2011, the number of individuals seeking treatment for addiction to opioids increased by 900 percent. Opioid painkillers like OxyContin, which came onto the market in 1996, were the cause of three-quarters of drug overdose deaths in that period.

In 2013, the FDA imposed tighter regulations on the pills, which in turn drove up their street value. Americans who were already hooked turned to heroin, which is largely supplied by Mexican cartels. Black tar heroin, produced from poppies that grow in Mexico's rugged Sierra Madre mountains, offers a cheap and potent alternative to prescription painkillers.

So at what point did this become a white issue? Kolodny suggests that underlying racism by doctors might be the answer. He cites a study that mined Medicare data between 2007 and 2012 to identify trends in opioid prescriptions. The study concluded that white patients were being prescribed opioids at a higher rate than their minority counterparts.

'It has hit every white socioeconomic class.'

"The stereotype that minorities are more likely to become addicted to drugs or divert [their medication] is rooted in the recent memory of two devastating drug epidemics - heroin in the 1970s and crack cocaine in the late 1980s, which disproportionately affected low-income minority populations," Kolodny said.

The study cited by Kolodny isn't the only time the medical community has been accused of discrimination. In 2007, researchers at the Disparities Solutions Center, a Harvard University and Massachusetts General Hospital affiliate, found evidence of bias among physicians, and concluded that race could be a determining factor; in the kind of care a patient receives.

Related: [Police in This Massachusetts Town Have Started Helping Heroin Users Instead of Arresting Them](#)

Sam Quinones, author of *Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opioid Epidemic*, a book that chronicles the rise of OxyContin and explains how Mexican heroin dealers met the surging demand for opiates, isn't buying the claim that racist doctors are singlehandedly responsible for the vast disparity between whites and people of color in the frequency of fatal opioid overdoses.

"There's an awful lot of doctors out there," Quinones. said. "I can't imagine that every single one has that feeling."

According to Shannon Monnat, an assistant professor of sociology at Penn State University, there's data to back up Quinones' hunch. Monnat has done extensive research on the demographics of opioid abuse. She suggested that the overdose disparity has more to do with health insurance coverage and health care access, which makes whites more likely than blacks to visit a doctor - and thus more likely to end up with a prescription for painkillers.

"Patients who regularly see the same doctor have more opportunities to build a personal and trusting relationship with their doctors," she said, noting that doctors might be more comfortable prescribing opioids to familiar patients.

Data from the CDC shows that 13 percent of white people under the age of 65 didn't have health insurance in 2012, compared to 18 percent of African-Americans and 30 percent of Hispanics. Black and Hispanics were also more likely to either delay or not seek medical treatment because of the cost.

'It's a lot of money that people have to pay for the doctor's visits. It doesn't matter what race they are.'

Quinones noted, however, that the proliferation of so-called "pill mills" - operations where unscrupulous doctors rubber-stamp prescriptions for opiates - have been a contributing factor in the

spread of addiction. He also suggested that "affluenza" - a term used to describe malaise among wealthy individuals - may have led more whites to abuse pills and try heroin.

"There are a lot of cases where [a doctor's] scruples and ethics don't enter the equation at all," he said. "It's a lot of money that people have to pay for the doctor's visits. It doesn't matter what race they are."

There's another possible explanation: The drug epidemics that devastated minority communities in the '70s, '80s, and '90s created a shared aversion to hardcore drugs like heroin and crack. Marcus Anthony Hunter, an assistant professor of Sociology and African American Studies at UCLA, said minority communities are still feeling the effects of the zero-tolerance response by law enforcement to those drug epidemics.

Even though addiction still afflicts minority communities in urban areas, Hunter said, heavy-handed policing tactics have made it much harder to acquire drugs. According to his theory, heroin dealers in whiter suburbs have an entrepreneurial advantage over their urban counterparts in that they are much less likely to be shut down by the cops.

"Now that the problems of drugs have noticeably reached the vanilla suburbs, questions and claims of morality have been contested in ways often unavailable to urban minority communities," Hunter said. "Where urban minority areas are thought to be amoral breeding grounds, suburban white areas are thought to be upstanding, respectable force fields from the ills of drug use. As it turns out, neither is exactly true."

Related: [Critics Say New Plan to Stop Heroin Overdoses Shows White House 'Still Doesn't Get It'](#)

Regardless of why whites have been more affected, the upshot is that the current epidemic is being handled very differently than past drug scourges. Many states are now funding harm reduction approaches, while also favoring new medical technology and rehabilitation over criminalization and incarceration. So far, the new model appears to be working.

Programs that utilize the overdose antidote naloxone, which is sold under the brand name Narcan, are credited with reversing more than 26,000 overdoses since 1996. A report by the Harm Reduction Coalition found that as of June 2014, at least 644 "community-based opioid overdose prevention programs" had been launched across the US, providing naloxone to "laypeople" such as drug addicts and their families.

Watch the VICE News documentary: [Back From the Brink: Heroin's Antidote](#)

The effect of increased naloxone availability has been dramatic in some areas. Brockton, a predominantly white city of about 94,000 south of Boston, averages about three overdoses a day. But from January 13-17, not one of the city's 45 heroin overdoses was fatal, owing to the use of naloxone to resuscitate the users.

Other parts of the country are less progressive. Engel, the family practitioner in Kentucky, says he's tired of seeing families torn apart by overdose deaths and addiction. The doctor said that heroin addiction can be dealt with appropriately using a combination of drugs, but addiction clinics, especially in the country's heartland, are far and few between. Some physicians are reluctant to work with patients.

"There is a huge stigma," he said. "Doctors don't want to take the risk."

He said that northern Kentucky has been particularly blighted by opioid and heroin addiction, and that the community in his area - which is mostly white - needs to overhaul its entire approach in order to stamp out the epidemic.

"There's a frontier culture in Kentucky," He said. "It's a very stubborn culture ... where people would rather do it wrong and do it their own way than do it right. People need to take thoughtful actions to fix this problem."

Follow Tess Owen on Twitter: [@misstessowen](https://twitter.com/misstessowen)

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Does Race Gender or Ethnicity Determine Drug Use

homeless person To a large degree, perceptions of drug use and addiction can be affected by racial stereotypes. These types of stereotypes have long been perpetuated, to the effect that people of certain races or ethnic backgrounds are more likely to use drugs than others. For example, a Texas legislator speaking in support of one of that state's early marijuana laws has famously been quoted as saying that, "All Mexicans are crazy, and this stuff [marijuana] is what makes them crazy." How surprised would that lawmaker have been to find out that people of Hispanic background are actually among the least likely to use drugs? Racial stereotypes relating to drug use have their basis in various sources, whether personal observation, prejudice or to promote a certain agenda. However they arise, they are not always true, and can have harmful effects in terms of limiting the opportunities of those groups who are targeted. At least as bad as this is that such stereotypes also have a tendency to deflect attention away from the groups who actually are using more drugs and need help to avoid addiction and other serious health consequences.

The Texas lawmaker who incorrectly argued that Mexicans are all using marijuana is refuted by the results of the 2011 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Summary of National Findings, published by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Among other things, the 2011 NSDUH demonstrated that many of the most common conceptions about how rates of drug use line up along racial lines simply are not true:

- The group with the lowest rates of illicit drug use was Asians, at 3.8%
- Hispanics had the next-lowest rates of drug use, at 8.4%
- White people abused drugs at a rate of 8.7%
- Among African Americans, drug use was registered at a rate of 10%
- Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders used drugs at a rate of 11%
- American Indians and Alaska natives used drugs at a rate of 13.4%
- Persons of two or more races had the highest rates of drug use, at 13.5%

So whereas many people hold a stereotype of Hispanics as being drug users, they actually are among the most sober ethnic groups. While many assume that people in Hispanic communities are more likely to be using drugs, the facts tend to go unnoticed, as in the case of a major increase in rates of heroin abuse in suburban communities over recent years. A more correct assumption might be that drug use is more common among those who are most severely marginalized by society, as in the case of the American Indians who have to a large degree been forced to the edges and mixed-race individuals who often have difficulty finding acceptance and a stable community.

Relation Between Gender and Drug Use

So according to the NSDUH survey, there are certain correlations between race and drug use, even if they aren't all what many thought they were. What about gender? Are boys and men more likely to use drugs than girls and women? The survey also raised this question, and the answer is, "It depends." Over all, males were found to be almost twice as likely to use drugs as females, with rates of 11.1 % as compared with 6.5%. This gender gap in terms of drug use was most evident when it comes to marijuana, where males are again nearly twice as likely to use as females. When it comes to

other drugs, however, there was not such a great disparity. Men were still more likely to use other types of drugs, but the difference was smaller:

- Prescription drugs - 2.6% vs. 2.2%
- Cocaine- .7% vs .4%
- Hallucinogens- .5% vs..3%

So males are far more likely to use drugs in general, but outside of smoking pot there is only a small difference between them and females. The bottom line is that substance abuse is a problem that touches people from all walks of life, and it is never safe to assume that your child or spouse isn't using drugs just because "she's a girl," or "people of our race don't use drugs." Be alert for the signs of drug use, and be ready to take action to handle the problem.

Source:

<http://www.samhsa.gov/data/nsduh/2k11results/nsduhresults2011.htm#2.7>

Who Are America's Drug Users?

How Many People Use Illicit Drugs?

According to the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, in 1999 an estimated 14.8 million Americans ([see the chart](#)) were current illicit drug users, meaning they had used some illicit drug during the month prior to the survey. This represents 6.7 percent of the population 12 years and older.¹¹ This number is down more than 50% from the peak year of 1979 ([see the chart](#)) when 25 million people (14.1% of the population) were using illegal drugs.

In 1999, more than 4 million of the drug using population were hardcore users: 3.3 million chronic cocaine users and 977,000 chronic heroin users, according to Office of National Drug Control Policy estimates.¹¹ While casual use of illicit drugs, and cocaine in particular, has fallen dramatically ([see the chart](#)) since the early 1980s, the number of hard-core users of cocaine and heroin has remained virtually unchanged.¹¹

Who they Are

(±) In terms of age ranges, the highest rate of illicit drug use is found among older teens: the 1999 Monitoring the Future study found that 22% of 10th graders and 26% of 12th graders reported using an illicit drug in the past month.¹¹ They are closely followed by young adults; the Household Survey found that 20-21% of Americans aged 18-20 reported past month use of some illicit drug.

Men have consistently had a higher rate of drug use than women. In 1999, 8.7% of men were current users of illicit drugs, compared to 4.9% of women. Among children aged 12-17, the rates for boys were only slightly higher than those for girls. (8.4% vs. 7.1%)

Of the major racial/ethnic groups, the rate of drug use is highest among the American Indian/Native American population (10.6%) and those reporting mixed race (11.2%), followed by African Americans (7.7%), Hispanics (6.8%), whites (6.6%). The lowest rates are found among the Asian population. (3.2%).

Drug use rates have historically been highly correlated with educational status, and remain so. College graduates have the lowest rates of current drug use (4.8%).

Drug use is more prevalent in metropolitan than non-metropolitan areas, and higher in the West (7.9%) than in the Northeast (7.4%), Midwest (6.7%), or South (5.6%).¹¹

What They Use

Marijuana:

According to the 1999 National Household Survey, marijuana is by far the most commonly used drug, with 11.1 million current users ([see the chart](#)). This means that three out of four illegal drug users currently use marijuana--in addition to whatever other drugs they are using. The level of marijuana use remained relatively constant throughout the 1990s.¹¹

As well as measuring the levels of current drug use, the National Household Survey also counts the number of new users of each drug every year, in order to identify emerging trends in drug use. This "initiation rate" for marijuana increased dramatically in the early 1990s, and has

remained stable since 1994.(fil In 1998, 2.3 million people tried marijuana for the first time.(22) The alltime high for new use of marijauna was in 1977, when 3.4 million people tried the drug.

The ONDCP believes that marijuana is the most readily available illegal drug in the United States.Q..ill Prices have remained relatively stable over the last decade, ranging between \$400 to \$1000 per pound in the Southwest border areas and between \$700 and \$2000 per pound in the Midwest and Northeast.OJ.}

Cocaine:

According to the Household Survey, there were 1.5 million current cocaine users in 1999, representing 0.7% of the total population over 12. There were 413,000 current crack users (0.18%).(12)

The rate of cocaine use dropped dramatically between 1985, when it was as high as 3%, and 1992, when it had dropped to 0.7%. The rate did not change significantly through 1998, though there has been a slight increase since 1998.ill}

As for new users of cocaine, this number hit a 17 year low-point in 1991--down from the period of 1977-1987 when more than one million new users tried cocaine each year. The number of new users of cocaine peaked in 1983, when the number of new initiates was estimated to be 1.6 million. The number of new users each year dropped steadily from 1983, most sharply during the period of intense media attention to crack.

The most striking data about cocaine use is the stable level of hardcore chronic users (see the chart). This number has hovered between 3.3 and 3.5 million since 1989, while the number of casual users decreased by more than 50% in the same time period.L1.1}

According to the ONDCP, cocaine continues to be readily available in nearly all major metropolitan areas. The average retail price has remained stable since 1994, at \$170 per pure gram.(15) Purity levels have also remained steady throughout the 1990s, ranging from 65 to 80%. (fil

Heroin:

Heroin use in the United States appears to be declining slightly after an upward trend between 1992 and 1997.Qll According to the National Household survey, in 1997 there were 325,000 current heroin users; currently there are 200,000. LJn Solid statistics on heroin use, are difficult to come by, however, both because of the relatively small number of users, and because the Household Survey data relies on self-reporting of a particularly stigmatized drug taking behavior. (12) Other research has come up with substantially higher numbers. For example, an earlier ONDCP study estimated the number of hardcore users of heroin to be as high as 980,000 in 1998. (20)

Regardless of the actual number, there are fewer heroin users than cocaine or marijuana users. However, the ONDCP calls heroin "a resurgent menace" because use of this addictive drug has been steadily increasing over the past decade, particularly among casual users.@ With the advent of "heroin chic," more people tried heroin for the first time in 1996 than in any year going back to 1970. However, new use rates have stabilized since then. A large proportion of the recent heroin initiates are young and are smoking, sniffing, or snorting heroin, rather than injecting it. (22)

The ONDCP found that heroin on the street in 1999 was of "unprecedented retail purity," indicating that it was readily accessible.(23) High levels of purity indicate that a drug is easily accessible, because when a drug is hard to find, it is often cut with other substances. High levels of heroin purity also increase the risk of overdose.

Methamphetamine:

According to the DEA, methamphetamine had appealed to a relatively small number of users until the mid-1990's, when it emerged as a major drug of choice⁽²⁴⁾ The 1998 National Household Survey estimated that 4.7 million Americans tried methamphetamine in their lifetime. This figure shows a marked increase from the 1994 estimate of 3.8 million.^{Qi}} It is used most commonly in the western states, though it seems to be spreading eastward. In 1998, meth labs were, for the first time, found in New Jersey, Delaware, and Massachusetts.⁽²⁶⁾

What they spend

In 1999, Americans spent (see the chart) \$63.2 billion on illicit drugs: \$37 billion on cocaine, \$12 billion on heroin, \$10.2 billion on marijuana, and \$4 billion on other drugs⁽²⁷⁾ The vast majority of that spending comes from hard-core addicts. Hardcore addicts make up less than quarter of the drug users in this country, but consume over two-thirds of the illegal drugs.[@]

Between 1988 and 1999, expenditures on cocaine and heroin fell.⁽²⁹⁾ While a decrease in the number of casual users of cocaine played some role in this trend, it is largely due to a fall in the street price of each drug. According to DEA statistics, heroin and cocaine prices are at record lows, and the purity at almost all-time highs.

How Do We Get These Numbers?

Statistics on drug use are notoriously hard to pin down. There are very significant methodological problems with collecting data on illegal, stigmatized and relatively uncommon activities. The National Household Survey has been conducted by the Federal Government since 1979, and is the most widely cited survey of overall illegal drug use in America. It measures drug use in all civilian household residents over the age of 12, which includes more than 98% of the U.S. population. It includes residents of shelters, rooming houses, dormitories, and civilians living on military bases. However, it excludes some important subpopulations who may have very different drug use patterns than the rest of the population. It excludes active military personnel who have been shown to have significantly lower drug use. People living in institutional group quarters, such as jails, prisons and residential drug treatment centers, are not covered in the NHSDA and have been shown in other surveys to have higher rates of illicit drug use. Also excluded are homeless people not living in a shelter on the survey date--another population shown to have higher than average rates of illicit drug use.

The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) issues a yearly report which monitors drug use trends and lays out the prospective drug strategy. Much of the data in the annual report is based on the National Household Survey, but ONDCP also relies on other sources, particularly for data on more chronic drug users. For example, the Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring (ADAM) program collects data from arrestees in more than 30 U.S. cities. As might be expected, drug use prevalence is much higher among this population.^{QQ}} The ONDCP relies on this data combined with the National Household Survey, to estimate the number of hardcore versus occasional drug use, for example.

Another important national survey is the "Monitoring the Future" study of the University of Michigan, which reports annually on drug use among 8th, 10th and 12th graders. This is the most authoritative data available on teen drug use, but suffers from the obvious methodological flaw of depending on teenagers self-reporting illegal behavior.

(1) NHSDA 1999 <http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/NHSDA/1999/Chapter2.htm>

0 "Hardcore" use means more than weekly. The total number may be slightly lower, due to overlap between the two groups: some hardcore cocaine users may also be hardcore heroin users.
 i11 National Drug Control Strategy, 2000 Annual Report, Table 3, Appendix: Drug Related Data
 i11 Unless otherwise noted, statistics in this section are from the 1999 National Household

Survey on Drug Abuse. <http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/NHSDA/1999/Chapter2.htm>
 11 <http://www.monitoringthefuture.org/data/99data.htm> #1999data-drugs
 (fil NHSDA 1999 <http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/NHSDA/1999/Chapter2.htm>
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 (13) National Drug Control Strategy, 2000 Annual Report. p.14
 (L)2 National Drug Control Strategy, 2000 Annual Report. Table 3, Appendix: Drug Related Data
 ONDCP's figures for hardcore use combine the data from the Household Survey with numbers from arrestees. The higher rates of drug use among arrestees combined with the differences in methodologies, explains, at least in part, the discrepancy between the number of past month users counted in the Household Survey (1.5 million in 1999) and the number of weekly hardcore users (3.3 million in 1999).
 (@ National Drug Control Strategy, 2000 Annual Report. p.15
 LJ.fil National Drug Control Strategy, 2000 Annual Report. p.15
 Q1) National Drug Control Strategy, 2000 Annual Report. p.16
 (lfil NHSDA 1999 <http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/NHSDA/1999/Chapter2.htm>; National Drug Control Strategy, 2000 Annual Report. p.16
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 (25)
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 (27) Office of National Drug Control Policy, 1999. What America's Users Spend on Illegal Drugs, 1988-1999; Cited in National Drug Control Strategy, 2000 Annual Report. p. 114
 At now it's are in constant 1998 dollars. These figures are calculated using a "consumption approach". The researchers use a mathematical model in which they estimate the number of hardcore drug users in this country, analyze DUF (Drug Use Forecasting) interviews with hardcore users who are asked about how much they spend on drugs, multiply the number of users by their typical expenditure, then convert the resulting estimates to 1998 dollars.
 (28) Susan Everingham, C. Rydell and J. Caulkins, "Cocaine Consumption in the U.S.: Estimating Past Trends and Future Scenarios," Socio-Economic Planning Sciences, Vol. 29(4), December 1995. (AS CITED BY: Office of National Drug Control Policy, "What America's Users Spend on Illegal Drugs, 1988-1995" (Washington D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1997).) The authors report that heavy users of cocaine consume 70% of all cocaine reported in the NHSDA. Hardcore heroin users account for an even larger percentage of heroin sales.
 (29) National Drug Control Strategy, 2000 Annual Report. p.114
 Qill 1999 Annual Report on Drug Use Among Adult and Juvenile Arrestees, National Institute of Justice, June 2000

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Timeline of Events in the History of Drugs

Summary of Historical Events -in the History of Drugs: This list has been copied from The Schaffer Library of Drug Policy, and BP has added additional text regarding events we know off and think are important where possible (all fact-checked with references and links where poss). We like this one because of the insistence where possible to include references. Don't miss visiting the Schaffer Library online for excellent drug policy resources, including many collections that are now out of print. If there are any events you think should be here and that others should know about, please comment and we can add it on! NOTE: We are also working towards adding the foundation dates of all major drug user groups/unions national bodies. Please let us know if we are missing some (this will, of course be an evolving process).

5000 B.C. The Sumerians use opium, suggested by the fact that they have an ideogram for it which has been translated as HUL, meaning "joy" or "rejoicing." [Alfred R. Lindesmith, *Addiction and Opiates*, p. 207]

3500 B.C. Earliest historical record of the production of alcohol: the description of a brewery in an Egyptian papyrus. [Joel Fort, *The Pleasure Seekers*, p. 14]

3000 B.C. Approximate date of the supposed origin of the use of tea in China.

2500 B.C. Earliest historical evidence of the eating of poppy seeds among the Lake Dwellers on Switzerland. [Ashley Montagu, The long search for euphoria, *Reflections*, 1:62-69 (May-June), 1966; p. 66]

2000 B.C. Earliest record of prohibitionist teaching, by an Egyptian priest, who writes to his pupil: "I, thy superior, forbid thee to go to the taverns. Thou art degraded like beasts." [W.F. Crafts *et al*., *Intoxicating Drinks and Drugs*, p. 5]

Earliest recorded brewing in Egypt

Earliest recorded historical account of brewing of alcohol in Egypt, 3500bc

350 B.C. Proverbs, 31:6-7: "Give strong drink to him who is perishing, and wine to those in bitter distress; let them drink and forget their poverty, and remember their misery no more."

300 B.C. Theophrastus (371-287 B.C.), Greek naturalist and philosopher, records what has remained as the earliest undisputed reference to the use of poppy juice.

250 B.C. Psalms, 104:14-15: "Thou dost cause grass to grow for the cattle and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the heart of man.

350 A.D. Earliest mention of tea, in a Chinese dictionary.

4th century St. John Chrysostom (345-407), Bishop of Constantinople: "I hear man cry, 'Would there be no wine! 0 folly! 0 madness!' Is it wine that causes this abuse? No, for if you say, 'Would there were no light!' because of the informers, and would there were no women because of adultery." [Quoted in Berton Roueche, **The Neutral Spirit**, pp. 150-151]

450 Babylonian Talmud: "Wine is at the head of all medicines; where wine is lacking, drugs are necessary." [Quoted in Burton Stevenson (Ed.), **The Macmillan Book of Proverbs**, p. 21]

c. 1000 Opium is widely used in China and the far East. [Alfred A. Lindensmith, **The Addict and the Law**, p. 194]

1493 The use of tobacco is introduced into Europe by Columbus and his crew returning

Tobacco smoking is introduced to europe by Columbus in

Tobacco smoking is introduced to Europe by Columbus in 1493 from America.

c. 1500 According to J.D. Rolleston, a British medical historian, a medieval Russian cure for drunkenness consisted in "taking a piece of pork, putting it secretly in a Jew's bed for nine days, and then giving it to the drunkard in a pulverized form, who will turn away from drinking as a Jew would from pork." [Quoted in Roueche, op. cit. p. 144]

c. 1525 Paracelsus (1490-1541) introduces laudanum, or tincture of opium, into the practice of medicine.

1600 Shakespeare: "Falstaff. . . if I had a thousand sons the/ first human principle I would teach them should / be, to foreswear thin portion and to addict themselves to sack." ("Sack" is an obsolete term for "sweet wine" like sherry). [William Shakespeare, **Second Part of King Henry the Fourth**, Act IV, Scene III, lines 133-136]

17th century The prince of the petty state of Waldeck pays ten thalers to anyone who denounces a coffee drinker. [Griffith Edwards, Psychoactive substances, *The Listener*, March 23, 1972, pp. 360-363; p.361]

17th century In Russia, Czar Michael Federovitch executes anyone on whom tobacco is found. "Czar Alexei Mikhailovitch rules that anyone caught with tobacco should be tortured until he gave up the name of the supplier." [Ibid.]

1613 John Rolfe, the husband of the Indian princess Pocahontas, sends the first shipment of Virginia tobacco from Jamestown to England.

c. 1650 The use of tobacco is prohibited in Bavaria, Saxony, and in Zurich, but the prohibitions are ineffective. Sultan Murad IV of the Ottoman Empire decrees the death penalty for smoking tobacco: "Wherever there Sultan went on his travels or on a military expedition his halting-places were always distinguished by a terrible rise in executions. Even on the battlefield he was fond of surprising men in the act of smoking, when he would punish them by beheading, hanging, quartering or crushing their hands and feet. . . . Nevertheless, in spite of all the horrors and persecution. . . the passion for smoking still persisted." [Edward M. Brecher et al., *Licit and Illicit Drugs*, p. 212]

1680 Thomas Sydenham (1625-80): "Among the remedies which it has pleased the Almighty God to give to man to relieve his sufferings, none is so universal and efficacious as opium." [Quoted in Louis Goodman and Alfred Gilman, *The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics*, First Edition (1941), p. 186]

1690 The "Act for the Encouraging of the Distillation of Brandy and Spirits from Corn" is enacted in England. [Roueche, op. cit. p. 27]

1691 In Luneberg, Germany, the penalty for smoking (tobacco) is death.

1717 Liquor licenses in Middlesex (England) are granted only to those who "would take oaths of allegiance and of belief in the King's supremacy over the Church" [G.E.G. Catlin, *Liquor Control*, p. 14]

1736 The Gin Act (England) is enacted with the avowed object of making spirits "come so dear to the consumer that the poor will not be able to launch into excessive use of them." This effort results in general lawbreaking and fails to halt the steady rise in the consumption of even legally produced and sold liquor. [Ibid., p. 15]

1745 The magistrates of one London division demanded that "publicans and wine-merchants should swear that they anathematized the doctrine of Transubstantiation." [Ibid., p. 14]

Dovers Powders, opium preparation used for 150 years! 1762 Thomas Dover, and English physician, introduces his prescription for a diaphoretic

powder," which he recommends mainly for the treatment of gout. Soon named "Dover's powder," this compound becomes the most widely used opium preparation during the next 150 years.

1785 Benjamin Rush publishes his *Inquiry into the Effects of Ardent Spirits on the Human Body and Mind*; in it, he calls the intemperate use of distilled spirits a "disease," and estimates the annual rate of death due to alcoholism in the United States as "not less than 4000 people" in a population then of less than 6 million. [Quoted in S. S. Rosenberg (Ed.), *Alcohol and Health*, p. 26]

1789 The first American temperance society is formed in Litchfield, Connecticut. [Crafts et. al., op. cit., p. 9]

1790 Benjamin Rush persuades his associates at the Philadelphia College of Physicians to send an appeal to Congress to "impose such heavy duties upon all distilled spirits as shall be effective to restrain their intemperate use in the country." [Quoted in *ibid.*]

1792 The first prohibitory laws against opium in China are promulgated. The punishment decreed for keepers of opium shops is strangulation.

1792 The Whisky Rebellion, a protest by farmers in western Pennsylvania against a federal tax on liquor, breaks out and is put down by overwhelming force sent to the area by George Washington. Samuel Taylor Coleridge writes "Kubla Khan" while under the influence of opium.

1800 Napoleon's army, returning from Egypt, introduces cannabis (hashish, marijuana) into France. Avante-garde artists and writers in Paris develop their own cannabis ritual, leading, in 1844, to the establishment of *Le Club de Haschischins.* [William A. Emboden, Jr., *Ritual Use of Cannabis Sativa L.: A historical-ethnographic survey*, in Peter T. Furst (Ed.), **Flesh of the Gods**, pp. 214-236; pp. 227-228]

1801 On Jefferson's recommendation, the federal duty on liquor was abolished. [Catlin, *op. cit.*, p. 113]

1804 Thomas Trotter, an Edinburgh physician, publishes *An Essay, Medical, Philosophical, and Chemical on Drunkenness and Its Effects on the Human Body*: "In medical language, I consider drunkenness, strictly speaking, to be a disease, produced by a remote cause, and giving birth to actions and movements in the living body that disorder the functions of health... The habit of drunkenness is a disease of the mind." [Quoted in Roueche, *op. cit.* pp. 87-88]

1805 Friedrich Wilhelm Adam Serturner, a German chemist, isolates and describes morphine.

Confessions of an English Opium Eater

Confessions of an English Opium Eater, 1822

1822 Thomas De Quincey's *Confessions of an English Opium Eater* is published. He notes that the opium habit, like any other habit, must be learned: "Making allowance for constitutional differences, I should say that *in less than 120 days* no habit of opium-eating could be formed strong enough to call for any extraordinary self-conquest in renouncing it, even suddenly renouncing it. On Saturday you are an opium eater, on Sunday no longer such." [Thomas De Quincey, *Confessions of an English Opium Eater* (1822), p. 143]

1826 The American Society for the Promotion of Temperance is founded in Boston. By 1833, there are 6,000 local Temperance societies, with more than one million members.

1839-42 The first Opium War. The British force upon China the trade in opium, a trade the Chinese had declared illegal.. [Montagu, *op. cit.* p. 67]

1840 Benjamin Parsons, an English clergyman, declares: "... alcohol stands preeminent as a destroyer.... I never knew a person become insane who was not in the habit of taking a portion of alcohol every day." Parsons lists forty-two distinct diseases caused by alcohol, among them inflammation of the brain, scrofula, mania, dropsy, nephritis, and gout. [Quoted in Roueche, op. cit. pp. 87-88]

1841 Dr. Jacques Joseph Moreau uses hashish in treatment of mental patients at the Bicetre.

1842 Abraham Lincoln: "In my judgment, such of us as have never fallen victims, have been spared more from the absence of appetite, than from any mental or moral superiority over those who have. Indeed, I believe, if we take habitual drunkards as a class, their heads and their hearts will bear an advantageous comparison with those of any other class." [Abraham Lincoln, Temperance address, in Roy P. Basler Ed.), *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, Vol. 1, p. 258]

1844 Cocaine is isolated in its pure form.

1845 A law prohibiting the public sale of liquor is enacted in New York State. It is repealed in 1847.

1847 The American Medical Association is founded.

1852 Susan B. Anthony establishes the Women's State Temperance Society of New York, the first such society formed by and for women. Many of the early feminists, such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Abby Kelly, are also ardent prohibitionists. [Andrew Sinclair, *Era of Excess*, p. 92]

1852 The American Pharmaceutical Association is founded. The Association's 1856 Constitution lists one of its goals as: "To as much as possible restrict the dispensing and sale of medicines to regularly educated druggists and apothecaries. [Quoted in David Musto, *The American Disease*, p. 258]

1856 The Second Opium War. The British, with help from the French, extend their powers to distribute opium in China.

1862 Internal Revenue Act enacted imposing a license fee of twenty dollars on retail liquor dealers, and a tax of one dollar a barrel on beer and twenty cents a gallon on spirits. [Sinclair, op. cit. p 152]

1864 Adolf von Baeyer, a twenty-nine-year-old assistant of Friedrich August Kekulé (the discoverer of the molecular structure of benzene) in Ghent, synthesizes barbituric acid, the first barbiturate.

1868 Dr. George Wood, a professor of the theory and practice of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, president of the American Philosophical Society, and the author of a leading American text, *Treatise on Therapeutics*, describes the pharmacological effects of opium as follows: "A sensation of fullness is felt in the head, soon to be followed by a universal feeling of delicious ease and

comfort, with an elevation and expansion of the whole moral and intellectual nature, which is, I think, the most characteristic of its effects.... It seems to make the individual, for the time, a better and greater man.... The hallucinations, the delirious imaginations of alcoholic intoxication, are, in general, quite wanting. Along with this emotional and intellectual elevation, there is also increased muscular energy; and the capacity to act, and to bear fatigue, is greatly augmented. [Quoted in Musto, op. cit. pp. 71-72]

1869 The Prohibition Party is formed. Gerrit Smith, twice Abolitionist candidate for President, an associate of John Brown, and a crusading prohibitionist, declares: "Our involuntary slaves are set free, but our millions of voluntary slaves still clang their chains. The lot of the literal slave, of him whom others have enslaved, is indeed a hard one; nevertheless, it is a paradise compared with the lot of him who has enslaved himself to alcohol." [Quoted in Sinclair, op. cit. pp. 83-84]

1874 The Woman's Christian Temperance Union is founded in Cleveland. In 1883, Frances Willard a leader of the W.C.T.U. forms the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

1882 The law in the United States, and the world, making "temperance education" a part of the required courses in public schools is enacted. In 1886, Congress makes such education mandatory in the District of Columbia, and in territorial, military, and naval schools. By 1900, all the states have similar laws. [Crafts et. al., op. cit. p. 72]

1882 The Personal Liberty League of the United States is founded to oppose the increasing momentum of movements for compulsory abstinence from alcohol. [Catlin, op. cit. p. 114]

Merck Cocaine 1882

Merck Cocaine 1882

1883 Dr. Theodor Aschenbrandt, a German army physician, secures a supply of pure cocaine from the pharmaceutical firm of Merck, issues it to Bavarian soldiers during their maneuvers, and reports on the beneficial effects of the drug in increasing the soldiers' ability to endure fatigue. [Brecher et. al. op. cit. p. 272]

1884 Sigmund Freud treats his depression with cocaine, and reports feeling "exhilaration and lasting euphoria, which is in no way differs from the normal euphoria of the healthy person.... You perceive an increase in self-control and possess more vitality and capacity for work.... In other words, you are simply more normal, and it is soon hard to believe that you are under the influence of a drug." [Quoted in Ernest Jones, *The Life and Work of Sigmund Freud, Vol. 1, p. 82]

1884 Laws are enacted to make anti-alcohol teaching compulsory in public schools in New York State. The following year similar laws are passed in Pennsylvania, with other states soon following suit.

1885 The Report of the Royal Commission on Opium concludes that opium is more like the Westerner's liquor than a substance to be feared and abhorred. [Quoted in Musto, op. cit. p. 29]

1889 The John Hopkins Hospital, in Baltimore, Maryland, is opened. One of its world-famous founders, Dr. William Stewart Halsted, is a morphine addict. He continues to use morphine in large doses throughout his phenomenally successful surgical career lasting until his death in 1922.

1894 The Report of the Indian Hemp Drug Comission, running to over three thousand pages in seven volumes, is published. This inquiry, commissioned by the British government, concluded: "There is no evidence of any weight regarding the mental and moral injuries from the moderate use of these drugs.... . Moderation does not lead to excess in hemp any more than it does in alcohol. Regular, moderate use of ganja or bhang produces the same effects as moderate and regular doses of whiskey." The commission's proposal to tax bhang is never put into effect, in part, perhaps, because one of the commissioners, an Indian, cautions that Moslem law and Hindu 2ustom forbid "taxing anything that gives pleasure to the poor." [Quoted in Norman Taylor, The pleasant assassin: The story of marihuana, in David Solomon (Ed.) *The Marijuana Papers*, pp. 31-47, p. 41]

1894 Norman Kerr, and English physician and president of the British Society for the study ofinebriety, declares: "Drunkenness has generally been regarded as . . . a sin a vice, or a crime. . . [But] there is now a consensus of intelligent opinion that habitual and periodic drunkenness is often either a symptom or sequel of disease . . . The victim can no more resist [alcohol] than an man with ague can resist shivering. [Quoted in Roueche, op. cit., pp. 107-108]

1898 Diacetylmorphine (heroin) is synthesized in Germany. It is widely lauded as a "safe preparation free from addiction-forming properties." [Montagu, op. cit. p. 68]

1900 In an address to the Ecumenical Missionary Conference, Rev. Wilbur F. Crafts declares: "No Christian celebration of the completion ofnineteen Christian centuries has yet been arranged. Could there be a fitter one than the general adoption, by separate and joint action of the great nations of the world, of the new policy of civilization, in which Great Britian is leading, the policy of prohibition for the native races, in the interest of commerce as well as conscience, since the liquor traffic among child races, even more manifestly than in civilized lands, injures all other trades by producing poverty, disease, and death. Our object, more profoundly viewed, is to create a more favorable environment for the child races that civilized nations are essaying to civilize and Christianize." [Quoted in Crafts, et. al., op. cit., p. 14]

1900 James R. L. Daly, writing in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, declares: "It [heroin] possesses many advantages over morphine. . . . It is not hypnotic; and there is no danger of acquiring the habit. . . ." [Quoted in Henry H. Lennard et. al. Methadone treatment (letters), *Science*, 179:1078-1079 (March 16), 1973; p. 1079]

1901 The Senate adopts a resolution, introduced by Henry Cabot Lodge, to forbid the sale by American traders of opium and alcohol "to aboriginal tribes and uncivilized races." These provisions are later extended to include "uncivilized elements in America itself and in its territories, such as Indians, Alaskans, the inhabitants of Hawaii, railroad workers, and immigrants at ports of entry." [Sinclair, op. cit. p. 33]

1902 The Committee on the Acquirement of the Drug Habit of the American Pharmaceutical Association declares: "If the Chinaman cannot get along without his 'dope,' we can get along without him." [Quoted in *ibid*, p. 17]

1902 George E. Petty, writing in the *Alabama Medical Journal*, observes: "Many articles have appeared in the medical literature during the last two years lauding this new agent When we consider the fact that heroin is a morphine derivative . . . it does not seem reasonable that such a claim could be well founded. It is strange that such a claim, should mislead anyone or that there should be found among the members of our profession those who would reiterate and accentuate it without first subjecting it to the most critical tests, but such is the fact." [Quoted in Lennard et. al., op. cit. p. 1079]

1903 The composition of Coca-Cola is changed, caffeine replacing the cocaine it contained until this time. {Musto, op. cit. p. 43]

Cocaine is removed from Coca Cola in 1903

Cocaine is removed from Coca Cola in 1903

1904 Charles Lyman, president of the International Reform Bureau, petitions the President of the United States "to induce Great Britain to release China from the enforced opium traffic. . . . We need not recall in detail that China prohibited the sale of opium except as a medicine, until the sale was forced upon that country by Great Britain in the opium war of 1840." [Quoted in Crafts et al., op. cit. p. 230]

1905 Senator Henry W. Blair, in a letter to Rev. Wilbur F. Crafts, Superintendent of the International Reform Bureau: "The temperance movement must include all poisonous substances which create unnatural appetite, and international prohibition is the goal." [Quoted in *ibid*.]

1906 The first Pure Food and Drug Act becomes law; until its enactment, it was possible to buy, in stores or by mail order medicines containing morphine, cocaine, or heroin, and without their being so labeled.

1906 *Squibb's Materia Medical* lists heroin as "a remedy of much value . . . is also used as a mild anodyne and as a substitute for morphine in combatting the morphine habit. [Quoted in Lennard et al., op. cit. p. 1079]

1909 The United States prohibits the importation of smoking opium. [Lawrence Kolb, *Drug Addiction*, pp. 145-146]

1910 Dr. Hamilton Wright, considered by some the father of U.S. anti-narcotics laws, reports that American contractors give cocaine to their Negro employees to get more work out of them. [Musto, op. cit. p. 180]

1912 A writer in *Century* magazine proclaims: "The relation of tobacco, especially in the form of cigarettes, and alcohol and opium is a very close one Morphine is the legitimate consequence of alcohol, and alcohol is the legitimate consequence of tobacco. Cigarettes, drink, opium, is the logical and regular series." And a physician warns: "[There is] no energy more destructive of soul, mind, and body, or more subversive of good morals than the cigarette. The fight against the cigarette is a fight for civilization." [Sinclair, op. cit., p. 180]

1912 The first international Opium Convention meets at the Hague, and recommends various measures for the international control of the trade in opium. Subsequent Opium Conventions are held in 1913 and 1914.

1912 Phenobarbital is introduced into therapeutics under the trade name of Luminal.

1913 The Sixteenth Amendment, creating the legal authority for federal income tax, is enacted. Between 1870 and 1915, the tax on liquor provides from one-half to two-thirds of the whole of the internal revenue of the United States, amounting, after the turn of the century, to about \$200 million annually. The Sixteenth Amendment thus makes possible, just seven years later, the Eighteenth Amendment.

1914 Dr. Edward H Williams cites Dr. Christopher Kochs "Most of the attack upon white women of the South are the direct result of the cocaine crazed Negro brain." Dr. Williams concluded that" . . Negro cocaine fiends are now a known Southern menace." [New York Times, Feb. 8, 1914]

1914 The Harrison Narcotic Act is enacted, controlling the sale of opium and opium derivatives, and cocaine.

1914 Congressman Richard P. Hobson of Alabama, urging a prohibition amendment to the Constitution, asserts: "Liquor will actually make a brute out of a Negro, causing him to commit unnatural crimes. The effect is the same on the white man, though the white man being further evolved it takes longer time to reduce him to the same level." Negro leaders join the crusade against alcohol. [Ibid., p. 29]

1916 The *Pharmacopoeia of the United States* drops whiskey and brandy from its list of drugs. Four years later, American physicians begin prescribing these "drugs" in quantities never before prescribed by doctors.

1917 The president of the American Medical Association endorses national prohibition. The House of Delegates of the Association passes a resolution stating: "Resolved, The American Medical Association opposes the use of alcohol as a beverage; and be it further Resolved, That the use of alcohol as a therapeutic agent should be discouraged." By 1928, physicians make an estimated \$40,000,000 annually by writing prescriptions for whiskey." [Ibid. p. 61]

1917 The American Medical Association passes a resolution declaring that "sexual continence is compatible with health and is the best prevention of venereal infections," and one of the methods for controlling syphilis is by controlling alcohol. Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels prohibits the practice of distributing contraceptives to sailors bound on shore leave, and Congress passes laws setting up "dry and decent zones" around military camps. "Many barkeepers are fined for selling liquor to men in uniform. Only at Coney Island could soldiers and sailors change into the grateful anonymity of bathing suits and drink without molestation from patriotic passers-by." [Ibid. pp. 117-118]

1918 The Anti-Saloon League calls the "liquor traffic" "un-American," pro-German, crime-producing, food-wasting, youth-corrupting, home-wrecking, [and] treasonable." [Quoted in ibid. p. 121]

1919 The Eighteenth (Prohibition) Amendment is added to the U.S. Constitution. It is repealed in 1933. In the same year, violent crime drops two-thirds and does not reach the same levels again until after World War II.

1920 The U.S. Department of Agriculture publishes a pamphlet urging Americans to grow cannabis (marijuana) as a profitable undertaking. [David F. Musto, An historical perspective on legal and medical responses to substance abuse, *Villanova Law Review*, 18:808-817 (May), 1973; p. 816]

1920-1933 The use of alcohol is prohibited in the United States. In 1932 alone, approximately 45,000 persons receive jail sentences for alcohol offenses. During the first eleven years of the Volstead Act, 17,971 persons are appointed to the Prohibition Bureau. 11,982 are terminated "without prejudice," and 1,604 are dismissed for bribery, extortion, theft, falsification of records, conspiracy, forgery, and perjury. [Fort, op. cit. p. 69)

1921 The U.S. Treasury Department issues regulations outlining the treatment of addiction permitted under the Harrison Act. In Syracuse, New York, the narcotics clinic doctors report curing 90 per cent of their addicts. [Lindesmith, *The Addict and the Law*, p. 141)

1921 Thomas S. Blair, M.D., chief of the Bureau of Drug Control of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, publishes a paper in the *Journal of the

American Medical Association* in which he characterizes the Indian peyote religion a "habit indulgence in certain cactaceous plants," calls the belief system "superstition" and those who sell peyote "dope vendors," and urges the passage of a bill in Congress that would prohibit the use of peyote among the Indian tribes of the Southwest. He concludes with this revealing plea for abolition: "The great difficulty in suppressing this habit among the Indians arises from the fact that the commercial interests involved in the peyote traffic are strongly entrenched, and they exploit the Indian. Added to this is the superstition of the Indian who believes in the Peyote Church. As soon as an effort is made to suppress peyote, the cry is raised that it is unconstitutional to do so and is an invasion of religious liberty. Suppose the Negroes of the South had Cocaine Church!" [Thomas S. Blair, Habit indulgence in certain cactaceous plants among the Indians, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 76:1033-1034 (April 9), 1921; p. 1034]

1921 Cigarettes are illegal in fourteen states, and ninety-two anti-cigarette bills are pending in twenty-eight states. Young women are expelled from college for smoking cigarettes. [Brecher et al., op. cit. p. 492]

1921 The Council of the American Medical Association refuses to confirm the Associations 1917 Resolution on alcohol. In the first six months after the enactment of the Volstead Act, more than 15,000 physicians and 57,000 druggists and drug manufacturers apply for licenses to prescribe and sell liquor. [Sinclair, op. cit., p. 492]

1921 Alfred C. Prentice, M.D. a member of the Committee on Narcotic Drugs of the American Medical Association, declares "Public opinion regarding the vice of drug addiction has been deliberately and consistently corrupted through propaganda in both the medical and lay press. The shallow pretense that drug addiction is a 'disease' has been asserted and urged in volumes of 'literature' by self-styled 'specialists.'" [Alfred C Prentice, The Problem of the narcotic drug addict, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 76:1551-1556; p. 1553]

1924 The manufacture of heroin is prohibited in the United States.

1925 Robert A. Schless: "I believe that most drug addiction today is due directly to the Harrison Anti-Narcotic Act, which forbids the sale of narcotics without a physician's prescription. Addicts who are broke act as *agent provocateurs* for the peddlers, being rewarded by gifts of heroin or credit for supplies. The Harrison Act made the drug peddler, and the drug peddler makes drug addicts." [Robert A. Schless, The drug addict, *American Mercury*, 4: 196-199 (Feb.), 1925; p. 198]

1928 In a nationwide radio broadcast entitled "The Struggle of Mankind Against Its Deadliest Foe," celebrating the second annual Narcotic Education Week, Richmond P. Hobson, prohibition crusader and anti-narcotics propagandist, declares: "Suppose it were announced that there were more than a million lepers among our people. Think what a shock the announcement would produce! Yet drug addiction is far more incurable than leprosy, far more tragic to its victims,

and is spreading like a moral and physical scourge.... Most of the daylight robberies, daring holdups, cruel murders and similar crimes of violence are now known to be committed chiefly by drug addicts, who constitute the primary cause of our alarming crime wave. Drug addiction is more communicable and less curable than leprosy.... Upon the issue hangs the perpetuation of civilization, the destiny of the world, and the future of the human race." [Quoted in Musto, *The American Disease*, p. 191]

1928 It is estimated that in Germany one out of every hundred physicians is a morphine addict, consuming 0.1 grams of the alkaloid or more per day. [Eric Hesse, *Narcotics and Drug Addiction*, p. 41]

1929 About one gallon of denatured industrial in ten is diverted into bootleg liquor. About forty Americans per million die each year from drinking illegal alcohol, mainly as a result of methyl (wood) alcohol poisoning. [Sinclare, op. cit. p. 201]

1930 The Federal Bureau of Narcotics is formed. Many of its agents, including its first commissioner, Harry J. Anslinger, are former prohibition agents.

1935 The American Medical Association passes a resolution declaring that "alcoholics are valid patients." [Quoted in Neil Kessel and Henry Walton, *Alcoholism*, p. 21]

1936 The Pan-American Coffee Bureau is organized to promote coffee use in the U.S. Between 1938 and 1941 coffee consumption increased 20%. From 1914 to 1938 consumption had increased 20%. [Coffee, *Encyclopedia Britannica* (1949), Vol. 5, p. 975A]

1937 Shortly before the Marijuana Tax Act, Commissioner Harry J. Anslinger writes: "How many murders, suicides, robberies, criminal assaults, hold-ups, burglaries, and deeds of maniacal insanity it [marijuana] causes each year, especially among the young, can only be conjectured." [Quoted in John Kaplan, *Marijuana*, p. 92]

1937 The Marijuana Tax Act is enacted. On Oct 8 1937, a Mr Samuel Caldwell is arrested and begins 4 years hard labour for selling 2 joints.

Sam Caldwell, the first guy to be arrested for pot, in 1937. He did 4 years hard labour for selling 2 joints.

Sam Caldwell, the first guy to be arrested for pot, in 1937. He did 4 years hard labour for selling 2 joints

1938 Since the enactment of the Harrison Act in 1914, 25,000 physicians have been arraigned on narcotics charges, and 3,000 have served penitentiary sentences. [Kolb, op. cit. p. 146]

1938 Dr. Albert Hoffman, a chemist at Sandoz Laboratories in Basle, Switzerland, synthesizes LSD. Five years later he inadvertently ingests a small amount of it, and observes and reports effects on himself.

1941 Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek orders the complete suppression of the poppy; laws are enacted providing the death penalty for anyone guilty of cultivating the poppy, manufacturing opium, or offering it for sale. [Lindesmith, *The Addict and the Law*, 198]

1943 Colonel J.M. Phalen, editor of the *Military Surgeon*, declares in an editorial entitled "The Marijuana Bugaboo": "The smoking of the leaves, flowers, and seeds of Cannabis sativa is no more harmful than the smoking of tobacco.... It is hoped that no witch hunt will be instituted in the military service over a problem that does not exist." [Quoted in ibid. p. 234]

1946 According to some estimates there are 40,000,000 opium smokers in China. [Hesse, op. cit. p. 24]

1949 Ludwig von Mises, leading modern free-market economist and social philosopher: "Opium and morphine are certainly dangerous, habit-forming drugs. But once the principle is admitted that is the duty of government to protect the individual against his own foolishness, no serious objections can be advanced against further encroachments. A good case could be made out in favor of the prohibition of alcohol and nicotine. And why limit the governments benevolent providence to the protection of the individual's body only? Is not the harm a man can inflict on his mind and soul even more disastrous than any bodily evils? Why not prevent him from reading bad books and seeing bad plays, from looking at bad paintings and statues and listening to bad music? The mischief done by bad ideologies, surely, is much more pernicious, both for the individual and for the whole society, than that done by narcotic drugs." [Ludwig von Mises, *Human Action*, pp. 728-729]

1951 According to United Nations estimates, there are approximately 200 million marijuana users in the world, the major places being India, Egypt, North Africa, Mexico, and the United States. [Jock Young, *The Drug Takers*, p. 11]

1951 Twenty thousand pounds of opium, three hundred pounds of heroin, and various opium-smoking devices are publicly burned in Canton China. Thirty-seven opium addicts are executed in the southwest of China. [Margulies, China has no drug problem-why? *Parade*, Oct. 15 1972, p. 22]

1954 Four-fifths of the French people questioned about wine assert that wine is "good for one's health," and one quarter hold that it is "indispensable." It is estimated that a third of the electorate in France receives all or part of its income from the production or sale of alcoholic beverages; and that there is one outlet for every forty-five inhabitants. [Kessel and Walton, op. cit. pp. 45, 73]

1955 The Prasidium des Deutschen Arztetages declares: "Treatment of the drug addict should be effected in the closed sector of a psychiatric institution. Ambulatory treatment is useless and in conflict, moreover, with principles of medical ethics." The view is quoted approvingly, as representative of the opinion of "most of the authors recommending commitment to an institution," by the World Health Organization in 1962. [World Health Organization, *The Treatment of Drug Addicts*, p. 5]

1955 The Shah of Iran prohibits the cultivation and use of opium, used in the country for thousands of years; the prohibition creates a flourishing illicit market in opium. In 1969 the prohibition is lifted, opium growing is resumed under state inspection, and more than 110,000 persons receive opium from physicians and pharmacies as "registered addicts." [Henry Kamm, *They shoot opium smugglers in Iran, but . . .* *The New York Times Magazine*, Feb. 11, 1973, pp. 42-45]

1956 The Narcotics Control Act is enacted; it provides the death penalty, if recommended by the jury, for the sale of heroin to a person under eighteen by one over eighteen. [Lindesmith, **The Addict and the Law**, p. 26]

1958 Ten percent of the arable land in Italy is under viticulture; two million people earn their living wholly or partly from the production or sale of wine. [Kessel and Walton, *op. cit.*, p. 46]

1960 The United States report to the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs for 1960 states: "There were 44,906 addicts in the United States on December 31, 1960 . . ." [Lindesmith, **The Addict and The Law**, p. 100]

1961 The United Nations' "Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 10 March 1961" is ratified. Among the obligations of the signatory states are the following: "Art. 42. Know users of drugs and persons charged with an offense under this Law may be committed by an examining magistrate to a nursing home. . . . Rules shall be also laid down for the treatment in such nursing homes of unconvicted drug addicts and dangerous alcoholics." [Charles Vaille, A model law for the application of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, **United Nations Bulletin on Narcotics**, 21:1-12 (April-June), 1961]

1963 Tobacco sales total \$8.08 billion, of which \$3.3 billion go to federal, state, and local taxes. A news release from the tobacco industry proudly states: "Tobacco products pass across sales counters more frequently than anything else -except money." [Tobacco: After publicity surge Surgeon General's Report seems to have little enduring effect, **Science**, 145:1021-1022 (Sept. 4), 1964; p. 1021]

1964 The British Medical Association, in a Memorandum of Evidence to the Standing Medical Advisory Committee's Special Sub- committee on Alcoholism, declares: "We feel that in some very bad cases, compulsory detention in hospital offer the only hope of successful treatment. . . . We believe that some alcoholics would welcome compulsory removal and detention in hospital until treatment is completed." [Quoted in Kessel and Walton, *op. cit.* p. 126]

1964 An editorial in **The New York Times** calls attention to the fact that "the Government continues to be the tobacco industry's biggest booster. The Department of Agriculture lost \$16 million in supporting the price of tobacco in the last fiscal year, and stands to lose even more because it has just raised the subsidy that tobacco growers will get on their 1964 crop. At the same time, the Food for Peace program is getting rid of surplus stocks of tobacco

abroad." [Editorial, Bigger agricultural subsidies...even more for tobacco, *The New York Times*, Feb. 1, 1964, p. 22]

1966 Sen. Warren G. Magnuson makes public a program, sponsored by the Agriculture Department, to subsidize "attempts to increase cigarette consumption abroad.... The Department is paying to stimulate cigarette smoking in a travelogue for \$210,000 to subsidize cigarette commercials in Japan, Thailand, and Austria." An Agriculture Department spokesman corroborates that "the two programs were prepared under a congressional authorization to expand overseas markets for U.S. farm commodities." [Edwin B. Haakinson, Senator shocked at U.S. try to hike cigarette use abroad, *Syracuse Herald-American*, Jan. 9, 1966, p. 2]

1966 Congress enacts the "Narcotics Addict Rehabilitation Act, inaugurating a federal civil commitment program for addicts.

1966 C. W. Sandman, Jr. chairman of the New Jersey Narcotic Drug Study Commission, declares that LSD is "the greatest threat facing the country today .. . more dangerous than the Vietnam War." [Quoted in Brecher et al., op. cit. p. 369]

1967 New York State's "Narcotics Addiction Control Program" goes into effect. It is estimated to cost \$400 million in three years, and is hailed by Government Rockefeller as the "start of an unending war ..." Under the new law, judges are empowered to commit addicts for compulsory treatment for up to five years. [Murray Schumach, Plan for addicts will open today: Governor hails start, *The New York Times*, April 1, 1967]

1967 The tobacco industry in the United States spends an estimated \$250 million on advertising smoking. [Editorial, It depends on you, *Health News* (New York State), 45: 1 (March), 1968]

1968 The U.S. tobacco industry has gross sales of \$8 billion. Americans smoke 544 billion cigarettes. [Fort, op. cit. p. 21]

1968 Canadians buy almost 3 billion aspirin tablets and approximately 56 million standard doses of amphetamines. About 556 standard doses of barbituates are also produced or imported for consumption in Canada. [Canadian Government's Commission of Inquiry, *The Non-Medical Uses of Drugs*, p. 184

1968 Six to seven percent of all prescriptions written under the British National Health Service are for barbituates; it is estimated that about 500,000 British are regular users. [Young, op. cit. p. 25]

1968 Brooklyn councilman Julius S. Moskowitz charges that the work of New York City's Addiction Services Agency, under its retiring Commissioner, Dr. Efren Ramirez, was a "fraud," and that "not a single addict has been cured." [Charles G. Bennett, Addiction agency called a "fraud," *New York Times*, Dec. 11, 1968, p. 47]

Millions are made from Barbituates like Seconal. and overdoses surge during the 160's and 70's.

Millions of dollars are made from Barbiturates like Seconal, and overdoses surge during the '60's and 70's.

1969 U.S. production and value of some medical chemicals: barbituates: 800,000 pounds, \$2.5 million; aspirin (exclusive of salicylic acid) 37 million pounds, value "withheld to avoid disclosing figures for individual producers"; salicylic acid: 13 million pounds, \$13 million; tranquilizers: 1.5 million pounds, \$7 million. (*Statistical Abstracts of the United States*, 1971 92nd Annual Edition, p. 75]

1969 The parents of 6,000 secondary-level students in Clifton, New Jersey, are sent letters by the Board of Education asking permission to conduct saliva tests on their children to determine whether or not they use marijuana. [Saliva tests asked for Jersey youths on marijuana use, *New York Times*, Apr. 11, 1969, p. 12]

1970 Dr. Albert Szent-Gyorgyi, Nobel Laureate in Medicine and Physiology, in reply to being asked what he would do if he were twenty today: "I would share with my classmates rejection of the whole world as it is-all of it. Is there any point in studying and work? Fornication-at least that is something good. What else is there to do? Fornicate and take drugs against the terrible strain of idiots who govern the world." (Albert Szent-Gyorgyi, in *The New York Times*, Feb. 20, 1970, quoted in Mary Breasted, *Oh! Sex Education!*, p. 359]

1971 President Nixon declares that "America's Public Enemy No. 1 is drug abuse." In a message to Congress, the President calls for the creation of a Special Action Office of Drug Abuse Prevention. [The New Public Enemy No. 1, *Time*, June 28, 1971, p. 18]

1971 On June 30, 1971, President Cvedet Sunay of Turkey decrees that all poppy cultivation and opium production will be forbidden beginning in the fall of 1972. [Patricia M Wald et al. (Eds.), *Dealing with Drug Abuse*, p. 257]

1972 Myles J. Ambrose, Special Assistant Attorney General of the United States: "As of 1960, the Bureau of Narcotics estimated that we had somewhere in the neighborhood of 55,000 addicts . . . they estimate now the figure is 560,000. [Quoted in *U.S. News and World Report*, April 3, 1972, p. 38]

1972 The Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs proposes restricting the use of barbituates on the ground that they "are more dangerous than heroin." [Restrictions proposed on barbituate sales, *Syracuse Herald-Journal*, Mar 16, 1972, p. 32]

1972 The house votes 366 to 30 to authorize "a \$1 billion, three-year federal attack on drug abuse." [\$1 billion voted for drug fight, *Syracuse Herald-Journal*, March 16, 1972, p. 32]

1972 At the Bronx house of corrections, out of a total of 780 inmates, approximately 400 are given tranquilizers such as Valium, Elavil, Thorazine, and Librium. "'I think they [the inmates] would be doing better without some of the medication,' said Capt. Robert Brown, a correctional officer. He said that in a way the medications made his job harder . . . rather than becoming calm, he said, an inmate who had become addicted to his medication 'will do anything when he can't get it.'" [Ronald Smothers, Muslims: What's behind the violence, *The New York Times*, Dec. 26, 1972, p. 18]

1972 In England, the pharmacy cost of heroin is \$.04 per grain (60 mg.), or \$.00067 per mg. In the United States, the street price is \$30 to \$90 per grain, or \$.50 or \$1.50 per mg. [Wald et al. (Eds.) op. cit. p. 28]

Heroin is provided on prescription in what was known as 'The British System'

Heroin was provided on prescription in what was known as 'The British System'. Only a few hundred opiate dependent users receive it this way today.

1973 A nationwide Gallop poll reveals that 67 percent of the adults interviewed "support the proposal of New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller that all sellers of hard drugs be given life imprisonment without possibility of parole." [George Gallup, Life for pushers, *Syracuse Herald-American*, Feb. 11, 1973]

1973 Michael R. Sonnenreich, Executive Director of the National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse, declares: "About our years ago we spent a total of \$66.4 million for the entire federal effort in the drug abuse area. . . . This year we have spent \$796.3 million and the budget estimates that have been submitted indicate that we will exceed the \$1 billion mark. When we do so, we become, for want of a better term, a drug abuse industrial complex.: [Michael R. Sonnenreich, Discussion of the Final Report of the National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse, *Villanova Law Review*; 18:817-827 (May), 1973; p. 818]

1972 Operation Intercept. All vehicles returning from Mexico are checked by Nixon's order. Long lines occur and, as usual no dent is made in drug traffic.

1977 The Joint Committee of the New York Bar Association concludes that the Rockefeller drug laws, the toughest in the nation, have had no effect in reducing drug use but have clogged the courts and the criminal justice system to the point of gridlock.

1981 Congress amends the 1878 Posse Comitatus Act, which forbids the armed forces to enforce civil law, so that the military could provide surveillance planes and ships for interdiction purposes.

1984 U.S. busts 10,000 pounds of marijuapa on farms in Mexico. The seizures, made on five farms in an isolated section of Chihuahua state, suggest a 70 percent increase in estimates that total U.S. consumption was 13,000 to 14,000 tons in 1982. Furthermore, the seizures add up to nearly eight times the 1300

tons that officials had calculated Mexico produced in 1983. [the San Francisco Chronicle, Saturday, November 24, 1984]

1985 Pentagon spends \$40 million on interdiction. By 1990, the General Accounting Office will report that the military's efforts have had no discernible impact on the flow of drugs.

1986 The Communist Party boss, Boris Yeltsin said that the Moscow school system is rife with drug addiction, drunkenness and principles that take bribes. He said that drug addiction has become such a problem that there are 3700 registered addicts in Moscow. [The San Francisco Chronicle, Sept. 22, 1986, p. 12]

1992 AIVL-Australian IntraVenous League -who then changed the name to Australian Injecting and Illicit drug users League, of which it is currently known, was formally constituted in 1992 although they began in 1988. Having grown to be one of the world largest user orgs, AIVL is the national user organisation, with chapters in every Australian state. Government funded and peer run.

2002 The Swedish Drug User Union is born

Swedish Drug Users
Union Hep C campaign

Swedish Drug Users
 Union Hep C campaign

(SDUU) and grows quickly adding many local chapters, the first one being Stockholm (S. The Swedish Drug Users Union (SDUU) is an NGO and was founded in October 2002 by drug users associated to the Swedish Opiate Substitution Treatment programs. They fight hard against Swedish conservatism in drug policy to ensure the voice and views of the drug user are included in every issue that affects their lives, following the user activist mantra 'Nothing About Us Without Us'.

2008 INPUD (International Network for People who Use Drugs) is formally launched on International Drug Users day Nov 1st 2008 at the premises of the Danish Drug Users Union, where around 100 international activists came from around 30 countries. INPUD was established to represent the interests of drug users on the world stage, especially those who encounter human rights violations, are affected by blood borne viruses and encounter discrimination simply because of their personal drug use.

2012 The Netherland's begins its crackdown on its much loved cannabis 'coffee shop' system'. Three areas begin a pilot programme on May 1st 2012 of excluding foreigners (except Belgians' and Germans') from buying dope in Amsterdam's traditional Coffee Shops and introduce a 'Weed Pass' allowing only 2000 Dutch customers per establishment. The experiment is to roll out across the country on Jan 1st 2013 if successful.

<http://www.coffeeshopsamsterdam.com/horne.html>

2014 Toronto Harm Reduction Workers Union ([THRWU](#)) went public on 11 November 2014 with the world's first ever Harm Reduction Workers' Union. "Harm reduction saves lives. We are the workers that make harm reduction work."

The Terrifying Side Effects of Prescription Drugs

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prescription drugs, medication The side effects of prescription medication can be horrific. Is it really worth taking medication if the cure is worse than the disease?

Here 26 side effects that come with many prescription drugs currently on the market.

1. Drainage, crusting, or oozing of your eyes or eyelids
2. Swollen, black, or "hairy" tongue
3. Changes in the shape or location of body fat
4. Decrease in testicle size
5. Sores or swelling in your rectal or genital area
6. Blue lips or fingernails
7. Purple spots on your skin
8. White patches or sores inside your mouth or on your lips
9. Irregular back-and-forth movements of your eyes
10. Enlarged breasts in males.
11. Unusual risk-taking behavior, no fear of danger
12. Extreme fear
13. Hallucinations, fainting, coma
14. Fussiness, irritability, crying for an hour or longer
15. Paralysis

16. Thoracic Hematoma (bleeding into your chest)
17. A blood clot in your lung
18. Liver damage
19. Kidney damage
20. A lump in your breast
21. Decreased bone marrow function
22. Congestive heart failure
23. Shingles
24. Nerve pain lasting for several weeks or months
25. Bleeding that will not stop
26. Coughing up blood or vomit that looks like coffee grounds

One drug on the market, EvaMist -- a treatment for menopause symptoms such as hot flashes -- has possible side effects that include cancer, stroke, heart attack, blood clots, and dementia!

But this is only a partial list of the potential side effects of prescription drugs. There are, unfortunately, many more out there.

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Every year, more than 2 million Americans suffer from serious adverse drug reactions. According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), these reactions cause about 100,000 deaths per year, making prescription drugs the fourth-leading cause of death in the country.

Compare this to the death toll from illegal drugs -- which is about 10,000 per year -- and you begin to see the magnitude of the problem.

However, if you dig a little deeper you find that these reported reactions only skim the surface of what's really going on. You see, drug side effects are not always recognized as such. Doctors often attribute them to other causes, people downplay them or do not report them altogether. And when you add in other medical errors, unnecessary procedures, and surgery-related mishaps, well the modern health care system actually becomes the LEADING cause of death in the United States. Consider, for instance, that:

- The recorded error rate of ICU's is like the post office losing more than 16,000 pieces of mail every hour of every day, or banks deducting 32,000 checks from the wrong bank account every hour, 24/7.
- The recorded medical errors and deaths equate to six jumbo jets falling out of the sky each day, 365 days a year.
- Since 2001, a recorded 490,000 people have died from properly prescribed drugs in the United States, while 2,996 people died on U.S. soil from terrorism, all in the 9/11 attacks; prescription drugs are therefore 16,400 percent more dangerous than terrorism. If deaths from over-the-counter drugs are also included, then drug consumption leaps to being 32,000 percent more dangerous than terrorism. And conventional medicine viewed as a whole is 104,700 percent deadlier than terrorism

Your Body is Not a Petri Dish

How can it be that clinically tested, FDA-approved drugs that are supposed to "cure" diseases are ending up hurting, and in some cases killing, so many people?

Because even under the BEST circumstances, such as a drug going through unbiased, stringent, long-term testing, when it is released into an uncontrolled environment (your body), anything can happen.

You may be taking another drug that interacts badly with it. Or perhaps a food you eat causes an unforeseen reaction. There are countless possibilities, and only a tiny fraction has been "tested for" in a lab.

And that is under the best circumstances. Often, studies are biased, results are skewed, and drugs are put on a fast-track to be approved before anyone really knows whether they're safe. In a sense, it is all a gamble, and there are no 100-percent safe drugs.

This is why just about every time you open a newspaper or skim the news online, there is a new headline about another drug disaster: an unforeseen side effect that has harmed innocent people.

It's YOUR Body

The take-home message from all of this is to remember that, ultimately, it's your body, and your decision what to put in it. If your doctor suggests you take a drug, do some research before you take it, because once you do, it could be too late.

Make sure you are aware of the potential side effects of the drug, read the package insert, and remember that even if it lists a side effect as rare, it can still happen to you.

Many, many drugs are vastly over-prescribed and unnecessary. So make sure that you make drugs a last option, not a first choice. For example, all of the following conditions can be treated or prevented with LIFESTYLE CHANGES, yet if you go to a typical doctor, you will likely be prescribed a potentially dangerous drug instead:

- Diabetes
- Heart disease
- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- Insomnia

I realize that it takes a massive shift in thinking to realize that your body can heal itself, and that often drugs only hinder the process. But I believe that you, and society as a whole, are ready for it.

But here's the thing: don't wait until you're sick or slowing down to make healthy changes. Do them NOW. Become an active participant in your health, and leave the horrific drug side effects behind for good.

Unfortunately, for many of us, DRUG USE and DISTRIBUTION leads to PRISONTIME. Violence is the number one reason I Young people are dying at a significant rate in this "SET-UP", and it's the elders responsibility to do *something..being* that we **KNOW**, anytime we go deep into the Drug Trade, GOD MOVES!! If you're buying drugs, you're in the Drug Trade. If you're selling drugs, you're in the Drug Trade. Pagan Gentiles OWN the DRUG TRADE (enter Satan). It's as simple as ABC. This is the obvious reason WE SHOULD NOT BE IN THE DRUG TRADE. But, I will leave you with the articles, statistics and fact/opinions I have pulled, showing undisputable PROOF!

(don't 4get to do your own diggin around '=')

Drugs through time: Drugs and the laws that control them through history

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Posted on 30 July 2012 by Little Henry Lee

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While this chronology deals primarily with drugs and the laws that attempt to control them in the context of the United Kingdom, it should be borne in mind that the UK legislation is formed within the framework of international treaties, to which the HM Government has signed up and which impose various obligations on UK drug law and policy. In addition, the drug trade has always been and remains a global network, in which the interconnection and interdependence of countries and their populations are most apparent. In terms of the period covered, the timeline focuses on the modern period, as historians use the term-roughly the last 500 years. Although humans have always used drugs, and there is evidence of use going back to the Neolithic age, the present drug situation is unlike any other that has existed. It is one of the results of the development of modern societies-societies which are globally interconnected, where individuals are geographically and socially mobile, and the cultures that were once confined by place and tradition are now opened to one another, and to the diverse products of advanced technologies.

One of the defining features of the modern age has been the ever-expanding menu of psychoactive drugs. This menu is available in a range and intensity undreamed of in previous centuries, as drug plants from across the planet have entered the global trading networks, with technology both enhancing extracts from the plants and developing entirely new synthetic substances. The great modern drug menu has brought with it new pleasures and states of mind, as well as new problems of governance and dilemmas for policies of regulation and control. From morning coffee and afternoon tea to the weekend's alcoholic drinks and dance drugs, the growth and elaboration of the drugs trade has fundamentally changed the texture of human experience and cultural life across much of the world

Time period

Drugs Through Time: 1500-1799

1500s

In the 16th century, the Mughal empire in India plays host to the world's first recorded culture of recreational opium use- taking drugs for leisure and pleasure. Opium is exported to other Asian states, with production organised under a government monopoly.

1527

The renaissance physician and alchemist Paracelsus reintroduces opium into Europe in the form of Laudanum, a tincture of opium in an alcohol solution. During the high Middle Ages, the Inquisition had apparently succeeded in suppressing the use of this drug, for it largely disappears from the cultural record. As a substance signifie'd as 'oriental', opium was viewed by the Inquisition as bearing the taint of heresy. Perhaps its use was driven underground. In any event, with the advent of the renaissance it is reinstated into European medical literature, and is referred to in the works of Shakespeare and Spenser.

1606

English trading ships chartered by Queen Elizabeth commence the importation of Indian Opium into the UK.

1625-1680

Thomas Sydenham, amongst the most celebrated of early English medical practitioners, receives the epithet 'opiophilus' or 'lover of opium' owing to his enthusiastic therapeutic deployment of the drug. 'Among the remedies which it has pleased the Almighty God to give to man to relieve his sufferings,' wrote Sydenham, 'none is so universal and efficacious as opium.' The use of his recipe for laudanum would persist into the 19th century.

1715

The British East India Company ('EiC') is granted trading rights and opens its first 'factory' (an agency or trading station) at Canton on the south coast of China. It must be kept in mind that this was a company chartered by the British crown, and could (and did) command armies and warships to enforce its will.

1729

Imperial edict bans the importation of opium into China. Dutch, Portuguese and English ships were trading opium to China, where the opium habit was catching on in a big way. The effect of the ban was to stimulate smuggling, and use continued to grow.

1757

After defeating the Nawab of Bengal at the Battle of Plassey, the EiC assumes control of Bengal and Bihar, the major opium poppy growing areas of India. The company, which is operating under royal charter and linked intimately to the British government, assumes the dominant position in the shipping of opium from India to China. 1793 The EiC establishes and enforces a monopoly on the opium trade in the Indian territories it controls. Independent agents who had mediated the trade were banned and local growers compelled to sell their product to the British. The trade with China works in this way: the EiC purchases tea from China to feed the rapidly expanding demand for tea in Britain. Originally paid for in silver, the trade produced a large deficit for the British treasury, as there was very little demand amongst the Chinese population for British exports. This steady drain on silver bullion was reversed by the opium trade; tea was purchased at Canton by EiC ships, which carried no opium. Instead, the British Indian opium was sold at the Calcutta market, from whence it was carried by EiC ships and smuggled ashore by Chinese dealers. The situation gave a form of 'deniability' to the Company and to the Crown.

1797

Samuel Taylor Coleridge writes *Kublai Khan*. The poet prefaces the published version of the (unfinished) poem by narrating the tale of his opium dream, his awakening and subsequent attempt to write down his recollections of the experience, which was interrupted by the arrival of a 'person on business from Porlock'. This nameless unfortunate has thus gone down in history as one who prevented the completion of a literary masterpiece. Nonetheless, the fragment remains one of the high points of English romantic poetry, and is saturated with the flavour of its author's opium experience.

"Weave a circle round him thrice, And close your eyes with holy dread, For he on honey-dew hath fed, And drunk the milk of Paradise." - S.T. Coleridge (above)

1799

Chinese emperor Kla King introduces total prohibition of the importation, cultivation and use of opium. It is quite ineffective. The capital Beijing is far from the southern provinces where the opium is traded, and the high profits mean that there is mass corruption amongst officials. The drug is very popular, with medicinal use common and various cultures of recreational use are established right across the different strata of Chinese society, many of them associated with sexual pleasures.

[Return to timeline](#)

Drugs Through Time: 1800-1899

1800

Napoleon's soldiers returning to Europe following the ill-fated campaign in Egypt bring with them an exotic cargo from North Africa: Hashish.

1805

The morphine alkaloid is isolated from opium by Fredrick William Serturner, a German pharmacist

working in Hanover. He names the white crystalline substance after Morpheus, the classical god of sleep and dreams.

1815

Chinese Imperial edict speaks of 'opium flowing into the interior of the country ..' from the entry ports of southern China where the foreigners are permitted access.

1821

The English chemist Thomas Morson begins commercial manufacture of morphine at his workshop in Farringdon Street, London. At about the same time, the German pharmaceutical manufacturer Merck commenced production.

1821

Thomas De Quincey publishes 'Confessions of an English Opium-Eater', another literary masterpiece to emerge from its author's drug experiences.

1828

This is the year that saw the death of The Earl of Mar, a Scottish highland aristocrat. The Edinburgh Life Assurance Company declines to pay up on account of his long-term and well attested opium use. The case is important and noteworthy because it attracts medical interest, as the court comments on the lack of reliable knowledge regarding the alleged effects of opiates upon the life expectancy of users.

As a result, Robert Christison, one of the founders of modern toxicology, is commissioned to inquire into the question.

1832

Sir Robert Christison reports on opium and longevity in the Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal. The study of a small number of users (including Thomas De Quincey) forms the basis of his report, which concludes that there is insufficient evidence to support the claim that regular use of the drug significantly reduces life expectancy.

1839-1842

The first opium war is fought between Britain and China.

It is an instance of the 'gunboat diplomacy' school of foreign policy, in which British naval might is brought to bear against the antiquated military technologies of imperial China in order to defend the lucrative opium trade.

Following the death by overdose of his son, the emperor had resolved to suppress the trade, which, though already prohibited under Chinese law, was thriving. The commerce was centred upon the seaport of Canton, where vast quantities of opium were smuggled in more or less openly from British East India Company ships, corruption being prevalent amongst local officials. The emperor decreed that opium at Canton should be impounded and destroyed, including that owned by foreign governments. The appointment of a new opium commissioner, one Lin Zexu, signalled the intent of the authorities to end the trade, and when Lin carried out his threat to seize and destroy a large consignment of British opium at Canton, the outbreak of hostilities became inevitable.

The opium wars signalled the beginning of the end for the isolation of the ancient Chinese civilisation, and introduced far-reaching social, economic and cultural transformations that led ultimately to its dissolution.

The total defeat of the Chinese forces resulted in the signing of the Treaty of Nanjing, which, in addition to the imposition of heavy financial reparations, ceded the island of Hong Kong to Britain. Opium itself remained officially illegal in China, and was not discussed in the treaty.

1841

The Pharmaceutical Society formed in Britain.

1856-1860

The Second Opium War between Britain and China. The Treaty of Nanjing left opium illegal, but meant that the Chinese authorities could do nothing to stop the trade. Chinese ships were now registering in Hong Kong as British ships, and trading with impunity. In 1856, one such 'British' ship was seized by the Chinese authorities. The crew was arrested and the flag torn down. The British retaliated with naval force, and with French troops in support. The war resulted in the ultimate taking of Beijing and the burning of the Emperor's summer palace. The final Chinese surrender issued in the Treaty of Tientsin, which among other things fully legalised the opium trade. From this point, substantial quantities of opium poppy were grown on Chinese soil.

1860

In Germany, Dr Albert Niemann is the first to successfully isolate the cocaine alkaloid from the leaves of the South American coca plant.

1860s

Drs Wood and Hunter popularize the use of the syringe in morphine treatment of neuralgia. Over the subsequent decades, the deployment of hypodermic medication will become widely diffused. Especially popular with physicians and patients alike, the use of hypodermic morphine for the treatment of neuralgia spreads rapidly throughout Britain, continental Europe and the United States.

Regarded as a panacea and a 'wonder drug' and used in a bewildering variety of contexts, hypodermic morphine will go far in establishing the scientific credentials of 'medical men' (the term was current), and form one of the major weapons in the arsenal of modern medicine.

1868

The Pharmacy act imposes some restrictions on the sale of drugs, with opium in the less stringent schedule 2; the Pharmaceutical Society is given responsibility for policing the act under the overall authority of the Privy Council Office.

1870

In a now famous article published in *The Practitioner*, the English physician and parliamentarian Sir Clifford Allbutt, who had initially been one of the pioneers of the technique, expresses doubts about subcutaneous morphine.

The piece, entitled 'On the Abuse of Hypodermic Injections of Morphine', sounds the first authoritative alarm throughout medical circles regarding the potentially addictive nature of the wonder drug; for this reason, it constitutes one of the founding texts of modern drug treatment.

1874

The Society for the Suppression of the Opium Trade (SSOT) formed, its avowed objective to bring about an end to the Anglo-Indian opium trade to China. Led mainly by Quaker reformists, the group was to be an effective force in organising the anti-opium lobby.

1895

The report of the Royal Commission on Opium is published. Convened two years earlier in order to investigate the question of the prohibition of opium in India, which the anti-opium movement was demanding. The Commission found that the prohibition of opium in India was neither necessary nor particularly desirable. The Indian government did not wish to pursue the course of prohibiting opium, which, while widely used in India, was rarely problematic for its users or for the broader society. One Indian witness recommended that the British government should, instead, seek to replace the alcohol habit so widespread in Britain with the much less pernicious opium.

Needless to say, the SSOT and its supporters viewed the verdict as a whitewash.

(above) A traditional 19th century opium factory

1887

Amphetamine first synthesized by Lazar Edeleanu in Berlin, Germany. No use is found for the substance until the following century.

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Drugs Through Time: 1900-1939

1902

The century begins curiously enough with the discovery by German chemist Emil Fischer and Joseph von Mering of diethyl-malonyl, a salt of barbituric acid; the drug was marketed by Bayer the following year under the trade name Veronal, and became very popular as a sedative.

1906

The UK Pharmacy Act is amended and opium and all its preparations containing at least 1% are newly included in schedule 1 of the Act.

1909

On February 1st, at the initiative of the United States, the International Opium Commission convenes at Shanghai.

The American government is represented by Dr Hamilton-Wright and Bishop Henry Brent, both of whom are committed prohibitionists; they attempt to convince delegates of other attending nations of the dire physical and moral consequences of opium use, both for the individual and the society. The prime focus is upon the Anglo-Indian opium trade to China.

The formal designation of the meeting as 'commission' reflects the fact that the United States had been unsuccessful in its attempts to convene a 'conference': this latter status would have conferred upon the meeting the power to draft regulations to which signatory states would be bound by international law. The commission, on the other hand, possessed only the authority to make recommendations based on

its findings. Nonetheless, the Shanghai commission begins the process of realising a prohibitionist agenda, and succeeds in uniting the attending nations behind the principle of restriction.

1911/12

With the United States once again the driving force, the first Opium Conference is convened at the Dutch city of The Hague, in December 1911.

The principles stated at Shanghai form the agenda for the meeting, which is fully empowered to draft a treaty. The result is the Hague Opium Convention of 1912, by means of which signatory states pledge to curb the production, distribution and consumption of opium, morphine, heroin and cocaine, and to restrict the use of these materials to 'legitimate medical purposes.' The convention stipulated, in addition, that signatories enact domestic legislation designed to 'stamp out' the abuse of narcotics. Before putting this restrictive regime into place, the twelve nations represented at The Hague agree to await ratification of the treaty by all of the world powers.

1913

The second Opium Conference takes place at The Hague.

Extensive diplomatic disputes and manoeuvrings further delay the implementation of the treaty. Finally, with the conference re-convening weeks before the outbreak of war in Europe, a compromise formula is arrived at. Those individual states that had ratified the convention were to be allowed to begin its implementation, even though the ultimate objective of unanimous ratification remained elusive.

The commencement of hostilities, however, was to marginalize temporarily the entire question of narcotics; a general ratification and implementation of the Hague Convention would be forced to the sidelines for the duration of the war. Its moment would not occur until 1919, when Article 295 of the Treaty of Versailles would incorporate the convention, and commit Versailles signatories at last to the implementation of its anti-narcotic measures.

1914

The passing of the Harrison Act in the United States. Named after the senator who proposed it, this landmark piece of 'anti-narcotic' legislation was inscribed in American law only after an extended period of institutional struggle. While condemnation of the drugs in question was virtually unanimous, the obstacles to its passage arose within the sphere of constitutional politics, and turned on the problematic of the proper relations obtaining between the federal government and the individual states. The medical profession, too, sought to safeguard their constitutionally guaranteed freedom from federal interference in their prescribing practices. Eventually, Hamilton-Wright and his allies argued successfully that, according to the constitution, the United States' international treaty obligations must take priority, and the Harrison bill was interpreted as fulfilling the country's obligations as defined by its adherence to the Hague Convention.

1914

With the outbreak of the First World War, a package of emergency legislation is enacted in Britain. Entitled the Defence of the Realm Act, and customarily (if seldom affectionately) known by its acronym DORA, the legislation gives the state sweeping powers to regulate and control the lives of British citizens, and to rule by proclamation where circumstances dictate the necessity of such a course (i.e., without the requirement to pass a bill through parliament). Much of the focus of the legislation will be upon individuals or actions that are seen to pose a threat to the moral well-being of the nation, and to thereby impact adversely on its war-effort.

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1916

The Defence of the Realm Act (regulation 40b) was passed in Britain. Under the auspices of the emergency wartime legislation, the possession, distribution and sale of cocaine and opium were made subject to rigorous controls. These restrictions carried the force of law, but were promulgated directly through the authority of the Home Office, which, under conditions of national emergency, had wrested control of the regulation of drugs from the Privy Council Office. While the highly exceptional circumstances permitted the pushing through of prohibition without reference to parliament or any serious public debate, these restrictive policies were the outcome of a long term trend which had been gathering force over preceding decades, and represented an 'anti-narcotic' posture closely related to that which was simultaneously becoming established in the United States. At this juncture, it appeared that an equally hard-line policy would be adopted in Britain.

1918

After a night of partying at a Victory Ball organised to celebrate the armistice, the English actress Billie Carleton dies. Her death is attributed to the cocaine of which she was a regular consumer, although in fact she most likely dies as result of Veronal poisoning. A full-blown moral panic ensues in the press about the drug culture and the young aristocrats and bohemians who participate in it.

1920

The passing of the Dangerous Drugs Act represents Britain's first formal drug legislation. It brings Britain into line with its obligations under the Hague Convention, and crystallises the proto-legislation contained in DORA 40b. The Act imposed severe restrictions on the use and sale of raw opium and banned the importation of smoking opium; it rendered the manufacture, possession and supply of heroin, morphine and cocaine a criminal offence punishable by heavy fines and terms of imprisonment.

1920

The Ministry of Health, having been established the previous year, is drawn into conflict with the Home Office regarding which of the two should be given overall control of drugs policy.

After a period of inter-departmental wrangling, the Home Office emerges victorious. At the symbolic level, this outcome is felt by some scholars to represent the priority of a punitive over a medical approach to drugs and their users.

1923

The Dangerous Drugs Amendment Act stiffens up the provisions of the criminal law by increasing the severity of punishments; it imposes stricter controls over the prescribing practices of physicians, augments the bureaucratic requirements for pharmacists, and expands the search powers of the police.

With overall regulatory power remaining with the Home Office, where a puritanical hard-line ethos is now embedded in the institutional culture, and an inflammatory rhetoric of deviants, dope-fiends and foreigners prominent in the British press, the twenties are marked out as an austere decade for users of the newly criminalized chemicals.

1924

The Departmental Committee on Morphine and Heroin Addiction is set up under the chairmanship of Sir Humphrey Rolleston.

Sir Humphrey Rolleston chairs a committee on morphine and heroin addiction. Its brief, emerging out of the disputes between the medical and penal approaches to addiction, is to render an authoritative judgement upon the question of the validity or otherwise of the prescription of maintenance doses to addicts. This had, in recent years, been an issue of public prominence in the United States, where a number of high-profile court cases had resulted in the ultimate triumph of the position endorsed by the federal authorities, which was that medical maintenance of addicts did not represent a legitimate course of therapeutic conduct. Many American physicians had faced prosecution for continuing to prescribe opiates for their dependent patients.

1926

The publication in the UK of the report of the Rolleston committee. The report issues a ringing endorsement of the medical approach to addiction, which it pronounces to be a disease as opposed to 'a mere form of vicious indulgence'. A logical consequence of the acceptance of a disease theorisation is the implied validity of a range of therapeutic responses, including the prescription of maintenance doses of opiates and/or cocaine. The findings constitute a landmark in United Kingdom policy, and formed the basis of the so-called 'British System' of treatment, whereby addicts were maintained by drugs prescribed by their doctors rather than being driven to the illicit market to obtain supplies. Intensive opposition to a legislative and institutional inscription of the punitive model, from within the medical profession generally, including the BMA, and particularly addiction specialists, eventually forced the Home Office to accommodate the views of physicians in deciding government policy towards drug users. The Rolleston Committee, which comprised some of the most eminent figures amongst practising British addiction specialists, represented the core of this professional opposition, and it succeeded in defeating the penal position when the final confrontation arrived. The resultant mode of managing addiction, the 'British System', would last until the 1960s.

1928

An amendment to the Dangerous Drugs Act introduces a new offence- the possession of cannabis.

1931

International convention introduces legal requirement for countries to produce detailed statistics of their drug consumption. It limits production and manufacture of 'narcotics' to that considered necessary for medical and scientific purposes.

1932

In the UK, the Dangerous Drugs Act follows up this convention by enshrining the 'medical and scientific purposes only' in UK law.

1934

The Home Office Drugs Branch is founded, and maintains statistics relating to addiction. It also monitors the prescribing by doctors and the dispensing by pharmacists to drug addicts.

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Drugs Through Time: 1940-2008

1943

In 1918 the Swiss chemist Arthur Stoll had isolated the ergot alkaloid from a fungus which grows on cereal crops; while war raged in Europe, his protege Albert Hoffman continued investigations into the substance and its analogues. One of these, Lysergic Acid Diethylamide, was accidentally ingested by Hoffman, who went on to experience the world's first Acid trip.

1946

After WW2, the Geneva Protocol transfers all functions of the League of Nations over to the United Nations, including international drugs control.

1960s

The social upheavals of the sixties include the emergence of a worldwide youth culture, in which drug use assumes a prominent and often integral role. The decade represents a key transitional period in the history and culture of modern drug use, and in the policies adopted to respond to it. Drugs become widely identified with social change, which they symbolise and arguably become a vehicle for.

1961

The United Nations Single Convention unifies and consolidates previous instances of drug control legislation, embracing nine multi-lateral treaties negotiated between 1912 and 1953. Its main focus was on plant-based drugs and their derivatives, such as opium, morphine, heroin, cocaine and cannabis.

The Single Convention was intended to renew and rationalise legislation and to set up new forms of UN drug control administration. Over 100 drugs are covered by the legislation, classified according to four schedules representing varying degrees of regulatory control. The Convention obliges all signatory states to bring domestic law into accordance with its extensive protocols.

1961

The Report of the Second Inter-departmental Committee on Drug Addiction.

Like its predecessor, the committee was named after its chairman Sir Russell and later Lord Brain. The first Brain committee had been commissioned at the end of the 1950s to reconsider the situation vis-a-vis Britain's drug laws and arrangements for dealing with its addicts, and to advise on whether new measures were necessary. Its report came down in favour of the status quo, and concluded that, in view of the small number of drug addicts in the UK, further restrictions on heroin and cocaine were not necessary. The 'British System' devised by Rolleston had prevented the development of an illicit market comparable to that in the USA.

1964

In the UK, the Dangerous Drugs Act is passed, enabling Britain to ratify the UN Single Convention.

1965

This year saw the publication of the second Brain Report, (Brain II), the interdepartmental committee

having been reconvened the previous year. This had been prompted by 'Moral Panics' in the mass media regarding youth and drugs, especially in relation to the London-based prescribed pharmaceutical diamorphine scene. The report was to assign responsibility for this state of affairs to private doctors prescribing to meet the needs of addicts, and, according to the committee, greatly over-prescribing.

The report marked the most significant turning point in British drug policy since its predecessor met under Rolleston, and represents the beginning of the end for the 'British System'. The main recommendations included the notification of addicts, wide-ranging restrictions on the prescribing rights of doctors, and the setting up of special treatment centres or clinics for the provision of drug treatment. The right to prescribe heroin and cocaine to addicts was now limited to specialist psychiatrists working in clinics and equipped with a license from the Home Office. From this point, in addition, the quantity of these drugs prescribed was reduced dramatically, the heroin substitute methadone being supplied in their place. While technical developments (such as the availability of methadone) and administrative imperatives are sometimes cited as the reasons for these changes, it was profound social changes of the 1960s that formed the underlying causes. The large and rapid increase in drug use, and the tendency of drugs to stand as symbols of social and cultural change, meant that the old structures were considered no longer adequate to meet the challenge that drug use posed to authority.

1967

A new Dangerous Drugs Act implements the Brain Committee recommendations, consigning the British System to history. The legislation also introduces new police powers of 'Stop and Search', allowing the police to search people and vehicles for drugs.

1967

The Summer of Love saw hippie culture and LSD use peaking in the UK. The international youth movement rejects the money, power and status that structure the value system of its parents' generation. Turning on, tuning in and dropping out, the Sixties culture quake, while failing to initiate the global revolution for which it hopes, does bring about deep and enduring changes in the social and cultural fabric of the western world.

1971

UK introduces new legislation in the form of the Misuse of Drugs Act.

1971

US president Richard Nixon initiates the full-blown policy of War On Drugs, declaring drug use to be 'Public Enemy Number One'. The stance adopted by the Nixon regime takes US drug policy to an even more aggressive level, fully committing the country for the foreseeable future to a law-enforcement solution to the problems associated with drugs. US policy has yet to emerge from this project, and continues to deploy its influence, economic, diplomatic and military in discouraging other UN countries from adopting any alternative approaches.

1971

United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances. This treaty extends international control to synthetic drugs including amphetamine, depressants, barbiturates and hallucinogens. As in the Single Convention, the drugs are classified according to four schedules associated with their perceived potential for abuse and their therapeutic value.

1980s

The advent of AIDS, or the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). Initially, the disease is strongly identified with marginal groups including homosexuals, blacks, prostitutes and intravenous drug users. The fear of the spread of the infection beyond these socially stigmatised groups into the 'normal' population is a major influence on the development of a largely new drug treatment philosophy that becomes known as Harm Reduction or Harm Minimisation. It inspires the setting up of needle exchanges, and has a major impact on restricting the transmission of blood-borne viruses in the UK.

1985

In the UK, the Controlled Drugs (Penalties) Act introduces life imprisonment as a maximum penalty for trafficking.

1988

Ecstasy (MDMA) and rave culture turn this year into the UK's second Summer of Love. The youth movement rejects the values of Thatcher's Britain and its individualised culture based on the consumption of alcohol and sex. 'Loved-up' on E, young ravers in their thousands dance away the night at outdoor festivals.

1988

United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances (Vienna Convention). The treaty seeks to impose international controls upon trafficking through enhanced co-operation between law enforcement agencies, and by strengthening the penalties contained in the domestic laws of signatories. Its provisions deal with the various facets of inter-state co-operation including: extradition, money-laundering, freezing and forfeiture of assets, in addition to the sharing of law enforcement information.

1994

UK Drug Trafficking Act implements the Vienna Convention.

1998

Under the banner "A drug-free world- we can do it", the United Nations sets out its plan to significantly reduce the production and use of illicit drugs by 2008. At the U.N. General Assembly Special Session on Drugs (UNGASS 1998), the international community (as represented by the UN delegates) reaffirmed their support for prohibitive drug policy and committed themselves to achieving "significant progress" by 2008- i.e. setting a 10 year timetable for realising the project. A video address by UN secretary general Kofi Annan contained the following pledge: "Our commitment is to make real progress towards eliminating drug crops by the year 2008. It is my hope that this session will go down in history as the time the international community found common ground to take on this task in earnest."

2003

When the UNGASS delegates met in April 2003 for a mid-term review of the ambitious 10 year project devised at the 1998 session, an official brave face was put on events, and on the alleged progress toward "significant reduction" in drug production. However, according to critical commentators the cracks were beginning to show in the facade of unity.

Present regimes of international control came under scrutiny. Factors such as the politics between the North-South global divide, continued prevalence of illicit drugs and their widespread use have

influenced this questioning. In addition experiments with harm reduction by the europeans, australians and canadians have led to calls towards decriminalisation

2003

In the UK, the Anti-Social Behaviour Act is intended to respond to public alarm about the existence of "crackhouses", and the like. The Act permits extensive powers of discretion to the police in issuing closure notices and relies heavily on hearsay evidence. The likely result is that highly vulnerable, socially marginalised persons will be made homeless at short notice by closure orders made under the Act.

2004

On January 29th, cannabis is reclassified. Following the recommendations of the ACMD, the drug is downgraded from class B to class C by then Home Secretary David Blunkett. The move is welcomed by Release and many other organisations in the drugs field, but remains controversial; claims of confusion as to its real legal status and of cannabis-induced psychosis circulate in the popular media, prompting then Conservative party leader Michael Howard to promise to reverse the move at the earliest opportunity. While fears are expressed that the reclassification has led to an increase in use, in 2005 the Independent Drug Monitoring Unit finds that the number of users has remained stable.

2005

The Drugs Act is slipped onto the statute books on the day the general election is announced. The Act confirms and extends the trend toward ever-closer linkage between law enforcement and drug treatment, and an overall criminal justice focus. It includes clauses introducing Compulsory drug-testing of arrestees in the case of certain trigger offences, or where the police have "reasonable grounds" for believing that Class A drugs have played a role in the commission of an offence. Failure to comply with testing is itself an offence, even in cases where no subsequent action is taken against the individual for the trigger offence, and no conviction results. Positive tests lead to compulsory drug treatment assessment, again regardless of whether any further action is taken in relation to the original alleged offence.

2005 saw the inclusion of fresh Liberty Cap or "magic mushrooms" in Class A of the Misuse of Drugs Act.

2005 saw the inclusion of fresh Liberty Cap or "magic mushrooms" in Class A of the Misuse of Drugs Act.

Prior to the passing of this Bill, only dried or prepared mushrooms were considered to be illegal, the assumption being that such procedures demonstrated intent to extract psilocybin. The passing of the Drugs Act meant that all magic mushrooms were now an illegal class A substance. The Liberty Cap is a native plant growing naturally in many parts of the UK. The Act also proposed to introduce the presumption of supply whereby suspects are found in possession of a quantity which exceeds what might be considered a "reasonable" amount for personal use. i.e., it will be up to the defendant to prove that there was no intent to supply in cases involving amounts above a quantity - this proposal has been thought to be unworkable and the Government has announced they do not intend to bring it into force.

The Act further enmeshes drug control legislation with measures to deal with Anti-Social Behaviour. Cases in which Anti Social Behaviour Orders are invoked can result in the imposition of compulsory testing and drug treatment orders on individuals, despite widespread recognition that coercive treatment is ineffective. In relation to a number of points, the Act is arguably in conflict with the Human Rights Act 1998, although the government insists otherwise.

2008

In March, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs meets in Vienna to begin the process of reviewing progress made toward the goals set at the UN Special Session on Drugs in 1998. Following the theme developed by the last few UN World Drug Reports—that drug use has been "stabilized" and "contained", and that problematic use is confined to about 26 million individuals worldwide—the meeting accepts that there are some unfortunate side-effects of the drug control system, but that it is basically sound. A "period of reflection" is agreed, and a series of Expert Working Groups convened to examine the performance of the system and suggest some fine tuning. A fundamental look at the system's failings or changes to the three international drug control treaties that underpin the system is, however, firmly off the agenda.

2008

In May of this year the government announces its intention to upwardly reclassify cannabis from Class C back up to Class B. It is anticipated that this reclassification, which is contrary to the guidance received from the ACMD (whose job it is to advise ministers on matters of drug classification), will be put into legal effect in January 2009.

History of drugs: Narcotics antiquitus

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WELLCOME IMAGES

The illegal drug business is, we know, colossal, gigantic, oceanic.

After arms and oil, it's the biggest money-spinning market on the planet, pulling in £200bn every year. And soon we'll be celebrating, if that's the word, 50 years of its illegality. It was in 1961 that the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs was launched, and we can see how successful that well-meaning organisation has been. But does anyone think that the phenomenon of people getting off their heads goes back only as far as the early 1960s? Try this for size. It's the report of a dope-fest that took place on the Bay of Biscay in the 1670s, recorded by one Thomas Bowrey, an English sea captain. He and his friends watched with interest the weird reaction of the locals to a liquid called bhang, made from crushed cannabis pods mixed with milk, and thought they'd try it themselves. They each bought a pint (for the equivalent of sixpence), locked themselves in a house and knocked it back.

"It Soon tooke its Operation Upon most of us, but merrily, Save upon two of our Number, who I suppose feared it might doe them harme not beinge accustomed thereto. One of them Sat himselfe downe Upon the floore, and wept bitterly all the Afternoone, the Other terrified with feare did runne his head into a great Mortavan Jarre, and continued in that posture 4 hours or more; 4 or 5 of the number lay upon the Carpets (that were Spread in the roome) highly Complimentinge each Other in high termes, each man fancyinge himself noe lesse than an Emperour. One was quarrelsome and fought with one of the wooden Pillars of the Porch, until he had left himselfe little Skin upon the knuckles of his fingers. My Selfe and one more Sat sweating for the Space of 3 hours in Exceeding Measure ... "

Ah yes, how familiar that sounds from one's happy student days. But as a new exhibition, *High Society: Mind-Altering Drugs in History and Culture*, shows, the deliberate ingestion of things that will make you temporarily batso goes back a long way before the 17th century. The curators, Mike Jay, Caroline Fisher and Emily Sergent, take us back to the chillum pipes, made from puma bones, of 2000BC. They explain that, in 300BC, Theophrastus, a pal of Sophocles, wrote botanical treatises describing some plants as pharmaka or "intoxicant"; and that, in the early years after the birth of Christ, a chap called Dioscorides listed a thousand drugs in his *Materia Medica* with descriptions of their properties and effects-including the ones that "cause sleep", "cause frenzies" and "ease pain".

This book was the standard authority on drugs for a century and a half. After 1500AD, a vogue for printed "herbals," or detailed botanical studies of plants, led to the isolating of certain "herbs" as "narcotic": cannabis, opium poppy, henbane, belladonna, mandrake, aconite and hemlock. They could help you sleep, the authors warned, but if you got the dose wrong, they could send you into a frenzy,

give you feverish hallucinations, bring on irregular heartbeats and heart-stopping convulsions. These leafy outcrops of nature could prove to be agents of oblivion.

Typically, instead of shying away from such things, scholars rushed to examine them and superstitious folk to mythologise them. Narratives of witchcraft began to include tales of unspecified "flying ointments". One man of science, Andres de Laguna, physician to Pope Julius III, heard in 1545 of a married couple who'd been tortured for witchcraft and found to possess a jar of "green ointment". He managed to get his hands on the jar and, using the wife of a hangman as a guinea pig, he spread some of the green stuff on her. She fell into a deep sleep for 36 hours, and woke up telling excited stories about attending a witches' Sabbath and dancing with the devil. But did this mean the ointment was Satanic, or that it worked on the human imagination in crazy ways?

As Mike Jay makes clear in the accompanying book to the exhibition, the creative imagination played an important part in introducing the concept of mind-altering drugs to a wider audience. The catalyst was an experiment carried out at the Pneumatic Institution in Hotwells, a spa town outside Bristol, where nitrous oxide, or laughing gas, was first synthesised and inhaled. Thomas Beddoes, the brains behind the Institution, was convinced that chemistry, rather than time-honoured herbal panaceas, would transform medicine. So he set about trying out his exciting new gases on invalid patients - the first sighting of what, 50 years later, became anaesthesia. At the time, its applications were trivial: the exhibition features a Rowlandson caricature of guests at a fashionable party thrown by the fictional Dr Syntax, losing all restraint under the influence of laughing gas.

Beddoes was amazed by its restorative (and ecstatic) effects on patients, and the revelation that chemicals could give humanity control over pain and pleasure. But he knew that, to measure how mood-altering substances worked, he needed human self-experimenters and a new "language of feeling" in which to express their findings. Coincidentally, a new language of feeling was what the first Romantic poets were discovering. Samuel Taylor Coleridge had tried, and enjoyed, the first experiments with laughing gas, and his notebooks are full of reports on his state of mind as it was affected by an opium derivative called Kendal's Black Drop. He took opium, he wrote to his brother George, in order to explore, "a divine repose ... a spot of enchantment, a green sport of fountains, & flowers and trees, in the very heart of a waste of sands".

Though Coleridge was furtive and conscience-stricken about his drug use, his secretary and protege Thomas de Quincey flaunted his own in the ground-breaking *Confessions of an English Opium-Eater*, first serialised in 1821. As Jay points out, it "marks the arrival in popular culture of drugs as agents of pleasure and fascination, sought out and indulged in by a sub-culture of bohemian connoisseurs, bringing exquisite sensations or soul-destroying agonies - or, in de Quincey's case, both". The young writer told the world that opium didn't just intoxicate - it brought clarity and a sense of order to the mind, enabling it to explore how its own thoughts and memories were constructed, beneath "the great light of the majestic intellect".

Later writers were similarly enthusiastic about Class A substances. Virginia Woolf used to refer to chloral, her drug of choice, as "that mighty prince with the moth's eyes and the feathered feet". WH Auden took amphetamines for 20 years, like vitamin tablets, at breakfast. Chips Channon, the diarist, had both the Queen of Spain and the Queen of Romania round to dinner in 1947 and laced their cocktails with benzedrine, "which I always find", he said, "makes a party go".

It wasn't just writers, of course, who dabbled in this way. Gladstone enjoyed a slug of laudanum in his morning coffee, while Frederick Ashton, the choreographer, had a weakness during the Blitz for "Calm Doggie", a canine tranquilliser used to stop dogs barking during air-raids. But writers have an

egregious reputation in both fields. Without drugs, smokes and drink, the canon of Western letters would be a very sparse and arid place.

In the exhibition, it's intriguing to discover how many drugs which are illegal today were available, 100 years ago, in any high-street pharmacy. Liquid cocaine came in bottles labelled "Hall's Coca Wine" with shout-lines all over its garish label: "A marvellous restorative. Strongly recommended by the medical Press and the highest Medical Authorities throughout the United Kingdom.

INVALUABLE in cases of INFLUENZA, SLEEPLESSNESS, ANAEMIA, MENTAL FATIGUE etc." Sherlock Holmes famously took a pure solution of it via hypodermic needle. A new cough linctus from Bayer was marketed under the name Heroin. Perhaps most sinister were the narcotic remedies aimed at children. The parents of the winsome little girl in the wavy blonde hair and straw bonnet, holding a puppy in the late-Victorian advertisement for Dr Seth Arnold's Cough Killer ("It works like magic") might have been alarmed to know that the cure-all tonic contained morphine. It was the main ingredient also in Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, marketed with cartoons of tiny toddlers, in bonnets and bootees, embracing the bottle. The American Medical Association finally rumbled the fact that children were being given habit-forming drugs and, in 1909, published a list of dangerous "nostrums". It included opium, morphine, codeine, cocaine, chloral, alcohol and cannabis.

Did you notice alcohol in that list? Only a week ago, Professor David Nutt, the former chief drugs adviser in the UK, announced his findings that alcohol is more "harmful" to society than heroin or crack cocaine. A report in *The Lancet*, (written by Nutt, ranked 20 drugs in 16 criteria of harm to users and harm to the wider social fabric; Nutt said that alcohol came out on top because of its vast accessibility. But as *High Society* makes clear, its dangers have been known for centuries. In the late 17th century, the rum trade penetrated America, brought by hunters and trappers as a handy tool in negotiating with the helplessly grog-loving Indians, while back home in Europe, the mass availability of cheap distilled spirits (such as gin in England, and absinthe in France) led to shocking scenes of social breakdown, captured by Hogarth and Dore.

Temperance societies sprang up on both sides of the Atlantic in the 19th century. The oddly-named Independent Order of Rechabites, formed in Salford in 1835, took its name from a Biblical tribe who were commanded to drink no wine by their spoilsport leader Jehonadab, son of Rechab. A typical calendar image from the society shows a bridge over a stream and a symbolic sunlit road to a safe haven with glowing red lights. (Unless it's meant to be a pub, past which the road symbolically runs.) But despite hundreds of years of awful warnings and political prohibition, alcohol - like tobacco and coffee, which were also briefly illegal - continues to be part of the lifeblood of society. A hoarding of 1925 urged the thirsty: "Order this Large Guinness for the home. The economical family size," as if it were toothpaste or shampoo, fine for all the family.

One leaves this show bombarded with images of wooziness, drunkenness, irresponsibility, poverty, meanness, sinister or seductive orientalism, self-willed degeneracy and despair. It's sobering to be shown how many lives and careers were destroyed by - and how many works of creative genius were launched on - a tidal wave of things that are bad for us, that ruin our livers and lungs, that destroy our equilibrium, that make us high as kites, pissed as rats and mad as meat-axes. Did I say sobering? Where did I put that litre of Jack Daniel's?

A Short History of Drug Policy or Why We Make War on Some Drugs but not on Others

David T. Courtwright

Over centuries, as trade and especially expansion in the nineteenth and eighteenth centuries global products. From the beginning, the commerce provoked controversy. Doctors argued about the indications, dosages, and risks of imported drugs. When use spread beyond medicine, the state became involved. Some rulers resorted to mutilation and execution to enforce prohibitions, especially against tobacco smoking. None succeeded in stamping out the novel vice or in suppressing the cultivation of tobacco, which quickly became a global crop. 'Mankind has found too few comforts,' wrote historian V.G. Kiernan, 'to let itself be robbed of them.'

Governments therefore changed course. By the late seventeenth century most European rulers treated tobacco and other drugs as lucrative commodities and sources of revenue. They created a system of legal commerce in which officials concerned themselves with collecting excise taxes and customs duties or, alternatively, setting up monopoly systems to fill the state's coffers. Lawbreakers were more likely to forfeit smuggled cargoes than their lives. Governments did impose some regulations, such as banning smoking in combustible buildings or forbidding the sale of spirits to Indian tribes. Backwoods traders mostly ignored the latter injunction. Little in the eighteenth century functioned as actual prohibition.

One partial exception was opium in China. In 1729 the Yongzheng Emperor banned the import of opium for *madak*, a disreputable opium-tobacco mixture smoked in the southeastern provinces. Medicinal opium imports remained legal, an early stabatory illustration of the common moral distinction between therapeutic and recreational uses. By the end of the eighteenth century, however, the Qing government had outlawed all forms of the opium trade. Foreign merchants and local pirates defied the ban by smuggling opium of Indian and Middle Eastern origin. In 1839 Qing attempts to end the traffic catalyzed an 'opium war' with the British that lasted until 1842. China's defeat in this war and a second conflict

in 1856-1858 legalised and expanded the Indian opium trade. Annual imports rose from six million pounds of opium in 1839 to 15 million in 1879. By then Chinese farmers were producing an additional 32 million pounds domestically to feed the growing national demand.

ADDICTION AND INDUSTRIALISED VICE

Historians still debate the extent and significance of opium use and addiction in Qing China. What is clear is that consumption was rising faster than population, and that this was broadly true of psychoactive commodities in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. General improvements in agriculture, plantation management, and manufacturing increased supply and reduced prices, including those of spirituous liquors. America's Trans-Appalachian West, where farmers converted surplus grain into

I Victor G. Kiernan. *Tobacco: A History* (London: Hutchinson Radius, 1991), 23.

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easier-to-transport whiskey, became a vast regional still. The amount of whiskey shipped through Louisville - amounting to 250,000 gallons in 1810 - rose to 2,250,000 gallons by 1822. A gallon retailed for 25 cents at a time when the lowest agricultural labourer earned a dollar a day.

Increasingly, medical authorities saw excessive spirits drinking as the primary cause of addiction to alcohol. 'Intemperance,' as it was then known, was a progressive disease whose chief manifestation was the loss of control over drinking and whose sole remedy was abstinence from alcoholic beverages. The sociologist Harry Levine dated this 'discovery of addiction' to the period between 1785 and 1835. Levine argued that the leading figure was Benjamin Rush, the Edinburgh-trained American physician who pulled together the key strands of the addiction concept and gave it its modern form, much as Charles Darwin would later do with evolution. While other scholars have challenged Rush's priority, Levine's basic insights - that alcohol addiction was central to temperance ideology, that temperance was one of the nineteenth century's most popular and influential reform movements, and that temperance shaped attitudes toward the regulation of drugs other than alcohol - have endured. Absent the idea of addiction, the whole system of controlling drug supply that has developed over the last two centuries would make little moral or practical sense.

The temperance movement was initially strongest in Protestant, spirits-drinking countries in North America and Europe. However, during the nineteenth century it became part of - in many ways, the foundation of - a larger anti-vice movement that was international in character and attracted personalities as diverse as Frances Willard and Mohandas Gandhi. From the 1870s to the 1930s - the heyday of anti-vice activism - reformers launched campaigns to abolish prostitution and trafficking in women; to combat venereal disease; to suppress obscenity; and to discourage, restrict, or prohibit the non-medical use of alcohol and drugs.

Though often caricatured as meddlesome puritans (as some were), it is important to remember that the reformers confronted a social and economic landscape in which vice was becoming more conspicuous, more commercialised, and more dangerous. Drug innovations - the isolation of alkaloids; the invention of hypodermic syringes; flue-cured Bright tobacco in cigarettes; beverages and patent medicines fortified with stimulants and narcotics; and new synthetic or semi-synthetic drugs such as heroin - were married to new techniques of mass production, promotion, and distribution. The speed and gross tonnage of steamships

doubled between the 1850s and the 1890s, simplifying global expansion for distillers and tobacco and drug manufacturers. The upshot was that more people could consume more potent drugs more easily, cheaply, and quickly, increasing the likelihood of addiction, poisoning, accidents, disorder and crime in the imperial homelands and in the colonies.

The same held for other vices. Steamships and trains carried western women as well as western drugs, which helps to explain why the white slavery controversy erupted in the three decades before World War I, during years of rapid globalisation and rural-to-urban migration. The development of steam and rotary presses facilitated the production of pornographic literature, formerly an expensive luxury good. Photography, another nineteenth-century invention, was quickly adapted to pornographic purposes. The Victorian campaigns against obscenity were, wrote historian Andrea Friedman, a 'defensive' reaction to 'the flood of sexual commerce' that reformers believed 'threatened the nation's future.'

A Jaw-Dropping Explanation of How Governments Are Complicit in the Illegal Drug Trade

The drug war is far, far more than just simply criminals at work, says scholar Oliver Villar.

By Lars Schall / Asia Times

September 10, 2012

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Note: The following interview helps us understand the drug war from a dramatically different perspective than the one the corporate media paints. Instead the traditional portrayal of the war on drugs as a fight between law enforcement and illicit drug dealers, scholar Oliver Villar explains that the illegal drug trade is a tool of empire a means of "social control" as much as profit. Villar, a lecturer in politics at Charles Sturt University in Bathurst, Australia's insight is well worth the read.

Lars Schall: What has been your main motivation to spend 10 years of your life to the subject of the drug trade?

Oliver Villar: The main motivation goes sometime back. I think it has to do firstly with my own experiences in growing up in working class suburbs in Sydney, Australia. It always has been an area that I found very curious and fascinating just to think about how rampant and persuasive drugs really are in our communities, and just by looking at it in more recent times how much worse the drug problem has become, not just in lower socio-economic areas, but everywhere.

But from then on, when I finally had the opportunity to do so, I actually undertook this as a PhD thesis. I spent my time carefully looking at firstly what was written on the drug trade, but as coming from Latin America, I was very interested in particular in the Latin American drug trade as well.

So I looked at the classic works such Alfred W McCoy's *Politics of Heroin*, Peter Dale Scott's *Cocaine Politics*, Douglas Valentine's *The Strength of the Wolf*, and works that related not just to the drug trade, but from various angles including political science perspectives to see what we know about drugs.

I found there were a lot of gaps missing, and there was a lot written on Asia, on Central America, particular from the 1980s, if you recall the Iran-Contra theme and scandal, but nothing really on where drugs actually come from. Eventually my research took me to Colombia, and in the Western hemisphere at least, cocaine became that subject of investigation. I looked at it from a political economy perspective, and so from there on you can kind of get an idea about some of the influences in my background in eventually taking that much time to do it.

LS: Does the drug trade work very differently than people usually assume?

OV: Well, yes. What do people usually assume? Well, it's a criminological subject of investigation, it's a crime approach, it's criminals, it's pretty much a Hollywood kind of spectacle where it becomes clear who the good and the bad guys are. But what I found, it's far more than just simply criminals at work.

What we do know, if you go back to the history of the global drug trade, which I did pursue, you find that states, not just individuals or criminals, were also part of the process of production and distribution. The most notorious example is the British colonial opium trade, where much of that process was happening in a very wide scale, where the British not only gained financially but also used it as a political form of social control and repression.

What did they do? In China they were able quite effectively to open up the market to British control. This is just one example. And from there on I looked at other great powers and the way they also somehow managed to use drugs as a political instrument, but also as a form of financial wealth, as you could say, or revenue to maintain and sustain their power. The great power of today I have to say is the United States, of course. These are some of the episodes and investigations that I have looked at in my new book.

LS: From my perspective as a financialjournalist it is remarkable to see that you treat cocaine as just another capitalist commodity, like copper, soy beans or coffee, but then again as a uniquely imperial commodity. [1] Can you explain this approach, please?

OV: Again drawing upon past empires or great powers, it becomes an imperial commodity because it is primarily serving the interests of that imperial state. If we look at the United States for instance, it becomes an imperial commodity just as much as opium became a British imperial commodity in a way it related to the Chinese. It means the imperial state is there to gain from the wealth, the United States in this case, but it also means that it serves as a political instrument to harness and maintain a political economy which is favorable to imperial interests.

We had the "War on Drugs", for example. It is a way how an imperial power can intervene and also penetrate a society much like the British were able to do with China in many respects. So it is an imperial commodity because it does serve that profit mechanism, but it is also an instrument for social control and repression.

We see this continuity with examples where this takes place. And Colombia, I think, was the most outstanding and unique example which I have made into an investigative case study itself.

Another thing worth mentioning is what actually makes the largest sectors of global trade, what are they? It's oil, arms, and drugs - the difference being that because drugs are seen as an illegal product, economists don't study it as just another capitalist commodity - but it is a commodity. If you look at it from a market perspective, it works pretty much the same way as other commodities in the global financial system.

LS: Cocaine has become one more means for extracting surplus value on which to realize profits and thus accumulate capital. But isn't it the criminalized status of drugs that makes this whole business possible in the first place?

OV: We have to think about what would happen if it was decriminalized? It would actually be a bad thing if you were a drug lord or someone to a large extent gaining from the drug trade. What happens

if it is criminalized is that you are able to gain wealth and profit from something that is very harmful to society. First of all, it will never be politically acceptable for politicians to say: You know, we think that the war on drugs is failing, so we decriminalize it. That would be almost political suicide.

We know it is very harmful to society, and by keeping it criminalized it leaves a very grey area, not only in the studies and investigations that I've noticed on the drug trade, but it also leaves a very grey area in terms of how the state actually tackles the drug problem.

In many ways for law enforcement it allows a grey area in order to fight it. For instance, we can look for example at the financial center, which gains predominantly from it. But it also allows the criminal elements, which are so key to making it work, flourish.

And by not touching that, by largely ignoring the main criminal operation to take form and to operate, then what you are doing by criminalizing drugs is that you are actually stimulating that demand. So there is also that financial element to the whole issue as well. That's why this business is actually possible by that criminalized status.

LS: Do you think that those who were responsible to make cocaine or opium globally illegal were unaware that they were creating a very profitable business with that arrangement?

OV: If you are looking at the true pionyers who started much of the cocaine trade in South America, these were drug traffickers from places like Bolivia, which had a clear monopoly of coca production, and also at the people that formed the cartels in the 1980's like the Medellin cartel or the Cali cartel and other groups, I think they were not aware of the way things would eventually turn out.

But the other element, the state element, which made it part of their imperial interests to allow the drug trade to flourish, I think they perhaps had some sense - just looking at things in retrospective, of course - that this would be a very profitable business within that arrangement.

At the time of the 1980s in Latin America, it was pretty much seen as a means to fund operations, and at that time these were essentially counter-insurgency operations in the context of the Cold War. There was no real big ambition to say "We will create the drug trade because it is a very large business opportunity." I think it just became that because it was something that was of convenience - and that's exactly what we see now in how the banks operate today: it's of financial convenience, why get rid of it? Out of these historical patterns it has become what it has become, but for different reasons.

I don't think that even Pablo Escobar would have imagined just how enormous the global drug trade would become. They were largely driven by self-interests and their own profits. But then the state made it much bigger and made it into a regional institutionalized phenomenon that we see to this day. And we can see also how the state in parts of South America, like Bolivia with the 1980 Cocaine Coup as it was known, and also the rampant institutionalization of cocaine in Colombia, has become very much part of this arrangement.

But then again, it would not have been possible without the imperial hand of particular the United States and the intelligence agencies. There we have that imperial commodity and imperial connection as well. They didn't work alone, in all these criminal elements, of course, there was an imperial hand in much of all of this, but why it happened, I think, is the matter of debate.

LS: Catherine Austin Fitts, a former investment banker from Wall Street, shared this observation once with me:

Essentially, I would say the governments run the drug trade, but they're not the ultimate power, they're just one part, if you will, of managing the operations. Nobody can run a drug business, unless the banks will do their transactions and handle their money. If you want to understand who controls the drug trade in a place, you need to ask yourself who is it that has to accept to manage the transactions and to manage the capital, and that will lead you to the answer who's in control. [2]

What are your thoughts on this essential equation?

OV: Going back to my emphasis on the state, coming from a political science background, this is what some criminologists would say, that this is state-organized crime, and the emphasis is the state. And again if we go back to the global history of the drug trade, this isn't something new. If we look at piracy, for example, that was another form of state-organized crime sanctioned by the state because it served very similar means as the drug capital of today serves as well.

So yes, the state is very much involved in managing it but it cannot do it alone. You have the US Drug Enforcement Administration, for example, which is officially the law enforcement department of the US state in charge of combating the drugs; and you also have other intelligence agencies like the CIA [Central Intelligence Agency] that are involved in fighting drugs, but also, as I have seen in my studies, actually allowing much of the drug and financial operations to continue.

We saw recently similar things unfolding in Mexico with the operation "Fast and Furious", where CIA arms were making their way to drug cartels in Mexico. We can draw our own conclusions, but what we do know is that the state is central to understanding these operations, involving governments, their agencies, and banks fulfilling a role.

LS: How does the money laundering work and where does the money primarily go to?

OV: We know that the estimated value of the global drug trade - and this is also debated by analysts - is worth something between US\$300 billion to \$500 billion a year. Half of that, something between \$250-\$300 billion and over actually goes to the United States. So what does this say if you use that imperial political economy approach I've talked about? It means that the imperial center, the financial center, is getting the most, and so it is in no interest for any great power (or state) to stop this if great

amounts of the profits are flowing to the imperial center.

What I find very interesting and very valuable are the contemporary events that are unfolding right now, the reports that even come out in the mainstream media about Citigroup and other very well-known money laundering banks being caught out laundering drug money for drug traffickers across South America and in Mexico as well, as the so-called war on drugs is unfolding.

The global financial crisis is another example, because the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime came out and said it was thanks to the global drug trade that the financial system was kept afloat, where all this money was being pumped in from were from key imperial financial centers like New York, like London and Switzerland, and so on. In this case, money laundering is simply beyond again that criminology framework; it does involve that imperial state perspective, and I think that's the way it remains because of these benefits.

LS: Do you think that "lax policies" are responsible for the fact that large multi-national banks are laundering drug profits? [3]

OV: If you think again about the criminalized status of drugs, it's criminalized in society, but when it comes to the economic and financial sector, which should be criminalized, it is actually decriminalized. So we have some kind of contradiction and paradox where it would be great if it would be criminalized, but when it comes to the financial sector, it is actually fine - it's lax, it's unregulated, and we know that the US Federal Reserve, for example, can monitor any deposit over \$10,000, so it's not that they don't know - they know what's going on.

It rolls back to your previous question. It continues to benefit the imperial global architecture, particular in the West, and so it becomes a lax policy approach towards these money laundering banks because they wouldn't have it any other way, there is much resistance to it.

Since Barack Obama came to power in 2008 and the financial crisis took hold thereafter, we've heard a lot of promises from Western leaders that they would get tough and so on, yet today we see that nothing much has changed. We've had now this episode with Barclays in the UK and the price fixing [of the important London Interbank Offered Rate] - this goes on.

Of course, they prefer to have this contradiction and paradox in place, because this is in fact what is allowing the drug profits to come in. If the government would take this problem seriously and would actually do something about these money-laundering banks, we would see a real effort to fight the drug problem, but that is not going to happen any time soon.

The last time we ever heard there was a serious effort to do this was in the 1980s and only because of much pressure, where George Bush Sr was forced to act in what was known as "Operation Greenback".

What happened was that they started to find an increasing number of drug money-laundering receipts in Florida and other southern parts of the United States. This started to work, they put pressure on the financial companies which were actually involved in that process - and then he suspended it all, the whole investigation. That would have been an opportunity to actually do something, but of course it was suspended, and ever since we haven't seen any serious effort, despite the rhetoric, to actually do something.

LS: Why is it that the [George W] Bush and Obama Departments of Justice have spent trillions of dollars on a war on terrorism and a war on drugs, while letting US banks launder money for the same people that the nation is supposedly at war with"? [4]

OV: That is another issue that is part of the contradiction of imperialism, or the process that I call "narco-colonialism". The stated objectives are very different to the real objectives. They may claim that they are fighting a war on drugs or on terror, but in fact they are fighting a war for the drug financial revenue through terror, and by doing that they have to make alliances with the very same people who are benefiting from the drug trade as we see in Colombia.

The main landlords and the business class who own the best land have connections with right-wing paramilitaries, which the DEA knows are actually exporting the drugs, and have direct connections to various governments and presidencies throughout recent Colombian history. These are the same people who are actually being given carte blanche to fight the war on terror in the Western hemisphere - yet this is a contradiction that no one ever questions.

So I think it's not about fighting the real terrorists, it's about fighting and financing resistance to that problem, and in Colombia there has been a civil war for quite a number of years. It's really the same paradox; it's funding the very same state mechanisms to allow the whole thing to continue.

LS: What should our readers know about the political economy of the drug trade created by the war on drugs?

OV: What we should know is that there needs to be a complete restructure and revision in the way we examine the drug trade. First of all, it's not crime that is at the center of the political economy, but it is the state, imperialism and class - that I think is essential, or at least I find it very useful in examining the drug trade.

We can see that clear in Colombia, where you have a narco-bourgeoisie which is essentially the main beneficiary there. These aren't just the landlords, these are also the paramilitaries, key members of the police, the military and the government; but also the connection to the United States, which is a political relationship, which is financing them to fight their common enemy, which is at this point in time the left-wing guerrillas, predominantly the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, the FARC.

So this again goes back to your previous question about this contradiction: why are trillions of dollars being waged to fight the drug trade in Colombia, but also in Afghanistan, when like in Colombia, everybody knows Afghanistan has a very corrupt regime and many of them are drug lords themselves who are the main beneficiaries in that country?

It has little to do with drugs, it has little to do with terrorists, it has everything to do with empire building, of which the main beneficiary is the United States.

LS: Since you already mentioned it, what is the major importance of the narco-bourgeoisie in Colombia seen from a market perspective?

OV: This goes again back to the notion of who is managing the drug trade, and Catherine Austin Fitts' perspective includes the government, and I sympathize with that approach, but we must bring class to that political economy of drugs. Why is class important? Why is a narco-bourgeoisie important? Well,

it's because without a class that not only is growing, producing, and distributing the drugs and has the state resources to do so thanks to US financial assistance and military training and operations, we would not have a cocaine trade.

So the narco-bourgeoisie is essential and the main connection to that imperial relationship that the United States has. Without that kind of arrangement there would be no market in Colombia. So from a market perspective, these are the people who are essentially arranging and managing the drug trade in order to let the cocaine trade actually flourish. In the past, the same kind of people were fighting communists; today they are fighting "terrorists" supposedly.

LS: You are arguing in your book that the war on drugs is no failure at all, but a success. How do you come to that conclusion?

OV: I come to that conclusion because what do we know so far about the war on drugs? Well, the US has spent about US\$1 trillion throughout the globe. Can we simply say it has failed? Has it failed the drug money-laundering banks? No. Has it failed the key Western financial centers? No. Has it failed the narco-bourgeoisie in Colombia - or in Afghanistan, where we can see similar patterns emerging? No. Is it a success in maintaining that political economy? Absolutely.

So I have to say when we are looking at it from that political economy / class basis approach with this emphasis on imperialism and the state rather than simply crime, it has been a success because what it is actually doing is allowing that political economy to thrive.

I mean, we have to ask the question: how can such a drug trade flourish under the very nose of the leading hegemonic power in the Americas, if not the world, the United States? You had the Chinese Revolution, you had even authoritarian regimes, fascist regimes, that were able to wipe out the drug trade. Why can't the Western powers with all the resources that they have put a dent on it?

But instead they have actually exacerbated the problem. It's getting worse, and the fact is there is never a real end in sight, and they don't want to change their policies, so someone is clearly benefiting and suffering from this.

The logic, if we can call it that, is the conclusion that it is part of that paradox and part of their interest to maintain this political economy. We can look at it from a different angle, if you like.

Look at oil, our dependence on hydrocarbons. We know that is bad for our environment, we know what scientists call "Peak Oil", and we know we will have problems with that form of energy system, but it continues. So is it in their interest to stop this? No, it isn't. This is what I see as the very fabric of capitalism and imperialism, and that the logic becomes the illogical and the conclusion becomes part of the contradiction. That's why I don't see it as a failure at all but very much in the interest, stubbornly or not, of US imperialism to drag on this war on drugs.

LS: Can you tell us some of the reasons for the period in Colombian history that is called "La Violencia" and how it played a role ideologically in the Cold War as it was fought in Colombia?

O.V. "La Violencia" was a period in Colombian history and probably the only time that the Colombian state acknowledged that the country was in a war with itself, a civil war, if you will. In 1948, there was a popular liberal candidate named Jorge Eliecer Gaitan, a populist leader, who was

promising land reform, and he promised at least to the landless and the poorest in Colombia that something would change in the country.

Since then, an ultra-conservative and reactionary oligarchy has remained in power in Colombia. What this candidate stood for was some shake-up in the system. Gaitan was assassinated, conservatives were blamed for the assassination, and from there on we saw a civil war that dragged on up until 1958, when you saw the nucleus of the main body of armed resistance, which is now the FARC, take shape.

Ideologically, the Cold War was seen as a way to justify the state repression which continued. Something like 300,000 people were killed in "La Violencia". But not much changed afterward. After 1958, there was no end to the class war. This was basically a war between those with land and those without land, which is important to understand in the political economy of cocaine in Colombia: that's the land, the problem of land. And this dragged on after 1958. So rather than viewing it as a problem that's historical involving land, they saw it as a problem of communism, but of course, once the Cold War ended there needed to be a justification to drag on this repression.

Conveniently, we increasingly heard terms like the "war on drugs", "narco-terrorism" - and that provided ideological ammunition for the United States and the Colombian state and its ruling class to target the same revolutionary and main forms of resistance in Colombia. This included trade unions, student associations, peasant organization, and the same kind of what are considered subversive elements in Colombia.

So the "war on terror" you could say is a continuation of very much the same rational that the state was using during "La Violencia". It is a continuing problem, which continues to be resolved by the state with force, which means to treat the security problem through military repression. So it's a serious problem in the wake of this political economy because violence becomes the means in which this political economy can be maintained.

LS: When did the cocaine business actually begin big time in Colombia? According to the book Cocaine: Global Histories, before cocaine was made illegal by the single convention of the United Nations in March 1961 it came primarily from Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. [5] Why was the shift taking place then from Asia to Colombia, Peru and Bolivia?

OV: In the context of the Cold War, it wasn't just simply an ideological war, it was also very much a real war in where there was resistance to capitalist and financial arrangements that were implemented throughout the world financial system at that time.

In Asia we know, of course, there was the Vietnam War; we also had the Chinese Revolution beforehand, as I have mentioned before, and we know that drugs became a way to finance much of the counterinsurgency operations that were going on. We know for example that Chiang Kai-shek, the leader of the Kuomintang who fought Mao Zedong in the Chinese civil war and the Chinese Revolutionary process, was a drug trafficker himself. Many of the contacts that the CIA had in Vietnam, particularly in South Vietnam, were also deeply enmeshed in the drug trade.

What was known as the World Anti-Communist League at that time drew much of these alliances and organizations together in order to finance much of their operations. But when the Vietnam war eventually drew to a close, what did we see? We began to see a shift, not only with counter-insurgency operations against what was seen as communist insurgencies, but also in drug trafficking

operations.

This was essentially the time where I noticed, and this was of vital importance for the book, that the same kind of arrangements were emerging in Latin America. The regional section of World Anti-Communist League was the Confederation in Latin America, which was then headed by Argentina, particularly the military junta of 1976, and they saw by learning from lessons in Asia that by allying themselves and by managing drug operations themselves, and so forth, and by using the same elements to finance these operations against the communists, they could do the same.

From there we saw some very important unfolding of history, which was the great concentration of operations within the drug trade, in Bolivia in particular with the Cocaine Coup of 1980, where you even had former Nazis who were employed and used with their experience to undergo these operations. [6] The Colombians, long before they became the main cocaine production center, saw this as an opportunity to get involved and take advantage of the situation. From there we saw the beginnings of the modern cocaine trade in Latin America which is now global, and has reached a global scale.

LS: What function had in their time famous drug lords like Pablo Escobar? What was the secret of his success in particular?

OV: As an entrepreneur he did see the vents, particularly in Bolivia, I think, as an opportunity. Before then it was marijuana, not cocaine, that was the main drug at that time in the late 1970's. He saw a great opportunity to actually invest. He was the first to really begin to use small planes to traffic and smuggle cocaine into the United States. He became famous and a pioneer because he saw the opportunities at least from a capitalist perspective - what this would bring for what would become the Medellin Cartel.

He became after the Bolivian chapter the clear cocaine monopolist from the 1980s and so on. I think it had to do with his experience in the marijuana trade which allowed it to happen. He also made contacts with the very Bolivians who were providing him with the supply of coca. It was his far-sightedness to take full advantage of the situation.

LS: Despite the US claims that it is engaged in a war against drugs in Colombia, it is in fact engaged in an anti-insurgency war against the left-wing FARC guerillas, is this correct?

OV: This is correct. What is known as "Plan Colombia" was a program first devised by president Bill Clinton, and, as I explained, from the Cold War onwards we had that growing drug problem in Colombia. What Clinton saw as the solution to deal with the insurgency was to say: Let's give it a drug package. What "Plan Colombia" did though was under the mask of the war on drugs it actually made it into a military package itself. Most of the money had military operations and training in focus. So what this did since the late 1990s is in fact make it a war against the FARC guerrillas.

You have to take into account that the FARC have been there long before the cocaine trade appeared in the 1980s or the cocaine decade when it became big time. And so by focusing on the FARC, they can also be blamed for the drug trade. The New York Times is good at that, they see them seen as narco-terrorists. So the Colombian state can say: Well, we are fighting a war on drugs and terror, and the United States can also say: Well, they are our key partners in the Western hemisphere in this war. And they can also gear themselves to deal with the broader politics in the region, to deal with Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador and other nations which are fast becoming much more independent and

left-leaning.

So it brings in a whole lot of other politics into question, but by fighting the FARC as the main threat to the Colombian state it deals with it in a very military way. They are a threat indeed, because they are not simply as they are called narco-terrorists, they are a group that has been indigenous to the history of Colombia, which past presidencies have actually acknowledged. But since September 11, 2001, there has been this increasing radicalization by the ruling class in Colombia to see no other alternative but finally to destroy the FARC once and for all.

LS: Which has come, sadly enough, as a high price to the Colombian population in general.

OV: Yes, we are looking at horrific statistics that go way beyond the state crimes of the 20th century in Latin America. Up until now it was Central America, Guatemala who held the record of victims from state-terror - 200,000. Second came Argentina with 30,000. Colombia has experienced 250,000 victims of state-terrorism in the past two presidencies alone, so since 2002 onwards. So this is quite horrific. Also the effects on trade unions are quite horrific. More trade unionists are killed in Colombia than in the whole world combined. It has the lowest rate of unionization in the whole continent. It has actually come to the point where there are not many more unionists to murder.

Yet, this is not an issue, this is not a problem, and much of the world does not know much about this. It is quite ironic if we look at the war on terror in the Middle East, where we are hearing a lot of news about the Assad regime in Syria, the "rebels" there, and Muammar Gaddafi in Libya was also terrible so we had to go in there and support the "rebels" - yet, we got the world's oldest rebel organization, more than half-a-century old, which has popular support among the poorest in Colombian society, and that is why they are able to continue the fight, and it's not drugs or terrorism, no.

Where is the support for the rebels in Colombia? Where is the debate about Colombian democracy? So the FARC become the target of the counter-insurgency-"counter-terror" war which both Washington and Bogota see as their number one priority there.

LS: Throughout the implementation of "Plan Colombia", the private military companies (PMCs) which waged the "war on drugs" also made huge amounts of money. Is the "war on drugs" a business model for them, and has the "war on drugs" thus to continue as long as possible in order to perpetuate the profits that can be gained from it?

OV: It is very much a business model. I like that terminology because the Fortune 500 too are involved. Why is it a business model? We know that the narco-bourgeoisie manages the affairs of the drug trade at the colonial center, if we are going back to that narco-colonialism concept that I have used before, but who handles the rest of the operations for the empire, or from a US state perspective? Who else has the technology? Who is involved in executing the so called war on drugs?

These are essentially private-military companies, at least since "Plan Colombia" and with a history. That would be DynCorp and other key private-military companies like MPRI that had been involved, for example, in the aerial spraying of the coca crops in Colombia and military training. We know that rather than actually doing something about drug operations, what happened was that the very same firms were merely strengthening those involved in drug smuggling operations, and this is an ongoing problem which we have seen in this war on drugs, as I have documented in my studies.

This also means that these private companies are also involved in that financial arrangement that Catherine Austin Fitts suggested earlier on regarding the financial center. So the financial center is not just the financial system, but the main corporations and banks that are heavily involved in doing this. So by having these same private-military companies engaged in the war on drugs, they then can also invest their profits in the imperial center and play a role in managing the drug trade for the US imperial state.

LS: From A to Z, so to speak.

OV: Yes. You have a collaboration happening between the narco-bourgeoisie in Colombia and the imperial center by using private-military companies which have been involved in much of that history. If we go back to the history of what we do know about the Iran-Contra scandal, for instance, we see that many of these companies were sold off after they were used as contractors by the CIA, they were privatized by the very same companies that had been involved in "Plan Colombia" since the late 1990's.

These are the same people and same companies that were actually involved in past criminal operations. I don't see that simply as a coincidence. I see it as a continuity in how this is actually taking place.

LS: So I guess the real question is if the inter-linked "war on terror" / "war on drugs" is actually an effective way to keep competition small and under control?

OV: Yes, it's about control, it's about what Peter Dale Scott would describe as "managing market share". It is really the imperial state through its agencies, but also by taking care of the financial center and also the operations through the PMCs they are deciding who gets the market share.

In the 1980s we saw a process where the Medellin cartel pretty much had unregulated control for their operations, but then we also saw the liquidation of Pablo Escobar and the handing over to the Cali Cartel, who also withered away for the Colombian state. Now we have an ongoing issue with Mexico replacing Colombian cartels as distributors with the same kind of episodes, and we hear analysts and officials basically saying again, yes, it's the imperial state that is involved in all of this. It is about control, and more specifically, it's the control of market share, which I think is essential to understand.

LS: Usually, where there are important commodities like oil and/or drugs in large quantities, the US intelligence services and the US military are never far away. Therefore, is oil another reason to link "the war on terror" and "the war on drugs" in Colombia?

OV: Well, if there ever is any commodity like oil that is of financial value definitely any imperial power will take advantage. This is a long history in itself. What I find interesting is that drugs are never considered. But if there are wars fought over oil and other commodities, why not drugs? In fact, if you re-examine the history of the global drug trade, what is happening in Colombia is pretty much the same kind of wars for commodities that have been fought since the dawn of time. Essentially, it is a fact that this is where the intelligence services go out and do the kind of cornerstone work in service of the commodity; in this case, I have to say, it is drugs.

LS: Why is the drug situation in Colombia by and large out of the news compared to the 1980s?

OV: Well, I think it's the case because now Mexico is seen as the problem. In a way it serves as a distraction, and drugs are no longer seen as a state security problem in Colombia. It has been officially a success. You look at any report by the United States or even the United Nations on the Colombian situation, they say it has been a success; since 2008, they say, there was an 18% decline in drug production. But what it doesn't say is that there hasn't been a decline in drug use or drug distribution. Where are all the drugs coming from then? In fact, it's the Mexicans doing the distribution for the Colombians now. So by distracting the focus and diverting the attention to Mexico, what it is doing is allowing a rerun of the same episode of the 1980s in Colombia, by ignoring Colombia and manufacturing unrealistic figures.

We will eventually see an arrangement, a compromise emerging in Mexico, and we will hear statements from the DEA and the White House saying how successful the war on drugs was, but we will also see the same kind of arrangements happening there with some cartels being taken over.

We will see the same key people in positions of power who are benefiting from the drug trade and who'll be the official selected drug lords. At the moment, we are seeing that struggle of market share that I have mentioned earlier, where the state, in particular in the imperial center, has a great hand in influencing and shaping the events.

And by ignoring Colombia, by normalizing Colombia, by saying it is a stable country and a formal democratic state, they can actually switch the attention on Mexico and also claim success that everything is going right. And by doing that they can also use Colombia as a model for Afghanistan and Central America, and we hear much discussion about this.

But again we will see the same kind of patterns emerge in which the same people will be involved, the same people will be benefiting, and the same people will be targeted, when people are resisting rather than maintaining that political economy.

LS: Related to the drug war raging in Mexico, what are your thoughts on the claim by a Mexican official that the CIA manages the drug trade? [7]

OV: It's the state, but in particular the armed bodies of the state, like the intelligence agencies, which as political entities are able to actually police these kinds of operations. How else can it be done? What is the history? What we know from researchers like Peter Dale Scott and Douglas Valentine is that this has been true since at least the 1970s in the Latin American context. [8]

And I would have to agree to some extent that it manages it, because it decides as a policy maker how and for whom the market share will actually be determined. Again, in Mexico this is what we see right now. How the events unfold will determine who will get that market share, who will be the monopolists, and who will be the official drug lords. It has nothing to do really with what we hear in the media.

LS: So the CIA is in the drug trade something like the middle-man for the financial sector?

OV: Yes, I think that analogy would be quite useful. As a middle-man, as a liaison and enforcer, and as also a communicator between these various criminal elements before the drug trade shapes itself into a form that is both beneficial and subservient to US imperialism.

Source:

1. Related to the topic "Cocaine as just another commodity", compare also Steven Topik, Carlos Marichal, Zephyr Frank (Edit.) *From Silver to Cocaine: Latin American Commodity Chains and the Building of the World Economy, 1500-2000*, Duke University Press, 2006.
2. Lars Schall, Behind the Wheel, Interview with Catherine Austin Fitts, August 29, 2010.
3. Compare for example "HSBC exposed: Drug money banking, terror dealings", published July 17, 2012. "International banking giant HSBC may have financed terrorist groups and funneled Mexican drug money into the US economy through its lax policies, a damning Senate report reveals. The bank's bosses have apologized for the misconduct."
4. Mark Karlin: "US Government Gives Wink and Nod to Banks Laundering Money for Drug Lords, Terrorist Affiliated Banks and Rogue Nations", published July 24, 2012.
5. Compare Paul Gootenberg (Edit.): *Cocaine: Global Histories*, Routledge, 1999.
6. Compare Hemik Kruger: *The Great Heroin Coup: Drugs, Intelligence, and International Fascism*, South End Press, 1980.
7. Chris Arsenault: "Mexican official: CIA 'manages' drug trade". July 24, 2012.
8. Compare for example Peter Dale Scott: *Drugs, Oil, and War: The United States in Afghanistan, Colombia, and Indochina*, Rowman and Littlefield, 2003.

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History of drug laws

History of drug laws

Patterns of drug use and social attitudes to drug use have changed dramatically over time. The notion of making drug use illegal did not really emerge in Western societies until the late nineteenth century. Before that, in Australia, Britain, Europe, and the United States, whether people used drugs was considered a personal decision—subject to social disapproval, but not illegal. Alcohol was of course the most widely used psychoactive substance.

Drugs in Australia

opium act 1857

The first Australian drug law was an 1857 Act imposing an import duty on opium. In the following years, a number of other laws were passed imposing often prohibitive tariffs on opium. The primary purpose of the laws was clearly to discourage the entry of Chinese people to Australia, rather than to restrict the importation of opium itself.

Australians in the nineteenth century were among the world's biggest consumers of opiates, thanks to the very wide popularity of patent medicines, most of which contained a high proportion of alcohol or morphine or both. Laudanum, a mixture of opium and alcohol, was taken regularly by upper class matrons and administered to children to calm them.

The first laws restricting opium were carefully worded to apply to opium in smokable form only—not opium as it was taken by the European population.

Cannabis plants were sent to Australia by Sir Joseph Banks on the First Fleet, in the hope that the new colony might grow enough hemp to supply the British Navy with rope. Cannabis was not consumed on a large scale (although it was readily available for sale as cigarettes called 'Cigares de Joy' until the 1920s). Cannabis importation and use was prohibited by federal legislation in 1926 (implementing the 1925 Geneva Convention on Opium and Other Drugs), with the states adopting similar prohibition in the following years.

Heroin was legally available on prescription in Australia until 1953. It was so widely used as a painkiller and in cough mixtures that Australia was the world's largest per capita user of heroin. The 1953 prohibition of heroin was the result of international pressure on Australia to conform to the prohibition of heroin adopted by other countries, with some opposition from the Australian Medical Association.

Ironically, heroin, cannabis, and other drugs were prohibited in Australia well before their use became a major social issue.

Before the 1960s, drug use was not completely unknown, but dependent drug use was typically the result of the use of opiates after first using them for medical reasons. There were drug dependent doctors (and their wives), and a small bohemian subculture that used drugs. Many Australian arrests for drug offences involved visiting jazz musicians.

Among the significant social changes of the 1960s was the emergence of the concept of 'recreational' drug use - the consumption of cannabis, heroin, LSD and other psychoactive drugs for pleasure, or in pursuit of spiritual enlightenment. For the first time, drug use became widespread - if not quite mainstream - rather than an activity pursued by a few painters or poets. The official response was increased law enforcement, and legislative change to extend the range of offences and increased penalties for drug offences.

The Vietnam War contributed to the significant increase in drug consumption in Australia in the late 1960s, with American soldiers on 'rest and recreation' leave in Australia creating a market for heroin, marijuana and other illicit drugs, and providing a glamorous example for the locals.

The 'old' Australian drug laws were mostly under the various state Poisons Acts, reflecting an underlying approach of regulation and control of medicinal substances, with potentially addictive drugs legally available only on a doctor's prescription. The 'new' drug laws introduced a distinction between use and possession offences, and supply offences. Penalties for possession and use increased, but very substantial penalties were introduced for drug supply, and especially supply of large quantities ('drug trafficking'). By 1970, all the states had enacted laws that made drug supply a separate offence to drug use or possession offences.

In 1985, the federal and state governments adopted a National Drug Strategy which included a pragmatic mixture of prohibition and a stated objective of harm reduction. Harm reduction has been an official part of Australian drugs polity ever since, although most resources by far are devoted to policing and border patrol attempts at interdiction ('supply reduction'). Fewer resources are made available for health treatment and drug rehabilitation programs, or for preventative public health programs such as needle exchange. The needle exchange program has been successful. Australia maintains an extremely low rate of HIV infection among injecting drug users. The success of the needle exchange programs encouraged governments to at least consider adopting other harm minimisation initiatives.

The merits of a trial of a heroin prescription program, based on the Swiss model, were debated in the 1990s. The ACT government took steps to begin a trial program, but the federal government refused to allow the importation of heroin. Unable to source legitimate and controlled quality heroin, the ACT government abandoned the proposed trial.

Australia has been tentative about allowing legal injecting rooms, with NSW the only state to permit an injecting room, and then only-one. The Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC) operated from 2001 to 2010 on a 'trial' basis. In October 2010, legislation to make the Kings Cross MSIC permanent was passed by both Houses of the NSW Parliament. The Police Commissioner and the Director-General of NSW Health will continue to oversee the centre and it will undergo regular statutory evaluations every five years.

In all states, the impact of prohibitionist laws on drug users is somewhat modified by a number of diversion programs, diverting some eligible users from the criminal justice system to cautions or treatment.

Medicinal cannabis

Although the use of cannabis for medicinal reasons remains illegal, a number of state governments have signalled a willingness to consider legislative reform in this area.

The NSW government has announced four clinical trials of medicinal applications of cannabis in treating a number of conditions. Although the trials will not be completed for several years, it is perhaps more likely than not that the trials will result eventually in NSW allowing the legal use of medicinal cannabis in at least some circumstances.

Harm reduction

Harm reduction focuses on minimising the negative impacts associated with drug use, individually and socially. While not advocating drug use, supporters of harm reduction argue that we should accept that some drug use will occur, and focus on addressing the harms caused.

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A Brief History of the Drug War

Many currently illegal drugs, such as marijuana, opium, coca, and psychedelics have been used for thousands of years for both medical and spiritual purposes.

The Early Stages of Drug Prohibition

Why are some drugs legal and other drugs illegal today? It's not based on any scientific assessment of the relative risks of these drugs - but it has everything to do with who is associated with these drugs.

The first anti-opium laws in the 1870s were directed at Chinese immigrants. The first anti-cocaine laws, in the South in the early 1900s, were directed at black men. The first anti-marijuana laws, in the Midwest and the Southwest in the 1910s and 20s, were directed at Mexican migrants and Mexican Americans. Today, Latino and especially black communities are still subject to wildly disproportionate drug enforcement and sentencing practices.

Nixon and the Generation Gap

In the 1960s, as drugs became symbols of youthful rebellion, social upheaval, and political dissent, the government halted scientific research to evaluate their medical safety and efficacy.

In June 1971, President Nixon declared a "war on drugs." He dramatically increased the size and presence of federal drug control agencies, and pushed through measures such as mandatory sentencing and no-knock warrants. Nixon temporarily placed marijuana in Schedule One, the most restrictive category of drugs, pending review by a commission he appointed led by Republican Pennsylvania Governor Raymond Shafer. In 1972, the commission unanimously recommended decriminalizing the possession and distribution of marijuana for personal use. Nixon ignored the report and rejected its recommendations.

Between 1973 and 1977, however, eleven states decriminalized marijuana possession. In January 1977, President Jimmy Carter was inaugurated on a campaign platform that included marijuana decriminalization. In October 1977, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted to decriminalize possession of up to an ounce of marijuana for personal use.

Within just a few years, though, the tide had shifted. Proposals to decriminalize marijuana were abandoned as parents became increasingly concerned about high rates of teen marijuana use. Marijuana was ultimately caught up in a broader cultural backlash against the perceived permissiveness of the 1970s.

The 1980s and 90s: Drug Hysteria and Skyrocketing Incarceration Rates

The presidency of Ronald Reagan marked the start of a long period of skyrocketing rates of incarceration, largely thanks to his unprecedented expansion of the drug war. The number of people behind bars for nonviolent drug law offenses increased from 50,000 in 1980 to over 400,000 by 1997.

Public concern about illicit drug use built throughout the 1980s, largely due to media portrayals of people addicted to the smokeable form of cocaine dubbed "crack." Soon after Ronald Reagan took office in 1981, his wife, Nancy Reagan, began a highly-publicized anti-drug campaign, coining the slogan "Just Say No."

This set the stage for the zero tolerance policies implemented in the mid-to-late 1980s. Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates, who believed that "casual drug users should be taken out and shot," founded the DARE drug education program, which was quickly adopted nationwide despite the lack of evidence of its effectiveness. The increasingly harsh drug policies also blocked the expansion of syringe access programs and other harm reduction policies to reduce the rapid spread of HIV/AIDS.

In the late 1980s, a political hysteria about drugs led to the passage of draconian penalties in Congress and state legislatures that rapidly increased the prison population. In 1985, the proportion of Americans polled who saw drug abuse as the nation's "number one problem" was just 2-6 percent. The figure grew through the remainder of the 1980s until, in September 1989, it reached a remarkable 64 percent- one of the most intense fixations by the American public on any issue in polling history. Within less than a year, however, the figure plummeted to less than 10 percent, as the media lost interest. The draconian policies enacted during the hysteria remained, however, and continued to result in escalating levels of arrests and incarceration.

Although Bill Clinton advocated for treatment instead of incarceration during his 1992 presidential campaign, after his first few months in the White House he reverted to the drug war strategies of his Republican predecessors by continuing to escalate the drug war. Notoriously, Clinton rejected a U.S. Sentencing Commission recommendation to eliminate the disparity between crack and powder cocaine sentences.

He also rejected, with the encouragement of drug czar General Barry McCaffrey, health secretary Donna Shalala's advice to end the federal ban on funding for syringe access programs. Yet, a month before leaving office, Clinton asserted in a Rolling Stone interview that "we really need a re-examination of our entire policy on imprisonment" of people who use drugs, and said that marijuana use "should be decriminalized."

At the height of the drug war hysteria in the late 1980s and early 1990s, a movement emerged seeking a new approach to drug policy. In 1987, Arnold Trebach and Kevin Zeese founded the Drug Policy Foundation- describing it as the "loyal opposition to the war on drugs." Prominent conservatives such as William Buckley and Milton Friedman had long advocated for ending drug prohibition, as had civil libertarians such as longtime ACLU Executive Director Ira Glasser. In the late 1980s they were joined by Baltimore Mayor Kurt Schmoke; Federal Judge Robert Sweet, Princeton professor Ethan Nadelmann, and other activists, scholars and policymakers.

In 1994, Nadelmann founded The Lindesmith Center as the first U.S. project of George Soros' Open Society Institute. In 2000, the growing Center merged with the Drug Policy Foundation to create the Drug Policy Alliance.

The Pendulum is Shifting - Slowly - Toward Sensible Drug Policy

George W. Bush arrived in the White House as the drug war was running out of steam - yet he allocated more money than ever to it. His drug czar, John Walters, zealously focused on marijuana and launched a major campaign to promote student drug testing. While rates of illicit drug use remained constant, overdose fatalities rose rapidly.

The era of George W. Bush also witnessed the rapid escalation of the militarization of domestic drug law enforcement. By the end of Bush's term, there were about 40,000 paramilitary-style SWAT raids on Americans every year - mostly for nonviolent drug law offenses, often misdemeanors. While federal reform mostly stalled under Bush, state-level reforms finally began to slow the growth of the drug war.

Politicians now routinely admit to having used marijuana, and even cocaine, when they were younger. When Michael Bloomberg was questioned during his 2001 mayoral campaign about whether he had ever used marijuana, he said, "You bet *I* did - and I enjoyed it." Barack Obama also candidly discussed his prior cocaine and marijuana use: "When I was a kid, I inhaled frequently - that was the point."

The assault on American citizens, however, has persisted. Bloomberg oversaw a higher rate of low-level marijuana arrests than any mayor in New York City history. And Obama, despite advocating for reforms - such as reducing the crack/powder sentencing disparity, ending the ban on federal funding for syringe access programs, and supporting state medical marijuana laws - has yet to shift drug control funding to a health-based approach.

Progress is inevitably slow but there is unprecedented momentum behind drug policy reform right now. We look forward to a future where drug policies are shaped by science and compassion rather than political hysteria.

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The History of Drugs

How come they don't teach this History in the schools or show it on the History channel??? Very simply, Rothschild runs the world, which includes the schools, Talmud Vision, & the Drug Trade! The "War on Drugs" is a 100% jew con-trolled government scam! When the cops arrest somebody, they always ask the person "Who is your supplier?" Well tell the cops here is the suppliers for the entire WORLD! The Rothschild Family, The British Royal Family, The Sassoon Family, with Rothschild the #1 ! Do you think the DEA, FBI, CIA, INTERPOL, or any agency will go after them? Don't kid yourself! IT IS ALL A JEW SCAM! MBJ

Hong Kong Founded as Sassoon Drug Center.

Hong Kong and The Sassoon Opium Wars.

The 99 year British lease on Hong Kong expired in July allowing the Red Chinese to take over. Hundreds of newspaper stories and TV _leports have covered this event but not one revealed how England first gained control of Hong Kong! The truth lies buried in the family line of David Sassoon, "The Rothschilds of The Far East," and their monopoly over the opium trade. Britain won Hong Kong by launching the opium Wars to give the Sassoon's exclusive rights to drug an entire nation!

David Sassoon was born in Baghdad, Iran in 1792. His father, Saleh Sassoon, was a wealthy banker and the treasurer to Ahrnet Pasha, the governor of Baghdad. (Thus making him the "court Jew" - a highly influential position.) In 1829 Ahrnet was overthrown due to corruption and the Sassoon family fled to Bombay, India. This was the strategic trade route to interior India and the gateway to the Far East. In a brief time the British government granted Sassoon "monopoly rights" to all manufacture of cotton goods, silk and most important of all - Opium - then the most addictive drug in the world!

The Jewish Encyclopedia of 1905, states that Sassoon expanded his opium trade into China and Japan. He placed his eight sons in charge of the various major opium exchanges in China. According to the 1944 Jewish Encyclopedia: "He employed only Jews in his business, and wherever he sent them he built synagogues and schools for them. He imported whole families of fellow Jews...and put them to work."

Sassoon's sons were busy pushing this mind-destroying drug in Canton, China. Between 1830 - 1831 they trafficked 18,956 chests of opium earning millions of dollars. Part of the profits went to Queen Victoria and the British government. In the year 1836 the trade increased to over 30,000 chests and drug addiction in coastal cities became endemic. In 1839, the Manchu Emperor ordered that it be stopped. He named the Commissioner of Canton, Lin Tse-hsu, to lead a campaign against opium.

Lin seized 2,000 chests of Sassoon opium and threw it into the river. An outraged David Sassoon demanded that Great Britain retaliate. Thus, the Opium Wars began with the British Army fighting as mercenaries of the Sassoon's. They attacked cities and blockaded ports. The Chinese Army, decimated by 10 years of rampant opium addiction, proved no match for the British Army. The war ended in 1839 with the signing of "The Treaty of Nanking."

This included provisions especially designed to guarantee the Sassoon's the right to enslave an entire population with opium. The "peace treaty" included these provisions: 1) Full legalization of the opium trade in China, 2) compensation from the opium stockpiles confiscated by Lin of 2 million pounds, 3) territorial sovereignty for the British Crown over several designated offshore islands.

Sassoon's Use British Army

To Drug An Entire Nation

British Prime Minister Palmerston wrote Crown Commissioner Captain Charles Elliot that the treaty didn't go far enough. He said it should have been rejected out of hand because:

"After all, our naval power is so strong that we can tell the Emperor what we mean to hold rather than what he would cede. We must demand the admission of opium into interior China as an article of lawful commerce and increase the indemnity payments and British access to several additional Chinese ports."

Thus, China not only had to pay Sassoon the cost of his dumped opium but reimburse England an unheard sum of 21 million pounds for the cost of the war! This gave the Sassoon's monopoly rights to distribute opium in port cities. However, even this was not good enough and Sassoon demanded the right to sell opium throughout the nation. The Manchus resisted and the British Army again attacked in the "Second Opium War fought 1858- 1860.

Palmerston declared that all of interior China must be open for uninterrupted opium traffic. The British suffered a defeat at the Taku Forts in June 1859 when sailors, ordered to seize the forts, were run aground in the mud-choked harbor. Several hundred were killed or captured. An enraged Palmerston said:

"We shall teach such a lesson to these perfidious hordes that the name of Europe will hereafter be a passport of fear."

In October, the British besieged Peking. When the city fell, British commander Lord Elgin, ordered the temples and other sacred shrines in the city sacked and burned to the ground as a show of Britain's absolute contempt for the Chinese. In the new "Peace Treaty" of October 25, 1860, the British were assigned rights to vastly expanded opium trade covering seven-eights of China, which brought in over 20 million pounds in 1864 alone. In that year, the Sassoon's imported 58,681 chests of opium and by 1880 it had skyrocketed to 105,508 chests making the Sassoon's the richest Jews in the world. England was given the Hong Kong peninsula as a colony and large sections of Amoy, Canton, Foochow, Ningpo and Shanghai. The Sassoon's were now licensing opium dens in each British occupied area with large fees being collected by their Jewish agents. Sassoon would not allow any other race to engage in "the Jews business."

However, the British government would not allow any opium to be imported into Europe! Sassoon "Monopoly Rights" Wrecked Lancashire - England's Textile Industry - Made Roosevelt Wealthy Sir Albert Sassoon, the eldest of David Sassoon's sons took over the family "business" empire. He constructed huge textile mills in Bombay to pay slave labor wages. This expansion continued after World War One and ended up putting mills in Lancashire, England out of business with thousands losing their jobs. This did not stop Queen Victoria from having Albert knighted in 1872. Solomon Sassoon moved to Hong Kong and ran the family business there until his death in 1894. Later, the entire family moved to England because with modern communications they could operate their

financial empire from their luxurious estates in London. They socialized with royalty and Edward Albert.

Sassoon married Aline Caroline de Rothschild in 1887 which linked their fortune with that of the Rothschilds. The Queen also had Edward knighted. All 14 of the grandsons of David Sassoon were made officers during World War One and thus most were able to avoid combat. Franklin D. Roosevelt's fortune was inherited from his maternal grandfather Warren Delano. In 1830 he was a senior partner of Russell & Company. It was their merchant fleet which carried Sassoon's opium to China and returned with tea.

Warren Delano moved to Newburgh, N.Y. In 1851 his daughter Sara Married a well-born neighbor, James Roosevelt - the father of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. He always knew the origin of the family fortune but refused to discuss it. The Sassoon opium trade brought death and destruction to millions and still plagues Asia to this day. Their company was totally operated by Jews ONLY! The corrupt British monarchy honored them with privilege and knighthood - to the disgrace of the Crown! To this day the Sassoon's are in the history books as "great developers" of India but the source of their vast wealth is never mentioned!

The famous Sassoon family, probably the most influential Jewish family in England at the time, and one of the few really intimate with the Royal Family, established their wealth and power in the Opium wars.

"...David Sassoon began with a rug factory and banking establishment, but he soon recognized the opportunities in opium...deft maneuvering netted him the most valuable prize an Indian merchant could strive for - **A Monopoly of the Opium Trade**... David's sons were bright. There was Elias, the first Sassoon to go out to the China Seas. He went over as early as 1844, in the wake of the Opium War which had given British traders the right to dump into China all the opium India and the Near East could grow. Selling the drug to 400,000,000 customers. Elias was spectacularly successful." (American Mercury, January 1940, p. 61)

Edward Sassoon, the second baronet (Albert Abdullah's son, born in Bombay in 1856) married Baron Gustave de Rothschild's daughter. He resided in London and became a major in the Duke of Cambridge's Hussars Yeomanry; his daughter Sybil married the fifth Marquis of Cholmondeley; King Edward VII considered him a friend; and the burghers of Hythe sent him into the House of Commons. (American Mercury, p. 63)

"It was the time of the great opium trade. The poppy fields of India and the Near East yielded a golden harvest and British ships brought the sweet-smelling product to China's distant ports. David Sassoon was rich and powerful. (Shanghai: City for Sale, p. 275)

Most of the immense Sassoon fortune, in fact, had been made in the opium trade. They had shipped the precious drug from India to Shanghai, and they had cleared millions of pounds. The old firm of E.D. Sassoon had been prominent in Shanghai's famous opium combine.

Shanghai-landers were familiar with the name. The Sassoons had drawn much money out of Shanghai; if Sir Victor was to bring all that money back to the Settlement, there was a certain measure of retributive justice in his move. (Shanghai: City for Sale, pp. 274-275) No one knew how much money Sir Victor carried in his hip pocket when he landed in Shanghai (1931). Some said eighty-five

million; others, three hundred... He invested. He bought. He bought everything that could be had for money and plenty could be had for money, in Shanghai... He took over the vast Nanking Road holdings of Silas Aaron Hardon... He accepted the chairmanship in his family's old establishment, E.D. Sassoon & Co., Ltd., bankers, merchants, industrialists. He controlled the Yangtze Finance Company and International Investment Trust." (Shanghai: City for Sale, p. 277)

This Victor Sassoon arrived in the United States and issued a series of belligerent challenges to the Japanese, and indicated a strong desire to involve the United States in a program, which could not fail to protect his Far Eastern interests, while simultaneously endangering our peace and that of China. The New York Sun, February 2, 1940, gave an interesting account of the Sassoon family and of Victor Sassoon in particular: "... This old-established firm also has been deep in the swirl of international politics and knows its way around the British financier, arriving in San Francisco from the Orient, says, 'You Americans have got Japan absolutely cold, and all business people in Japan know it.' He was talking about the voiding of the trade treaty and Japan's dependence on American imports.

During most of the nineteenth century, the Sassoon built a vast fortune in India, principally in cotton, jute, textiles and shellac. In 1929, political unrest in India caused Sir Victor to shift base, as the family has done, through the centuries, in Toledo, Venice, Salonika, Constantinople, Jerusalem, Safed and Bagdad. He put over some big, fast deals in silver, branched out in real estate and is now known as the wealthiest white man in the Far East. His interests include banks, mills, textiles, hotels, wharves, liquor-importing companies, laundries, bus lines and night club."

Dr. Thomas Healy was a distinguished scholar, teacher and Dean of Foreign Service School of the old Georgetown University in the Nation's Capital, before it became a stronghold of the Jews and Communists, related: "They (English Jews) demanded not only more trade on terms more advantageous to themselves, but demanded even a vicious contraband trade. Thus we come to the most sordid of historic narratives - the Opium War of 1839 - as a result the Western World forced its will and desires upon China and, over her prostrate form, extracted those 'sacred' treaty rights, about which the statesmen have said so much lately.

Few Americans realize that, while opium is always associated with the Chinese, actually China used little or no opium until its use was forced upon them in huge quantities by the British Government and its agents (read that Jewish agents) in India.

The growing and sale of Indian opium was a British Government monopoly, which poured a golden stream of profits into the British Treasury. The British agents foresaw even greater profits if the defenseless Chinese were made to absorb more Indian opium.

The Chinese Government, fully realizing the degenerative qualities of this drug, bitterly protested. It attempted to bar its importation, sale and use. The British ignored the ban, whereupon the Chinese Government, in desperation, seized large quantities of British opium stored in Canton warehouses. Promptly Britain's Royal Navy went into action and the Opium War was on. Cries of indignation have rent the air over recent events in the Far East, with most of the crying done by London and Washington... There was no declaration of war by the British Government. There was no official explanation given to the public, other than that the Chinese had flaunted the British prestige, property and flag...

Dictating the Treaty of Nanking, 1842, closing the Opium War, Great Britain compelled the Chinese to pay an indemnity of \$21,000,000 of which \$6,000,000 was reimbursement for the destroyed opium,

destroyed by the Chinese when the British insisted on forcing it into China against the latter's will...It was only through the debauchery of China in the Opium War that Britain directly, and the United States indirectly, obtained their 'sacred' treaty rights to establish themselves in the great port of Shanghai against the wishes of the Chinese people.

The crowning point...was the fact that the Treaty of Nanking never touched the immediate cause of the war, the illegal importation of opium! The Chinese were made to pay for the war, but the illicit imports of the deadly weed continued to flow unabated, to the moral and physical decay of millions of Chinese, and to great financial profit of the British Government (now you know the children of America have been paying the price for decades of the British Jews desire for profits!).

This war nauseated most historians, including British men of letters. Justin McCarthy declared: 'Reduced to plain words, the principle for which we fought in the China War was the right of Great Britain to force a peculiar trade upon a foreign people, in spite of the protestations of the Government, and all such public opinion as there was, of the nation.' The great British statesman, Gladstone, declared: 'A war more unjust in its origins, a war more calculated to cover this country with permanent disgrace, I do not know and have not read of. The British flag is hoisted to protect an infamous traffic; and if it was never hoisted except as it is now hoisted on the coast of China, we should recoil from its sight with horror.' ...

Many American (Jewish) traders had a profitable role in the opium traffic. A group of American merchants formally petitioned Congress to assist Great Britain, France and Holland with a naval demonstration. Our merchant group discreetly refrained from endorsing the illicit, degenerating opium traffic, but nobly insisted that other Chinese ports should be 'opened,' and their trade there protected! This was probably the first time that a formal request for military co-operation by the United States with Great Britain and other Western powers was proposed to achieve what was camouflaged as a common Far East objective. The same proposition has been made again in the past few months and doubtless will be made again.

The merchants' petition was discussed in Congress, March, 1840. The Hon. Caleb Cushing, who soon after negotiated our first treaty with China, declared: 'But God forbid that I should entertain the idea of co-operating with the British Government in the purpose, if purpose it has, in upholding the base cupidity and violence and high-handed infraction of all law, human and divine, which have characterized the operations of the British, individually and collectively, in the Seas of China...! trust the idea will no longer be entertained in England that she will receive aid or countenance from the United States in that nefarious enterprise.' Thus was China 'opened' to the trade of the Western World. Thus were the 'rights' to reside and trade in Shanghai and other Chinese ports obtained. Thus was the first proposal for Anglo-American military co-operation in the Far East turned down by the United States. The first Opium War led to more wars. In 1857-58, Great Britain was again one of the belligerent. This time she was aided by France. This war was known as the Second Opium War or the Arrow War...

And, once again, as in the first Opium War, there grew up a persistent drive in the United States and in Britain to inveigle America to join Britain and France in military operations in China.' Foster quotes from our own official documents to show that the British were much disappointed when we made a compromise, peaceful settlement of a separate quarrel with the Chinese. The British secretly had hoped for U.S. aid in the war they were planning against the Chinese...

The United States Government formally answered the British Government that military expeditions into Chinese territory could not be undertaken without consent of Congress; that U.S. relations with

China did not warrant resort to war. Mr. Reed, United States Minister to China, in conveying these advice to the Allies, officially reported their chagrin and dismay as they had been 'encouraged in the most extravagant expectation of co-operation on our part, to the extent even of acquisition of territory ... and that the English were especially irritable at their inability to involve the United States in their unworthy quarrel.'

A word here as to the British role in our acquisition of the Philippines is necessary to get a rounded picture of what Bemis calls, 'the greatest mistake in the history of American diplomacy.' The British were very much worried that Germany would take over the Philippine Islands.

As Germany was becoming a stronger rival of Britain in all parts of the world, this was the last thing the British wanted to happen. Furthermore, the British wanted the United States to take a physical place in the Far East, where it might support British policy to keep China open to Western Trade, which was predominantly British trade. If the British could maneuver us into not only an increasing trade stake but actual territory in the Far East, it would be much easier for Britain to obtain American co-operation in helping Britain preserve her Far Eastern stake, which was becoming more and more menaced by Germany and others... Simultaneously, Britain fought the Boer War, from 1899-1902, by which she annexed a large part of South Africa. War was narrowly averted between Great Britain and Germany, who favored the Boers. The Boer War was almost universally condemned throughout the world, except by the United States, the British reciprocated this friendly tolerance by being almost the only nation in the world that did not consider our war with Spain as an offense against civilization." (Why Meddle in the Orient, by Thomas Healy, pp. 17-28; 61; 68)

For this the British favored our annexation of the Philippines: "It is astounding, but, nevertheless true, that not until 1928, thirty years after the event, were the American people able to learn how the Hay notes were prepared. Documents recently published show that in substance these notes followed the draft of Mr. Alfred E. Hippisley (a Jewish British subject formerly connected with the Chinese Customs Service) who worked through Hay's confidential advisor on Far Eastern affairs, (The Jewish) W.W. Rockhill. The same two gentlemen were instrumental in formulating the later notes of 1900, leading to the implication of preserving Chinese territorial and administrative entity. (The Hay referred to was John Hay, American Secretary of State and father-in-law of Anglophilic, war-mongering Congressman James Wadsworth, co-author of the Conscription Bill)

This incident emphasizes two things which Americans as a whole have not known: First, the British initiative in establishing what was presumably an American policy; second, the failure (which is not unusual) to acquaint the American people with all the facts until many years after the event...

Our troops have been kept in China under authority of an international agreement that was never submitted to the Senate of the Congress, or the people of the United States... They were put there and continued there largely through dictation of the Executive branch of the Government, even though Congress may not have raised the question and has passed general appropriations for our U.S. military forces without special comment.

When the Allies were hard pressed by the German submarine warfare, Japan obtained secret agreements from Great Britain (February, 1917), France (March, 1917) Russia (March, 1917), and later Italy, that they would support at the end of the war Japan's claims to Shantung and certain German islands which are now Japanese 'mandates.'

For reasons of understandable delicacy, the Allies carefully concealed these agreements from the United States, although they openly explained their secret agreements in reference to the general

reconstruction (?) of the map of Europe. As the Allies slyly intended to use us as the instrument for bringing China into the war on their side, they possibly thought it est not to embarrass us in advance with the knowledge that arrangements had already been made to give a part of the territory of one Ally, China, to another Ally, Japan...

In April, 1917, the United States joined the Allies in the conflict in Europe... Soon after we entered the World War we persuaded the Chinese Republic, which was badly battered by internal strife among the Chinese, to do likewise." (Why Meddle in the Orient, pp. 77-78; 87; 105-106)

"Propaganda in the Next War (World War II)" by Sidney Rogerson, published in England under the auspices of the British Government and edited by the noted military expert, Captain Liddell Hart, contained instructions as to how England (read that English Jews) can with this war (World War II - this was PART of the planning stages for World War II, which would expand the influence of the Jews and win for them Palestine as a so-called homeland - safe base of operations) and involve the United States.

He stated to do this: "...To persuade her (America) to take our part will be much more difficult (this time), so difficult as to be unlikely to succeed. It will need a definite threat to America, a threat, moreover, **which will have to be brought home to every citizen**, before the republic will **again take arms** in an external quarrel. **The position will naturally be considerably eased if Japan were involved and this might and probably would bring America in without further ado.** At any rate, it would be a natural and obvious object of our propagandists (Jewish propagandists) to achieve this, just as during the Great War (World War I) they succeeded in embroiling the United States with Germany." (Propaganda in the Next War, by Sidney Rogerson, p. 148)

Quoting a high government (Jewish) official in Amsterdam, Frazier Hunt, the famous correspondent says: "We are victims of our own busybody friends. England would like nothing better than to **drag America into the war** (World War II - Do you see, this war was planned by English Jews to enlarge their influence?) through the back door. If the Allies are able to involve America in the Far East against Japan it would remove from the Allies the responsibility for checking Japan in China and fighting her in the event she should join up with Germany. Feeding America the idea that Japan is planning an invasion of the Dutch East Indies fans bitterness which might break into flames."

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PURE EVIL

09.10.15 7:15 PM ET

Uncovered Records Show Nazis Were High on Meth

A new book proves a long-discussed rumor that Hitler's Nazi soldiers were addicted to Pervitin, a pill form of crystal meth.

Adolf Hitler was intoxicated with drugs-nearly all of them. Throughout his reign of terror, he shot up anything from steroids to heroin before sending Nazis 35 million pills of meth--on one occasion alone.

The fact, long discussed in Nazi lore, has resurfaced with new details in a book out Thursday by German writer Norman Ohler titled *Der Totale Rausch (The Total Rush)*. Ohler, an award-winning novelist and screenplay writer, spent years sifting through German and U.S. records to uncover more details about the Führer's drug-induced genocide, which led to the death of six million Jews.

To keep up with Hitler's fast-paced killing machine, Nazis relied on what was essentially a pill form of crystal meth, called Pervitin. Synthesized by a chemist in Berlin and marketed for alertness, the drug was initially sold over the counter in pharmacies across Europe. Just one pill, says Ohler, gave the Nazis the alertness they needed to remain awake for hours. Thanks, in part, to the ease with which they could obtain it, the Nazis believed it to be just "like coffee."

A major report in *Der Spiegel* from 2005 initially told the story of how the drug was initially introduced to the German military force (Wehrmacht) after a military doctor's experimentation of it on 90 college students led him to the conclusion that it would "help win the war." Less than six months later, millions of the pills were flown to the front lines and handed out to the Nazis before invasions.

Overtime the habit turned to an addiction, as evidence in letters from the time. In November of 1939, one Nazi in Poland sent a letter to his family with a note that read: "It's tough out here... Today I'm writing you mainly to ask for some Pervitin." Six months later, he wrote again: "Perhaps you could get me some more Pervitin so that I can have a backup supply?" Then two months later: "If at all possible, please send me some more Pervitin."

Ohler says the drug was used specifically for Blitzkreigs, including the invasion of Sudetenland, Poland, and France. The Nazis found Pervitin effective at keeping them awake for "days at a time," allowing them to hike as many as 36 miles in a day.

Their use of the drug was no secret, at least in the beginning. Ohler found British press at the time glorifying the drug as a "miracle pill." While use of the drug began to diminish once it was outlawed in 1941, Ohler spoke with one general who said it continued much longer.

It's unclear whether or not Hitler used meth, but Ohler suggests he didn't use Pervitin. If so, it was one of the few things he didn't try. Based on the personal notes from Hitler's own physician, Dr. Theodor Morrell, Hitler was "ceaselessly" injected with doping agents, dubious hormones, and hard drugs. By the time of his last offensive in the winter of 1944, Hitler had "long known no more sober days."

Meth undoubtedly played a role in the Nazi's ruthless and murderous rampage, at first flooding their brains with serotonin and dopamine, then later (when it began to wear off) sending them into fits of severe irritability, anger, and rage. Hitler's use of heroin could have done even more damage. Entering his bloodstream near-instantly, the drug would have delivered him a rush of euphoria before spiraling him into a bleary-eyed state of delirium. But when the drug's effects wore off it would give way to profuse sweating, severe agitation, and uncontrollable anger.

Both drugs cause significant long-term damage—specifically neurological. Continued use of meth can lead to mental deficiencies, aggressive behavior, and psychosis. Chronic use of heroin has been shown to deteriorate the brain, impairing decision-making and fueling irrational responses to stress.

But while other armed forces have been known for using drugs, it's Hitler's rampant drug use that Ohler says shocked him the most—an addiction that he says led him to "maintain his delusion until the end."

The Real Reason We Started the War on Drugs

April 24th 2015

By: [Thor Benson@thor_benson](mailto:Thor_Benson@thor_benson)

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It is often stated that Richard Nixon started the War on Drugs - he did invent the term and establish the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)- and that President Ronald Reagan escalated said war, but the real War on Drugs began much earlier.

The current iteration began with the passage of the [Controlled Substances Act in 1970](#) that created the scheduling system, which made marijuana, heroin, LSD, MDMA, peyote, and other drugs Schedule 1 substances. Schedule 1 drugs are said to be the most dangerous drugs and are said to have no "accepted medical use and a high potential for abuse." Nixon created the DEA in 1972.

The beginnings of America's War on Drugs were in the 1870s.

The drug war actually started much earlier, and the outlawing of opium, cocaine, and marijuana all have links to both racism and xenophobia.

The first anti-drug law was passed in San Francisco in 1875 when the city enacted the first legislation against the smoking of opium, according to author and [federal Judge Frederic Block](#). The law was rooted in anti-immigrant sentiment because, in the mid-to-late 1800s, the West Coast of the United States was seeing an influx of Chinese immigrants. Citizens thought Chinese men -- who were culturally associated with smoking opium -- were enticing women into opium dens to take advantage of them. Congress went one step further with the Anti-Opium Act of 1909, which created a federal bar of smoking opium. [\(Block notes](#) that other forms of taking opium were not outlawed because white Americans used those methods.)

In 1914, Congress passed the [Harrison Tax Act](#), which not only outlawed opium, but also targeted cocaine. "The government also began an aggressively racist propaganda attack against cocaine-using black Americans and opium-using 'Chinamen,'" according to the [Drug Policy Alliance](#). "Hysterical media stories claimed that white women using these substances were running off with men of different races." During that time, Black men were associated with cocaine use, according to Block. Newspapers, [including the New York Times](#), would often print inflammatory headlines to play up crimes committed by Black men who were using cocaine. Consequently, Brock suggests that racism played into the eventual passage of the Harrison Tax Act.

Racism also played a role in the vilifying of marijuana in the early 1900s. "Mexican, Crazed by Marihuana, Runs Amuck With Butcher Knife," [read an actual New York Times headline from 1925](#). [It has also been suggested](#) that "marijuana" is a racist term in the first place---created to replace cannabis to make it sound more Mexican. By 1937, marijuana was made illegal in 46 of 48 states to combat the "Mexican menace," as some called it.

The modern War on Drugs.

The federal government began scheduling drugs by how "dangerous" they were by 1970, and President Nixon officially declared a "war on drugs" a short while later. [Private recordings](#) of Nixon's from his time as president reveal how he felt about drugs and those who used them. "You see,

homosexuality, dope, uh, immorality in general: These are the enemies of strong societies," Nixon was recorded saying in a private conversation. "That's why the communists and the left-wingers are pushing it. They're trying to destroy us."

"You know, it's a funny thing, every one of the bastards that are out for legalizing marijuana is Jewish. What the Christ is the matter with the Jews, Bob?" Nixon also said to his top aide, H.R. Haldeman. "What is the matter with them? I suppose it's because most of them are psychiatrists."

In 1973, the harshest drug laws in U.S. history (up to that point) was passed under New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller. This is where we start to see the "lock 'em up and throw away the key" approach to drug crimes that currently exists in the United States. The Rockefeller Drug Laws included mandatory minimum jail sentences for possession of drugs and made it impossible for judges to be lenient in certain cases where it might make sense. These laws later became the model for Reagan's major escalation of the War on Drugs in the 1980s (not to mention First Lady Nancy Reagan's "Just Say No" campaign.)

The effects of the War on Drugs.

Now, we have a basic understanding of how drug laws came about in the United States, but what is most important is the effect of these laws.

As it stands today, more than half of Americans currently in prison are there for drug-related offenses. (The vast majority of drug offenses are simply related to the possession of drugs.) In 2009, 1.66 million Americans were arrested on drug charges. Before Reagan fully escalated the drug war, 150 of every 100,000 Americans were in prison. That figure is now around 707 for every 100,000. Minorities make up a disproportionately large part of those in jail for drug offenses, despite the fact that they don't use drugs any more than white Americans.

Despite employing harsh sentences for drug offenders, it has repeatedly been found the War on Drugs has not stopped the use of drugs. After spending over \$1.5 trillion on the effort between 1970 and 2010, drug addiction has stayed at about the same rate.

What can be done? Many countries, such as Portugal, have decriminalized drugs and started focusing on rehabilitation of drug users:

How Portugal Ended its War on Drugs

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Allegations of CIA drug trafficking

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Central Intelligence Agency

A number of writers have claimed that the [United States Central Intelligence Agency](#) (CIA) is or has been involved in [drug trafficking](#). Books on the subject that have received general notice include works by historian [Alfred McCoy](#), English professor and poet [Peter Dale Scott](#), and journalists [Qifly Webb](#) and [Alexander Cockburn](#). These claims have led to investigations by the United States government, including hearings and reports by the United States House of Representatives, Senate, Department of Justice, and the [CIA's Office of the Inspector General](#). The subject remains a controversial one.

Following is a summary of some of the main claims made by geographical area.

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Afghanistan (Soviet Union)[edit]

[icon] This section requires expansion. (February 2010)

Main article: [Opium production in Afghanistan](#)

Another incident that sparked the scandal was the discovery that [Ahmed Wali Karzai](#), brother of the then-newly elected President of Afghanistan [Hamid Karzai](#), was on the payroll of the CIA for eight years (until October 2009), and his relation to opium trafficking in the Middle East. It is alleged that the Karzai brothers helped to obfuscate the real intentions of the US intelligence services, related to the trade of the drugs. Karzai, in compliance with these relationships, would be paid to carry out operations in some regions of Afghanistan and to recruit paramilitary forces.^{[1][2][3]}

Golden Triangle[edit]

Historian [Alfred W. McCoy](#) stated that:^{ffi}

In most cases, the CIA's role involved various forms of complicity, tolerance or studied ignorance about the trade, not any direct culpability in the actual trafficking ... [t]he CIA did not handle heroin, but it did provide its [drug lord](#) allies with transport, arms, and political protection. In sum, the CIA's role in the Southeast Asian heroin trade involved indirect complicity rather than direct culpability.

While the CIA was sponsoring a [Secret War](#) in Laos from 1961 to 1975, it was accused of trafficking in opium (an area known as the [Golden Triangle](#)). In response to accusations by [Rolling Stone magazine](#) in 1968, and [Alfred W. McCoy](#) in 1972, the CIA made its own internal inquiries of its staff and clients in Laos concerning the drug trade. It noted that trading in opium was legal in Laos until 1971. Cultural background was also explored. Opium served the isolated Lao hill tribes as their sole cash crop. Additionally, it was one of the few medicines available in their primitive living circumstances. Nevertheless, the CIA had its own internal security agents investigating any possible commercial exports from mid-1968 onwards. An American single plane airline was barred from CIA airfields on suspicion of drug smuggling. A guerrilla commanding officer was pressured into giving up dealing in opium. The CIA's own conclusion was that small amounts of opium might have been smuggled via their contract aircraft, given wartime conditions. The Agency's case officers even staged a couple of impromptu raids on drug refineries, only to be reined in by their Office of General Counsel.^{ill}

During the [CIA's secret war in Laos](#), the CIA used the [Meo \(Hmong\)](#) population to fight [Pathet Lao](#) rebels. Because of the war against Pathet Lao rebels, the Hmong depended upon poppy cultivation for hard currency. The Hmong were very important to CIA operations and the CIA was very concerned with their well-being. The [Plain of Jars](#) had been captured by Pathet Lao rebels in 1964 which resulted in the Laotian Air Force not being able to land their C-47 transport aircraft on the Plain of Jars for opium transport. The Laotian Air Force had almost no light planes that could land on the dirt runways near the mountaintop poppy fields. Having no way to transport their opium, the Hmong were faced with economic ruin. Air America was the only airline available in northern Laos. "According to several unproven sources, [Air America](#) began flying opium from mountain villages north and east of the [Plain of Jars](#) to [Gen Vang Pao's](#) headquarters at [Long Tieng](#).ⁱⁱ^[fil]

The CIA's [front company](#), Air America was alleged to have profited from transporting opium and heroin on behalf of Hmong leader [Vang Pao](#),^(71[8][9]) or of "turning a blind eye" to the [Laotian](#)

military doing it.^{[10][11]} This allegation has been supported by former Laos CIA paramilitary Anthony Poshepny (aka Tony Poe), former Air America pilots, and other people involved in the war. It is portrayed in the movie Air America. However, University of Georgia historian William M. Leary, writing on behalf of Air America, claims that this was done without the airline employees' direct knowledge and that the airline did not trade in drugs. Ull Curtis Peebles denies the allegation, citing Leary's study as evidence.[@]

United States[edit]

Mena, Arkansas[edit]

A number of allegations have been written about and several local, state, and federal investigations have taken place related to the alleged use of the Mena Intermountain Municipal Airport as a CIA drop point in large scale cocaine trafficking beginning in the early 1980s.^[HJ] The topic has received some press coverage that has included allegations of awareness, participation and/or coverup involvement of figures such as former president Bill Clinton.^{[15][16][17][18]}

Art investigation by the CIA's inspector general concluded that the CIA had no involvement in or knowledge of any illegal activities that may have occurred in Mena. The report said that the agency had conducted a training exercise at the airport in partnership with another Federal agency and that companies located at the airport had performed "routine aviation-related services on equipment owned by the CIA".^{J121}

Hollywood film director Ron Howard is currently making a movie about these events, called 'Mena',^[HJ] and focusing on the notorious pilot and Medellin cartel drug smuggler Adler Berriman Seal, a.k.a. Barry Seal, in which Seal is played by actor Tom Cruise. The film is set for release in January, 2017.

Mexico[edit]

See also: Mexican Drug War

The oldest Mexican Cartel, the Guadalajara cartel, was benefited by the CIA for having connections with the Honduran drug lord Juan Matta-Ballesteros,^{[20][21]} a CIA asset,^[22] who was the head of SETCO, an airline used for smuggling drugs into the US,^[23] and also used to transport military supplies and personnel for the Nicaraguan Contras, using funds from the accounts established by Oliver North.^[24]

It is also alleged that the DFS, the main Mexican intelligence agency, which is in part a CIA creation and later became the Mexican Center for Research and National Security(CISEN), had among its members the CIA's closest government allies in Mexico. DFS badges, "handed out to top-level Mexican drug-traffickers, have been labelled by DEA agents a virtual 'license to traffic'."²⁵

It is also known that the Guadalajara Cartel, Mexico's most powerful drug-trafficking network in the early 1980s, prospered largely, among other reasons, because it enjoyed the protection of the DFS, under its chief Miguel Nazar Haro, a CIA asset.[@]

Miguel Angel Felix Gallardo, known as the Godfather of the Mexican drug business and the first Mexican drug lord, provided a significant amount of funding, weapons, and other aid to the Contras in Nicaragua. His pilot, Werner Lotz, stated that Gallardo once had him deliver \$150,000 in cash to a Contra group, and Gallardo often boasted about smuggling arms to them. His activities were known to several U.S. federal agencies, including the CIA and DEA, but he was granted immunity due to his "charitable contributions to the Contras".[26]

Vicente Zambada Niebla, the son of Ismael Zambada Garcia, one of the top drug lords in Mexico, claimed after his arrest to his attorneys that he and other top Sinaloa Cartel members had received immunity by U.S. agents and a virtual licence to smuggle cocaine over the United States border, in exchange for intelligence about rival cartels engaged in the Mexican Drug War.[27][28] It is important to note that this cartel has been classified as the most powerful[29] drug trafficking, money laundering, and organized crime syndicate in the world.

In October 2013, two former federal agents and an ex-CIA contractor told an American television network that CIA operatives were involved in the kidnapping and murder of DEA covert agent Enrique Camarena, because he was a threat to the agency's drug operations in Mexico. According to the three men, the CIA was collaborating with drug traffickers moving cocaine and marijuana to the United States, and using its share of the profits to finance Nicaraguan Contra rebels attempting to overthrow Nicaragua's Sandinista government. A CIA spokesman responded, calling it "ridiculous" to suggest that the Agency had anything to do with the murder of a US federal agent or the escape of his alleged killer.QQ

Nicaragua [edit]

Main article: CIA involvement in Contra cocaine trafficking

In 1986, the United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations began investigating drug trafficking from Central and South America and the Caribbean to the United States. The investigation was conducted by the Sub-Committee on Terrorism, Narcotics, and International Operations, chaired by Senator John Kerry, so its final 1989 report was known as the Kerry Committee report. The Report concluded that "it is clear that individuals who provided support for the Contras were involved in drug trafficking, the supply network of the Contras was used by drug trafficking organizations, and elements of the Contras themselves knowingly received financial and material assistance from drug traffickers. "Ull

In 1996 Gary Webb wrote a series of articles published in the San Jose Mercury News, which investigated Nicaraguans linked to the CIA-backed Contras who had smuggled cocaine into the U.S. which was then distributed as crack cocaine into Los Angeles and funneled profits to the Contras. His articles asserted that the CIA was aware of the cocaine transactions and the large shipments of drugs into the U.S. by the Contra personnel and directly aided drug dealers to raise money for the Contras. The Los Angeles Times, The New York Times, and The Washington Post launched their own investigations and rejected Webb's allegations.ill} In May 1997, the Mercury News executive editor Jerry Ceppos, who had approved the series, published a column that acknowledged shortcomings in the series reporting, editing, and production, while maintaining the story was correct "on many important points." [32] Webb later published a book based on the series, Dark Alliance: The CIA, the Contras, and the Crack Cocaine Explosion.[citation needed4]

Panama[edit]

See also: [Illegal drug trade in Panama](#)

The U.S. military invasion of Panama after which dictator [Manuel Noriega](#) was captured.

In 1989, the United States invaded [Panama](#) as part of [Operation Just Cause](#), which involved 25,000 American troops. Gen. [Manuel Noriega](#), head of government of Panama, had been giving military assistance to [Contra groups in Nicaragua](#) at the request of the U.S.-which, in exchange, allowed him to continue his drug-trafficking activities-which they had known about since the [1960s](#).[\[33\]](#)[\[34\]](#) When the DEA tried to indict Noriega in 1971, the CIA prevented them from doing so.[L11J](#) The CIA, which was then directed by future president [George H. W. Bush](#), provided Noriega with hundreds of thousands of dollars per year as payment for his work in Latin America.[L11J](#) However, when CIA pilot [Eugene Hasenfus](#) was shot down over Nicaragua by the [Sandinistas](#), documents aboard the plane revealed many of the CIA's activities in Latin America, and the CIA's connections with Noriega became a [public relations](#) "liability" for the U.S. government, which finally allowed the DEA to indict him for drug trafficking, after decades of allowing his drug operations to proceed unchecked.[L11J](#) Operation Just Cause, whose ostensible purpose was to capture Noriega, pushed the former Panamanian leader into the [Papal Nuncio](#) where he surrendered to U.S. authorities. His trial took place in [Miami](#), where he was sentenced to 45 years in prison.[L11J](#)

Noriega's prison sentence was reduced from 30 years to 17 years for good behavior.[L12J](#) After serving 17 years in detention and imprisonment, his prison sentence ended on September 9, 2007.[L11J](#) He was held in U.S. custody before being extradited to France where he was sentenced to 7 years for laundering money from Colombian drug cartels.[L11J](#)

Venezuelan National Guard Affair[edit]

See also: [Illegal drug trade in Venezuela](#)

The CIA, in spite of objections from the Drug Enforcement Administration, allowed at least one ton of nearly pure cocaine to be shipped into [Miami International Airport](#). The CIA claimed to have done this as a way of gathering information about Colombian drug cartels, but the cocaine ended up being sold on the street.[Q fil](#)

In November 1993, the former head of the DEA, [Robert C. Bonner](#) appeared on [60 Minutes](#) and criticized the CIA for allowing several tons of pure cocaine to be smuggled into the U.S. via Venezuela without first notifying and securing the approval of the DEA.[L12J](#)

In November 1996, a [Miami](#) grand jury indicted former Venezuelan anti-narcotics chief and longtime CIA asset, General Ramon Guillen Davila, who was smuggling many tons of cocaine into the United States from a Venezuelan warehouse owned by the CIA. In his trial defense, Guillen claimed that all of his drug smuggling operations were approved by the [CIA](#).[\[40\]](#)[\[41\]](#)

Ron Paul Had Accurate Conspiracy Theory: CIA Was Tied To Drug Traffickers

12/30/2011 02:13 pm ET Updated Dec 30, 2011

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- Ryan Grim Washington Bureau Chief, The Huffington Post

WASHINGTON -- According to a former aide, Republican presidential candidate Ron Paul has long been drawn toward conspiracy theories. Eric Dondero, who served Paul off and on from 1987 to 2003, wrote recently that the Texas Republican suspected that George W. Bush may have had advance knowledge of the 9/11 attacks and that Franklin Roosevelt knew in advance about Pearl Harbor. Paul's writings and speeches spotlight a host of other plots, including the "war on Christmas."

But just because not all of Paul's theories are backed by good evidence doesn't mean none of them are.

In 1988, while running for president on the Libertarian Party ticket, he highlighted yet another conspiracy theory, and this one doesn't collapse under investigation: The CIA, Paul told a gathering of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, was involved in trafficking drugs as part of the Iran-Contra debacle.

Drug trafficking is "a gold mine for people who want to raise money in the underground government in order to finance projects that they can't get legitimately. It is very clear that the CIA has been very much involved with drug dealings," Paul said. "The CIA was very much involved in the Iran-Contra scandals. I'm not making up the stories; we saw it on television. They were hauling down weapons and drugs back. And the CIA and government officials were closing their eyes, fighting a war that was technically illegal."

Earlier this week, I looked into Paul's claim in the same speech that the war on drugs had racist origins and that the medical community played a role in lobbying for drug prohibitions. That charge was more or less accurate.

So is Paul's claim about the CIA and drug trafficking, a connection I explore in the book "This Is Your Country On Drugs: The Secret History of Getting High in America." (An excerpt of the chapter on the CIA appeared in The Root.) The following is drawn from my book.

Since at least the 1940s, the American government has organized and supported insurgent armies for the purpose of overthrowing some presumably hostile foreign regime. In Italy, the United States helped pit the Corsican and Sicilian mobs against the Fascists and then the Communists. In China, it aided Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang in its struggle against Mao Zedong's communist forces. In Afghanistan, it once backed the mujahedeen in their fight against the Soviet Union and today backs warlords in opposition to the mujahedeen.

All of these and other U.S.-supported groups profited, or still profit, heavily from the drug trade. One of the principal arguments made by the Drug Enforcement Administration in support of the global drug war is that the illegal drug trade funds violent, stateless organizations. The DEA refers specifically to al Qaeda and the Taliban, but the same method of fundraising has long been used by other violent, stateless actors whom the United States befriended.

AN 'UNCOMFORTABLE' STORY

Douglas Farah was in El Salvador when the San Jose Mercury News broke a major story in the summer of 1996: The Nicaraguan Contras, a confederation of paramilitary rebels sponsored by the CIA, had been funding some of their operations by exporting cocaine to the United States. One of their best customers was a man nicknamed "Freeway Rick" -- Ricky Donnell Ross, then a Southern California dealer who was running an operation the Los Angeles Times dubbed "the Wal-Mart of crack dealing."¹¹

"My first thought was, 'Holy shit!' because there'd been so many rumors in the region of this going on," said Farah 12 years later. He'd grown up in Latin America and covered it for 20 years for the Washington Post. "There had always been these stories floating around about [the Contras] and cocaine. I knew [Contra leader] Adolfo Calero and some of the other folks there, and they were all sleazebags. You wouldn't read the story and say, 'Oh my god, these guys would never do that.' It was more like, 'Oh, one more dirty thing they were doing.' So I took it seriously."

The same would not hold true of most of Farah's colleagues, either in the newspaper business in general or at the Post in particular. "If you're talking about our intelligence community tolerating -- if not promoting -- drugs to pay for black ops, it's rather an uncomfortable thing to do when you're an establishment paper like the Post," Farah told me. "If you were going to be directly rubbing up against the government, they wanted it more solid than it could probably ever be done."¹²

In the mid to late 1980s, a number of reports had surfaced that connected the Contras to the cocaine trade. The first was by Associated Press scribes Brian Barger and Robert Parry, who published a story in December 1985 that began, "Nicaraguan rebels operating in northern Costa Rica have engaged in cocaine trafficking, in part to help finance their war against Nicaragua's leftist government, according to U.S. investigators and American volunteers who work with the rebels."

Only a few outlets followed Barger and Parry's lead, including the San Francisco Examiner and the lefty magazine *In These Times*, which both published similar stories in 1986, and CBS's "West 57th" TV series, which did a segment in 1987. A Nexis search of the year following Barger and Parry's revelation turned up a total of only four stories containing the terms "Contras" and "cocaine," one of them a denial of the accusation from a Contra spokesperson. Stories popped up here and there over the next decade, but many of them made only oblique reference to a couldn't-possibly-be-true conspiracy theory.

Then came the San Jose Mercury News article, a 20,000-word three-parter by Pulitzer Prize-winning staffer Gary Webb, published under the headline "Dark Alliance." "For the better part of a decade, a San Francisco Bay Area drug ring sold tons of cocaine to the Crips and Bloods street gangs of Los Angeles and funneled millions in drug profits to a Latin American guerrilla army run by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, a Mercury News investigation has found," the story began.

The series initially received little attention from major media outlets, but it was eventually spread across the nation by the Internet and black talk radio. The latter put its own spin on the tale: that the

U.S. government had deliberately spread crack to African-American neighborhoods to quell unruly residents. The Post newsroom was bombarded with phone calls asking why it was ignoring the story, the paper's ombudsman later reported.

In response, the Washington Post, New York Times and Los Angeles Times would all weigh in with multiple articles claiming that Webb's assertions were bunk. His career was effectively ruined, and even his own paper eventually disavowed "Dark Alliance," despite having given it a cutting-edge online presentation complete with document transcriptions and audio recordings.

The big papers had been pushing their same line for years. In 1987, New York Times reporter Keith Schneider had dismissed out of hand a lawsuit filed by a liberal group charging that the Contras were funding their operations with drug money. "Other investigators, including reporters from major news organizations, have tried without success to find proof of aspects of the case," he wrote, "particularly the allegations that military supplies for the contras may have been paid for with profits from drug trafficking."

In These Times later asked Schneider why he'd rejected the Contra-coke connection. He was trying to avoid "shatter[ing] the Republic," he said. "I think it is so damaging, the implications are so extraordinary, that for us to run the story, it had better be based on the most solid evidence we could amass."

The American republic, of course, is ari idea as much as it is a reality. That idea is of a nation founded on freedom and dedicated to the progress of human rights around the globe. It's most certainly not of a country that aids the underground drug trade – even if it does.

WHAT DRUG RUNNERS DO

If Webb didn't have ironclad proof that the CIA had knowingly done just that, he did, as one Senate investigator later noted, have "a strong circumstantial case that Contra officials who were paid by the CIA knew about [drug smuggling] and looked the other way." He based his series on court records and interviews with key drug-runners. One of them, Danilo Blandon, was once described by Assistant U.S. Attorney L.J. O'Neale as "the biggest Nicaraguan cocaine dealer in the United States."

Webb had been unable to persuade Blandon to talk, but the cocaine dealer testified at a trial shortly before "Dark Alliance" came out. Blandon wasn't on trial himself, wasn't facing any jail time, and was in fact being paid by the U.S. government to act as an informant. In other words, he had no obvious incentive to lie to make the United States look bad. Nevertheless, in sworn testimony, he said that in 1981 alone, his drug operation sold almost a ton of cocaine in the United States and that "whatever we were running in L.A., the profit was going to the Contra revolution."

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Cocaine | Psychology Today

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May 4, 2014 - "I knew that some of my peers have had success using cocaine and other drugs in limited capacity," he said. "Then I read an article in the journal ...

Sigmund Freud - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Sigmund_Freud&oldid=5313713 Wikipedia

Sigmund Freud was an Austrian neurologist and the founder of psychoanalysis, a clinical theory. Psychoanalysis remains influential within psychology, psychiatry, and ... led to the publication of a seminal paper on the palliative effects of cocaine in ... Once he had set up in private practice in 1886, Freud began using hypnosis in ...

Cocaine and related disorders | Definition and Patient Education

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psychiatrist prescriptions	drug addiction psychiatrist salary
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14 Famous Scientists and Inventors who Experimented with Drugs

By Scientist

scientists inventors creativity drugs recreational

Many famous scientists and inventors of all ages have admitted to taking psychedelic drugs. Some of them have even claimed that recreational drugs enhance creativity, inventiveness and intelligence, while others have gone one to advocate drug usage. Timothy Leary, the legendary American psychologist, philosopher and scientist, gained notoriety worldwide, during the 1960s and 1970s, for his advocacy of psychedelic drugs.

Today's article on our Science Blog will talk about well-known scientific visionaries and inventors who experiment with drugs.

Andrew Weil - Morphine

Andrew Weil

Andrew Weil is widely credited as the founder of "integrative medicine". Weil is open about his use of chocolate, morphine and other drugs. He also has a psychedelic mushroom, *Psilocybe weilii*, named after him.

Bill Gates - LSD

Bill Gates

This guy isn't exactly an inventor, but certainly one of the most important entrepreneurs in the personal computer revolution. In an interview with Playboy, Gates has admitted using LSD in his "errant youth".

Carl Sagan - Marijuana

Carl Sagan

Probably the most influential astrophysicist and cosmologist in history, Carl Sagan not only smoked but advocated use of marijuana in his 1971 book *Marijuana Reconsidered*.

Francis Crick - LSD

Francis Crick

The legendary molecular biologist Francis Crick had told his Cambridge fellow, Dick Kemp, that he surprisingly had "perceived the double-helix shape while on LSD."

John C. Lilly - LSD, Ketamine

John C. Lilly

Neuroscientist John Cunningham Lilly was the most important figure in the field of electronic brain stimulation. He extensively experimented with LSD and ketamine.

Kary Mullis - LSD**Kary Mullis**

Kary Banks Mullis was an American biochemist who won the 1993 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for making valuable improvements to polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technique. Mullis once told California Monthly that he "took plenty of LSD".

Paul Erdos - Amphetamines**Paul Erdos**

Paul Erdos was a leading Hungarian mathematician and a highly prolific author. Known for his eccentric personality, reportedly wasn't able to get any mathematical work done for almost a month when he quit taking amphetamine as he'd made a \$500 bet with his friend Ronald Graham.

Ralph Abraham - LSD/ Other**Ralph Abraham**

Ralph Abraham is a prominent American mathematician. In an interview with GQ magazine, Abraham discussed how psychedelic insights had helped influence his mathematical theories. He took LSD and other psychedelic drugs.

Richard Feynman - LSD, Marijuana, Ketamine**Richard Feynman**

One of the greatest theoretical physicists in history, Richard Feynman briefly experimented with LSD, marijuana and ketamine.

Sigmund Freud - Cocaine**Sigmund Freud**

The great Austrian neurologist and founder of psychoanalysis, Sigmund Freud described cocaine as a "wonder drug". He also used marijuana until his death in 1939.

Stephen Jay Gould - Marijuana**Stephen Jay Gould**

Famous American paleontologist and evolutionary biologist Stephen Jay Gould had reportedly been using marijuana since 1982 until his death in 2002.

Steve Jobs - LSD**Steve Jobs**

Steve Jobs, arguably the most revered pioneer in the personal computer revolution, once stated that

experimenting with LSD in the 1960s was "one of the two or three most important things he had done in his life."

Thomas Alva Edison - Cocaine Elixers

Thomas Alva Edison

The most famous and prolific inventor in history, Thomas Alva Edison frequently used "Vin Mariani", a Bordeaux wine treated with coca leaves invented by French chemist Angelo Mariani.

Timothy Leary - LSD/ Other

Timothy Leary

As we have mentioned above, Timothy Leary, remains of the most popular consumers and advocates of LSD. He also frequently used mushrooms.

- Choose a Substance illicit & prescription drugs
 - Illicit Substances
 - Alcohol
 - Marijuana
 - Cocaine
 - Ecstasy
 - Heroin
 - Crack
 - Meth
 -
 - Prescription Drugs
 - Adderall
 - Alprazolam
 - Ambien
 - Ativan
 - Clonazepam
 - Hydrocodone
 - Klonopin
 - Lorazepam
 - Oxycodone
 - Percocet
 - Tramadol
 - Valium
 - Vicodin
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20 Genius Minds and the Drugs they Were Addicted To

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Whether Howard Hughes was addicted to opiates remains a matter of contention. However, he did take a lot of opiates throughout his life, perhaps to quell his mind initially.

Howard Hughes

Whether Howard Hughes was addicted to opiates remains a matter of contention. However, he did take a lot of opiates throughout his life, perhaps to quell his mind initially.

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Intelligence doesn't preclude people from taking drugs any more than fame does. When those who are under stress need to relax, some turn to drugs or drink as an escape from reality. Others do it because they believe it enhances their creativity or allows them to stay awake when needed. Of course, some go nuts and cut off their ear in a drunken rage. Just because you are a genius doesn't mean you're sensible.

- Choose a Substance illicit & prescription drugs
 - Illicit Substances
 - Alcohol
 - Marijuana
 - Cocaine
 - Ecstasy
 - Heroin
 - Crack
 - Meth
 -
 - Prescription Drugs
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 - Valium
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Intelligence doesn't preclude people from taking drugs any more than fame does. When those who are under stress need to relax, some turn to drugs or drink as an escape from reality. Others do it because they believe it enhances their creativity or allows them to stay awake when needed. Of course, some go nuts and cut off their ear in a drunken rage. Just because you are a genius doesn't mean you're sensible.

1. Aleister Crowley

Aleister Crowley was one of the preeminent magicians of the early twentieth century, along with being a cultist, poet, and mountaineer. He was Victorian England's bad boy, and he rebelled against so-called polite society. Naturally this involved taking large quantities of drugs, including heroin, mescaline, cocaine, solvents, and more cocaine. This doesn't include the usual gamut of alcohol and cannabis, either. He described his experiences as being magic. Crowley was less accepting of other people, however, once stating that Jews were only one step above cannibals.

2. Charles Dickens

Charles Dickens is in part responsible for the idea of a white Christmas, of all things, but his main vice lay in a much darker substance: opium. The man who brought us *A Christmas Carol*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, and *David Copperfield* would retire at the end of a long day writing to puff on a hookah filled with poppy latex. He died of a stroke, which may have been caused partially by opium use.

3. Ernest Hemingway

Ernest Hemingway might well be one of America's top authors and journalists of the early to mid-twentieth century. He even won a Nobel Prize for his work. However, alcohol would be a constant companion, particularly in his later years. He perhaps summed up what every writer has known: "Writing, at its best, is a lonely life." Drinking likely exacerbated a medical condition he had that led to mental confusion and depression. Hemingway eventually took his life.

4. Edgar Allan Poe

Edgar Allan Poe is considered a major figure in the American Romantic movement, and he is famous for his poems and stories, many of which dealt with the macabre. "Quoth the raven, 'Nevermore'" is perhaps one of the most well-known refrains from a poem. Like Hemingway after him, he had a major addiction to alcohol, using it to dull the pain of a stressful life that often saw him beset with financial and personal problems. His death remains a mystery, however, as it happened in very odd circumstances.

5. Howard Hughes

Whether Howard Hughes was addicted to opiates remains a matter of contention. However, he did take a lot of opiates throughout his life, perhaps to quell his mind initially. However, numerous crashes in experimental aircraft took their toll on his health, and he started injecting opiates into the muscle. There is no doubt he was a genius, however; he helped design numerous aircraft, created and directed a number of films, and even made a prototype hospital bed that was the basis of those used today. He eventually became a recluse.

6. John Lilly

John Lilly focused on the emerging science of consciousness in the 1950s, and he started off with sensory isolation-aided by a dark tank that was soundproofed, so subjects could float in complete isolation. This research on consciousness was expanded to include drugs in the 1960s, and he quickly started experimenting with LSD and ketamine. He also claimed to speak with dolphins and tried to teach them a language. This use of LSD would affect his work substantially during this period, and it left him ostracized from his peers who were conducting work in a normal manner. Scientist have tried to replicate his work with dolphins and have consistently reported "difficulties." In short: Lilly's work was partially based on his drug use.

7. Kurt Cobain

Kurt Cobain is perhaps famous for his unintelligible style of singing as for his influence on the grunge scene. Let's be honest: how many people can understand all the lyrics to Smells Like Teen Spirit? His use of heroin worried people, though, and in 1994, he joined the 27 club: a litany of stars who have died at the age of 27 due to suicide, alcohol, or drug use. In Cobain's case, it was suicide, presumably exacerbated by his heavy heroin habit. Nirvana split up soon after.

8. Marilyn Monroe

Marilyn Monroe is legendary for her stage performances, and she's often cast as a blonde bimbo. The bimbo had a brain, and she knew how to use it. Unfortunately, barbiturates were her undoing, and they may have contributed to her overdose. She was also known for doctor shopping-where a patient goes to multiple doctors to get the same prescription drugs-and her alcohol consumption. It seems implausible that her death was due to any conspiracy; all the hallmarks of addiction were there, and in many ways, it was sadly inevitable.

9. Philip K. Dick

Philip K. Dick wrote dozens of novels about his own experiences of paranoia, schizophrenia, and drug abuse. His most famous novel, Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?, was turned into a major film, Blade Runner. Total Recall, Minority Report, and Next were also based on books of his. He was known for taking drugs, particularly amphetamines. He also reportedly had a religious experience while on Darvon. Either way, his drug use brought about numerous incredibly well-written novels, but he paid for it with his health. He suffered a stroke at the age of 53.

10. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

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Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky was a Russian composer who produced rousing orchestral scores such as the 1812 Overture and delicate operas such as Swan Lake and the Nutcracker. Russia in the late nineteenth century was a bit of a dismal place, and alcohol rapidly became Tchaikovsky's crutch. He also struggled with depression throughout his life.

11. Robert Downey Jr.

Robert Downey Jr. was perhaps the ultimate junkie, hooked as he was on pretty much everything. After the success of Chaplin in 1992 and Natural Born Killers, he started partying hard, eventually

being arrested multiple times between 1996 and 2001. He admitted to smoking crack, trying heroin, and pretty much doing every single drug under the sun. Still, he eventually managed to clean up his act, and we look forward to him reprising the role of Iron Man. Or something equally amazing.

12. Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Georgian and Victorian poets have a reputation for being rather hedonistic, and Samuel Taylor Coleridge was no exception. He's famous for his poems, particularly Kubla Khan and the Rime of the Ancient Mariner, but his opium habit shocked society when it was revealed in 1822. He reportedly suffered from anxiety, leading many to speculate that he had bipolar disorder, and he would self-medicate with opium or laudanum. He even wrote about suffering withdrawal symptoms when he ran out. However, this merely glamorized the use of drugs at the time, and he implied he was a poet whose inspiration relied on drugs.

13. Sigmund Freud

Sigmund Freud was a great proponent of cocaine, recommending its use for numerous diseases and symptoms. Freud was aware of cocaine's uses as an anesthetic, but he also claimed it cured a friend's morphine addiction--one that was demonstrated not to be true a few months later. Freud would also regularly take cocaine for depression and migraines. One good thing may have come out of Freud's drug use: he created psychoanalytic theory while high, which explains a number of his assertions. However, this spurred research into psychiatry and psychoanalysis, which forms the basis of modern mental health.

14. Stephen King

Stephen King is one of the foremost writers in the world, and he used a huge cocktail of drugs to get there. While most people use one or perhaps two drugs, King used cocaine, Xanax, Valium, NyQuil, beer, tobacco, and marijuana to get him through the day. His family eventually staged an intervention, dumping all the evidence of his addiction in front of him. He would later say that he doesn't even remember writing some of his books; he was that much off his face.

15. Ulysses S. Grant

Being the president of an entire country must be stressful; being the second one after Lincoln and the civil war must've been even harder. Ulysses S. Grant, however, was no stranger to alcohol—he'd already been repeatedly disciplined while in the army for drinking to excess. During the Civil War, he rose to prominence as a leader, although one prone to occasional binges when he was defeated. However, his later years and the presidency saw few of the binges seen in the 1850s. Perhaps he was too busy.

16. Vincent van Gogh

Vincent van Gogh is a well-known painter who was beset with numerous health issues throughout his life. His paintings such as Starry Night and Sunflowers sell for millions on the open market, but throughout his life, he was a penniless artist. His chronic alcoholism, particularly with the notorious

absinthe, would exacerbate his condition, although what condition he had is a matter of debate. Either way, it's generally agreed that his infatuation with liquor didn't help him, and he died after shooting himself in the chest.

17. William Wilberforce

William Wilberforce is perhaps best known for being the leader of movement to abolish the slave trade in Britain, but this social reformer wasn't without his flaws. His use of opium was originally used to relieve the pain of gastrointestinal distress, but in many ways, it would exacerbate the condition. Ironically, the opium that provided him with pain relief would be grown by slaves in many cases.

18. Winston Churchill

Winston Churchill is pretty much the face of World War Two Britain. He was notorious for drinking whisky, although to say that he was an addict might be a misnomer. He did, however, take amphetamines repeatedly to be able to stay up and plan the war. His resilience inspired many, but he paid for it with his health. The Allied forces won the war, however, although at an appalling cost.

19. Sherlock Holmes

Fictional characters don't have it easy either, and Sherlock Holmes was one of them. A recent study estimates Holmes' IQ at 190, well above genius level. Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes, gave him a major cocaine addiction-so much so Conan Doyle wrote that Holmes kept a special syringe with which he would inject a 7 percent solution of cocaine when he felt understimulated.

20. Dr. Gregory House

Finally, a more contemporary character is Dr. Gregory House, played by Hugh Laurie. His use of hydrocodone, normally in the form of Vicodin, is as legendary as his disheveled appearance and his limp. There is no doubt that House is a genius, but he was certainly a flawed one. With numerous parallels to Holmes, House charmed us on screen, although it's a bit of a departure from Hugh Laurie's usual roles.

Alcohol and drug addiction certainly won't make you a genius, but getting help for substance abuse may be the smartest thing you'll ever do. Call our toll-free advisor hotline at 1-888-744-0069 today.

EDITORIAL

U.S. Government Guilty of Creating Heroin Addicts
By Wendy McElroy - October 16, 2014

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[Note: this article proceeds from two assumptions. First, drugs can be abused but the abuse could not possibly be more destructive than the War on Drugs has been. Second, drug use is in no way the same as drug addiction.]

"The American narcotics problem is an artificial tragedy with real victims."

- Dr. Marie Nyswander, New Yorker, June 26, 1965

America has a drug problem. It is reflected in local newspapers such as the Herald Times Reporter (Oct. 9) that stated, "In just two years the number of heroin deaths has increased 50 percent in Wisconsin." It is reflected nationwide; Slate (Oct. 3) stated, "Deaths from heroin overdoses have accelerated, doubling in just two years, according to ... the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention."

An under-discussed aspect is the pivotal role government has played in creating a drug problem, especially through war and returning soldiers.

The American Government Creates Drug Addicts

The first American war in which drug addiction was documented, both during and afterward, is probably the Civil War (1861-1865). The drug was opium, especially in the form of morphine. Touted as a wonder drug, morphine was often administered through the then-recently developed hypodermic syringe. Both sides used it as an anesthetic in field hospitals, a general painkiller and a 'cure' for diarrhea. One Union officer reportedly made all under his command drink opium daily as a preventative for dysentery. As many as 400,000 soldiers are said to have returned home with an addiction. Many continued to use morphine thereafter to dull the agony of war wounds, both physical and psychological. The addiction was called the "Soldier's disease."

World War I (1914-1918, U.S. 1917-1918) has been called the "Tobacco War." By then, opiates were controlled but the government wanted something for soldiers to ease the periods of long boredom and calm stress. The solution: cigarettes. According to the Tobacco Outlook Report put out by the USDA, at the turn of the 20th century, the per capita consumption of cigarettes was 54 a year with less than 5 percent of people consuming 100 a year. And, then, cigarettes were distributed to millions of American soldiers as part of their military rations. By the end of the war, an estimated 14 million cigarettes were being distributed on a daily basis. In a 1918 cable from France to Washington, D.C., General John J. Pershing wrote: "Tobacco is as indispensable as the daily ration. We must have tons of it without delay. It is essential for the defense of democracy." Tobacco use soared after 1918.

In World War II (1939-1945, U.S. 1941-1945), nations on both sides gave its military men liberal amounts of amphetamine, a drug recently synthesized for pharmaceutical use. For example, in the 1930s, Smith, Kline & French (now GlaxoSmithKline) sold it as Benzedrine. A powerful central nervous system stimulant, amphetamines were called "pep pills" and boosted both stamina and morale. A now-elderly relative of mine was involved in General George Patton's march toward

Berlin; he described staying awake and walking for days because of the 'go pills.' The U.S. Air Force was particularly notorious for 'drugging' pilots to keep them alert on long-haul missions. America continued to hand out amphetamines up to the invasion of Iraq in 1991.

Information on drug use during the Korean War (1950-1953) is thinner, perhaps because the government became less transparent and actively denied accounts of 'illegal' drug use. The government did continue to distribute amphetamines, however. And a factor that would characterize wars thereafter rose to prominence. The arena of conflict and areas adjacent to it were sources of plentiful, cheap drugs. The use of local product was often officially discouraged but this does not mitigate the responsibility of authorities for depositing young men in high stress arenas where addictive drugs flowed. In his book *The Korean War*, Paul M. Edwards stated: "The Department of Defense reported that in the Far East Command, the number of men arrested for narcotics abuse tripled since 1949.... The amount of heroin seized was about three times the amount. In some cases, usually around the port cities, it was not unheard of that 50 percent of their men were involved in drugs...."

The Vietnam Game Changer

The Vietnam War (major U.S. involvement 1965-1975) became the first in which soldiers' drug use received mass media attention. Marijuana and heroin were readily and cheaply available on the Indochina market, with amphetamines still being officially supplied. By 1969, the military was reportedly arresting more than a thousand soldiers a week for possessing marijuana. Some accounts blame the pot crackdown for driving soldiers to heroin. A 1969 investigation by Congress found that 15-20 percent of soldiers in Vietnam used heroin regularly. This prompted Rep. Robert Steele, head of the investigation, to claim that a "soldier going to Vietnam runs a far greater risk of becoming a heroin addict than a combat casualty." It was a risk that hyperbolic politicians were willing to inflict on young American males. It is estimated that at least 40,000 veterans came home as heroin addicts.

Vietnam may have pioneered another means by which government and war promote domestic drug use. Frank Lucas was a black heroin dealer in Harlem who cut out the middleman by using contacts in the Golden Triangle to establish a direct relationship with a heroin source. Then he built "an army inside the Army" that facilitated an international drug network in exchange for bribes or other rewards. Heroin was shipped home in the false bottoms of military coffins. In short, Vietnam provided Lucas with the contacts, the personnel and the method of shipment he needed to create an incredibly successful drug empire.

The War in Afghanistan (2001-present) and surrounding wars are conducted in an area that is the world's leading producer of opium. According to official and tightly-controlled military sources, drug use among American soldiers is minimal. (Drug use among allies, such as the Iraqis, is widely acknowledged to be rampant.)

At least three factors call the official line into question. First, in July 2013, the National Institute of Health published a study entitled, "Introduction to the Special Issue: Drugs, Wars, Military Personnel, and Veterans." It stated: "Recent research suggests that the use and misuse of alcohol and prescription opioids (or PPs such as OxyContin, Vicodin, and Percocet) are the signature substances associated with OEF/OIF/OND military personnel and veterans; for many, the consumption of these substances is causing additional challenges both for military personnel and veteran populations." (OEF/OIF/OND = Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan/Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn, Iraq) It would be amazing if prescription drug abuse was prevalent while far more easily and anonymously obtained drugs were eschewed.

Second, in the earlier stages of the 13-year war, rampant drug use was acknowledged. A 2007 Salon article was entitled, "Afghanistan. It's easy for soldiers to score heroin in Afghanistan. Simultaneously stressed and bored, U.S. soldiers are turning to the widely available drug for a quick escape."

Third, newspapers have recently exploded with stories of an epidemic rise in America's heroin addicts. On March 21, a BBC News headline trumpeted, "The horrific toll of America's heroin 'epidemic'." In April, NBC News ran a 17-part series on the epidemic. The Washington Post (May 16) ran an article entitled "When heroin use hit the suburbs, everything changed"; which focused on heroin addiction becoming a white phenomenon. None of the stories mentioned the impact of war or that most soldiers coming home are white. Instead, like the ABC News coverage (July 31), they dwelt on the "doubling" of addicts as though it had no discernible cause.

Conclusion

What is the truth of it? Sometimes intentionally and sometimes not, often directly and often through circumstance, the American government is the greatest cause of drug addiction at home. And war is its conduit.

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Prohibition In America: A Brief History

For thousands of years, humans have smoked marijuana, used opium to treat pain, chewed coca (cocaine) leaves for energy, and ingested substances like the peyote cactus and psychoactive mushrooms to commune with the gods. And for thousands of years, communities took care of the problem of drug abuse through social and cultural pressures. The system was arguably working; these openly drug using societies did not collapse, or even particularly suffer for having no legal barriers to drug use. Yet, largely within the past century, America has pursued a relatively radical model of how to deal with intoxicating substances: The iron fist of Prohibition. Instead of just drug abuse (excessive, unhealthy patterns of use) being the problem, the Americans declared that all non-medically necessary drug use, no matter how responsible or careful, was evil and had to be opposed by any means available. The usual assumption is that the Prohibitionist answer to how a society should deal with drug use was born purely of a noble desire to protect users from harming themselves. The real story... is far less virtuous.

The Yellow Menace

In the 1870s in America, large numbers of Chinese immigrants were arriving in search of better lives. Facing severe racism, these early Chinese-Americans were often forced to take the most brutal and low-paying jobs, such as building the network of railroad tracks that was becoming the backbone of American industry and expansion. Beyond their strong work ethic, many Chinese brought something else to America: a habit of smoking opium. (An activity introduced to the Chinese by the British, who ran a massive and lucrative smuggling trade bringing opium from India into China after it was outlawed in the late 1700s. When the Chinese cracked down on the illegal trade, the British began what would become known as the Opium Wars, eventually forcing China to re-legalize the opium trade.)

At first, the Americans had little interest in this use of opium (which was legal regardless), and the Chinese tended to form insular communities which limited their interactions with the then deeply racist white American majority. Still, as is always the case, not everybody was content to ignore these new Americans. Some were curious, others simply became familiar with them by working with Chinese laborers on jobs. Eventually, the idea of smoking opium grew within the consciousness of white America, with the more daring visiting Chinese opium smoking parlors to indulge in this new fad in intoxicants. At first this mixing of racial groups primarily involved adventurous young men, and raised little objection from the general public. Shortly, however, white women as well began to frequent the opium parlors.

In 1890, the infamous tabloid newspaper publisher W.R. Hearst (who would later become a staunch supporter of the Nazis) began a series of articles about the 'Yellow Menace', luridly describing Chinese men as seducing white women with opium. Already harboring a deep dislike of the Chinese, who many feared would overrun America, the public attitude towards opium continued to harden. Early local laws in response to the 'opium menace' varied: Sometimes opium was made illegal for Chinese while remaining legal for white people (who could apparently be trusted), in other cases opium was made illegal for whites to use while allowing Chinese to continue to use.

A rather sinister-looking Chinese man brings opium to his white patrons in this 1881 illustration, published in the magazine Harper's Weekly.

This association with immigrants wasn't the only thing that frightened the federal government into creating tighter controls on opium. Beyond the Chinese, opium-containing products sold as cure-alls and elixirs had created an opium addict population that would look rather alien to modern eyes, consisting predominantly of middle and upper class white middle-aged women. These 'accidental addicts' had mostly become addicted through the use of

popular 'patent medicines', which did not normally have labels identifying their contents. (Another concept that may seem odd to us today, when even a candy bar comes with exhaustive labeling.)

Part of the response to this epidemic was the Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906, which required labels on products identifying the presence and quantity of various drugs such as opium and cocaine. However, it became clear that not all users had accidentally stumbled into the habit; a significant minority genuinely wanted to get high. Between 1905-1919 several additional federal laws were passed restricting opium, including banning imports.

In the meanwhile, other forces were gathering. The Chinese government remained deeply opposed to the opium trade, which had addicted millions of their people and destroyed what had been a positive trade balance. The Americans, coming around to the prohibitionist position themselves, also saw ending the opium trade to China as a business opportunity: If China stopped buying opium (at great expense) they would have far more money to spend on other imports, such as American goods. In a series of international conventions in 1909 and 1911, China, the US, UK, and other nations agreed to restrict the opium trade.

In 1914, a watershed event in America's race towards Prohibition occurs: The Harrison Narcotics Act is passed, which severely restricted the sale of opiates and cocaine. As interesting as what was restricted was how it was done. Recognizing that it was unconstitutional for the US government to simply outlaw drug sales/use, they employed a tactic that had been growing in popularity: They called it a tax. Instead of outlawing the drug trade, they required that anybody involved in it had to be registered and pay a tax. However, the tax was not equally applied; doctors and pharmacists were required to pay only a registration fee, while other people were required to pay a prohibitive tax on every sale. As a result, the sale of opiates and cocaine was effectively restricted to medical professionals "in the course of [their] professional practice only." Others, unwilling or unable to pay the tax, would be charged with tax evasion and fined/imprisoned if they sold the restricted drugs. Thus, the federal government was able to tell itself that it was acting within the constitution because it was 'just using its power to tax', which of course they did have a right to do. (The argument against the constitutionality of federal prohibition at the time was primarily one of state's rights and limited federal power; the states could outlaw drugs, the federal government could not.)

The Black Menace

Running in parallel to the saga of opium was the emergence of cocaine, the active component of coca leaves, which had been extracted by the Merck pharmaceutical company (which would later patent MDMA.) Initially hailed by Sigmund Freud as a "non-addictive" cure-all, cocaine saw use as a supplement in wines and was even the 'special ingredient' that Coca-Cola draws its name from. ('Cola' refers to the cola nut, which gave the drink its distinctive flavor.) Freud's use of cocaine in his psychiatric practice did have a certain logic; a patient that is depressed or fatigued will almost certainly feel better with a liberal supply of cocaine, although that brings its own problems.

Helped along by this apparent medical value (medicine has traditionally focused on making people feel better instead of cures, which early medicine could rarely provide) cocaine also found its way into a myriad of elixirs and potions, sold door-to-door, from catalogues, traveling medicine shows, and even grocery stores. Movie stars and public figures used and endorsed the magical new drug, and use grew rapidly. Like opium, cocaine became regulated on the national level by the Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906, requiring content labels for products containing cocaine. Also like opium, it was included in the Harrison Tax Act, which effectively created outright prohibition of the drug.

In the US, cocaine abuse was associated with black men, first in the form of laborers using the drug to increase endurance while working long, grueling hours, then in the form of widespread use by Jazz musicians at scandalously racially integrated nightclubs. In yet another echo of opium's history, the press began to spread lurid stories of "cocaine crazed Negroes" attacking white women in the southern states. In response to this fear of drug-fueled blacks, some police departments switched to more powerful handguns out of concern that their current pistols were not powerful enough to bring down such rampaging monsters. Later, Harry Anslinger (head of what would eventually become the DEA) called for harsher penalties for cocaine by describing scenes of racially mixed groups dancing together at clubs under the presumptive influence of cocaine.

The One That Got Away

There seems to be a popular idea in America that cigarettes were only recently identified as unhealthy. There were, in fact, powerful movements at least a century ago to ban cigarettes. Claims of smoking's dangers sound eerily familiar today: Smoking causes (it was said) immorality, violence, insanity and so forth. Henry Ford, the auto manufacturing tycoon, was so concerned about its health risks that he banned smoking by his employees. Ironically, the drug with perhaps the highest rate of death and addiction known was also the one drug that has never been prohibited in the US, in spite of the anti-smoking movement reaching a fevered pitch during the same period as the enactment of alcohol and other prohibitions. In spite of its legality and high potential for addiction, tobacco is also one of the few drugs the US has had long-term success in reducing the use of. Currently, smoking kills over 400,000 Americans a year, far in excess of all other drugs combined.

Tossing The Bottle

The national stirrings against 'chemical' drugs like opium and cocaine were to some extent merely the latest incarnation of an old and growing trend towards prohibition of all recreational substances. Alcohol in particular had long been recognized as a cause of violence and death, and the anti-alcohol Temperance movement achieved its ultimate victory in 1919 with the enactment of the Volstead Act, which amended the US constitution to allow the national prohibition of alcohol. (Again it's telling that they didn't believe anything short of a constitutional amendment could give the federal government the power to regulate people's drug use.)

The results of alcohol prohibition have become the stuff of legend and popular films: Powerful criminal organizations sprang up, arrested offenders clogged the system and corruption of the police and courts became rampant as a large portion of the population simply ignored the laws. There is some evidence that during prohibition, the average age of onset of alcohol use went down significantly, possibly because since alcohol sale was illegal in the first place, age restrictions on sales no longer applied. (A curious parallel can be seen today; young people take up using marijuana in greater percentages and at a younger age in the US than they do in the Netherlands, where marijuana is effectively legal but regulated.)

Alcohol prohibition was largely the work of religious conservatives who saw it as a way to combat the growing hedonism of urban dwellers; a return to old-time values and morality by attacking immoral lifestyles. The Protestant majority included in this category of 'social undesirables' the Catholics, whom they associated with alcohol use. Ironically, the passage of national prohibition marked the start of the Roaring Twenties, a period of drunken excess and sexual promiscuity that would not be equaled again until the Hippies.

Although alcohol use sharply declined immediately after the passage of prohibition, it immediately began an inexorable climb back up towards pre-ban usage levels. As public sentiment turned against prohibition, it became harder and harder to get juries to convict offenders. Finally admitting defeat, alcohol prohibition, America's "noble experiment", was repealed on December 5, 1933, and an unlucky thirteen years of government intrusion into people's lives ended in wild drunken celebrations.

All Mexicans Are Crazy

In the early 1900s, Mexican and Mexican-American families began an exodus out of their traditional homes in the far southern states, spreading out into the US in search of work and opportunity; the-pursuit of the American Dream. The white majority was less than happy with this development, both out of simple bigotry and fear of competition for jobs (a concern that would only become greater when the prosperity of the "roaring twenties" gave way to the misery of the Great Depression.) As the Chinese had, the Hispanic population brought its own traditions, including different preferences in drugs: The conservative Midwest was about to be introduced to marijuana.

As had occurred with other drugs, the first prohibition laws were created on the state and local level. Some of these legislative sessions produced true gems of enlightenment, such as when a legislator in Texas expressed his support of marijuana prohibition by declaring that "All Mexicans are crazy and marijuana is what makes them crazy." (Although "cannabis" was more traditional, legislators uniformly chose to call the plant "marijuana", after the Mexican word for it.)

One of the more humorous results of the government taking the position that smoking marijuana caused homicidal insanity was that several murderers claimed their use of the drug as a defense, arguing that they could not be held responsible for what had clearly been an act committed under the insidious control of Reefer Madness. Several offenders were actually acquitted; after all, the government was backing their argument!

Federal marijuana prohibition was first enacted through various versions of the Uniform Narcotic Drug Acts (1927-1937.) In 1937, the Marijuana Tax Act of 1937 clarified and strengthened marijuana prohibition with what had by then become a rather shameless bit of unconstitutional fraud: They required that all marijuana be taxed and carry a tax stamp, establishing draconian punishments for 'tax cheats' ...and then refused to sell the tax stamps!

Marijuana prohibition, beyond being remarkable for the innocuousness of the drug in question, has been equally remarkable for the sheer extent of scientific fraud committed in order to justify its prohibition. Eager to rationalize this latest violation of the constitution as a necessary evil, Dr. James C. Munch, the US "Official Expert on Marihuana" testified that, upon testing the effects of marijuana on himself as part of his study into its dangers, he had experienced being transformed into a bat and flying about his office. Such a claim would be laughed at today, but this early-day Ricaurtism was eagerly believed by naive legislators.

- For more information, visit the excellent [An Inquiry into the Legal History of American Marijuana Prohibition.](#)

Race and the War on Drugs

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

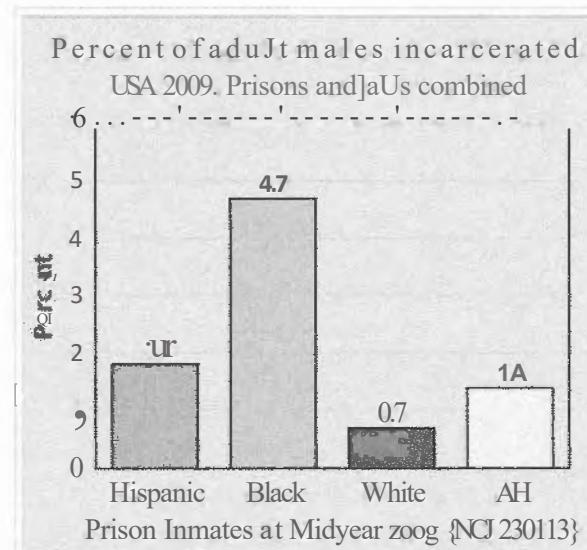
Many policy experts and authors have claimed that there are **racial disparities** in arrests, prosecutions, imprisonment, rehabilitation programs, and other aspects of the **War on Drugs**.

Arrests / Imprisonment

In 1986, the U.S. Congress passed the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 which, amongst other things, created a 100 to 1 sentencing disparity for crack vs. powder cocaine possession, which some people consider to be a racist law which discriminates against minorities, who are more likely to use crack than powder cocaine. People convicted in federal court of possession of 5 grams of crack cocaine will receive a minimum mandatory sentence of 5 years in federal prison. On the other hand, possession of 500 grams of powder cocaine carries the same sentence. Some other authors, however, have pointed out that the Congressional Black Caucus backed the law, which they say implies that the law cannot be racist.

In a 1994 paper, Michael Tonry stated that the War on Drugs has exacerbated racial disparities in the justice system since 1980, and that "It is difficult to imagine a persuasive ethical defense of promotion of policies that were unlikely to achieve their ostensible goals but were foreseen to have an adverse disparate effect on Blacks." Crime statistics show that in 1999 in the United States blacks were far more likely to be targeted by law enforcement for drug crimes, and received much stiffer penalties and sentences than whites. A 2013 study by the American Civil Liberties Union determined that a black person in the United States was 3.73 times more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession than a white person, even though both races have similar rates of marijuana use. Iowa had the highest racial disparity of the fifty states. Black people in Iowa were arrested for marijuana possession at a rate 8.4 times higher than white people. One of multiple factors that explains the difference in arrest rates between whites and blacks is that blacks are more likely than whites to buy marijuana outdoors, from a stranger, and away from their homes. A 2000 study found that especially large proportions of the overrepresentation of black drug offenders in Pennsylvania prisons was unexplained by higher arrest rates, suggesting the possibility of large amounts of discrimination regarding this crime.

In 1998 there were wide racial disparities in arrests, prosecutions, sentencing and deaths. African-Americans, who only comprised 13% of regular drug users, made up for 35% of drug arrests, 55% of convictions, and 74% of people sent to prison for drug possession crimes. Nationwide African-Americans were sent to state prisons for drug offenses 13 times more often than white men, even though they only comprise 13% of regular drug users. A 2008 paper stated that drug use rates among Blacks (7.4%) were comparable to those among Whites (7.2%), meaning that, since there are far more White Americans than Black Americans, 72% of illegal drug users in America are white, while only 15% are black. A 2015 study found that minorities have been



2009. Percent of adult males incarcerated by race and ethnicity

disproportionately arrested for drug offenses, and that this difference "cannot be explained by differences in drug offending, nondrug offending, or residing in the kinds of neighborhoods likely to have heavy police emphasis on drug offending."^[161]

A 1995 Bureau of Justice Statistics report found that from 1991 to 1993, 16% of those who sold drugs were black, but 49% of those arrested for doing so were black.^[17]

In 1989, black and white women had similar levels of drug use during pregnancy. In spite of this, black women were 10 times as likely as white women to be reported to a child welfare agency for prenatal drug use.⁰⁸¹

According to Michelle Alexander, the author of *The New Jim Crow* and a professor of law at Stanford Law School, even though drug trading is done at similar rates all over the U.S., most people arrested for it are colored.

Together, African American and Hispanics comprised 58% of all prisoners in 2008, even though African Americans and Hispanics make up approximately one quarter of the US population. Bias plays an important role in this: most Americans now think of colored people when they are asked to imagine a drug user, which leads to discrimination in the criminal justice system "consciously" and "unconsciously." Also, because police officers are just as biased as others, colored people are more likely to be investigated than whites. Thus, she believes racial bias in the War on Drugs is a huge problem because the majority of prisoners are arrested for drug related crime, and in at least 15 states, 3/4 of them are black or Latino people.^{Y91}

A 2012 study found that African American youth were less likely than white youth to use or sell drugs, but more likely to be arrested for doing so.^{Y01}

Issues with surveys measuring African American drug use

Although many have claimed that there is little difference between rates of drug use between blacks and whites based on surveys,^[21] a 2005 study found that blacks, when compared with whites, are much more likely to underreport their own drug use in surveys.^[22] However, the underreporting effect diminished to a nonsignificant value when socioeconomic variable was taken into account.^[22] Other studies on the racial variation in validity of self-reported drug use have produced varying results. One study found that blacks who had been arrested were more likely than their white or Hispanic counterparts to admit cocaine use.^[23] A 2004 study found that blacks who tested positive for marijuana use were less likely to report they had used it.^[24] Two other studies have found that blacks were more likely to underreport cocaine use than whites.^{[25][26]} A 1997 study found that African Americans and Hispanics were more likely than whites to claim they had not used cocaine even when they tested positive for it.^[27] A 2014 study also found that black men who have sex with men were less likely than their white counterparts to report use of either marijuana or cocaine, despite little difference between the groups in likelihood of screening positive for either drug.^[28]

Legal Standpoint

When sifting through the layers of policy concerning the War on Drugs, one can find racial disparities and obstacles facing those minorities on trial and during punishment. On the surface, *de Jure* suggests that everyone has an equal opportunity in defending themselves from criminal accusations concerning drugs. However, careful scrutiny of judicial jargon along with assessment of limitations of marginalized groups suggests otherwise (*de facto*). The idea that minorities have to somehow "prove" that racial discrimination was being used during a search and seizure (United States v. Armstrong, 1996) and that the Equal Protection Law has been separated from the Fourth Amendment through successive court decisions leaves the accused at a disadvantage. This separation is open to police discretion and availability of such discretion has been created by court case. The idea that

defendants had to show favorability of whites in "similarly situated" court cases was reinforced by the 2002 United States v. Bass decision in which the Sixth Circuit court's decision to favor a death-eligible, black defendant was reversed; the man had provided data that suggested that the United States charges blacks with death-eligible offenses more than twice as often as it charges whites. The Supreme Court's conclusion was that raw data does not say anything in particular of "similarly situated" defendants.²⁹ Moreover, there is the idea that those with tangential associations of the accused are not open to having sentence reductions as they don't have other dealers to "rat out"; this generally leaves women at the disadvantage as they are usually found as holders of drugs without infonnation (Coker 834). Also, there is a noted racial disparity of those punished and rehabilitated. Professor Cathy Schnieder of International Service at American University notes that in 1989, African Americans, representing 12-15 percent of all drug use in the United States, made up 41 percent of all arrests. That is a noted increase from 38 percent in 1988. Whites were 47 percent of those in state-funded treatment centers and made up less than 10 percent of those committed to prison.³⁰

African-American Communities

The War on Drugs has incarcerated high numbers of African-Americans. However, the damage has compounded beyond individuals and their families to affect African-American communities as a whole.

African-American children are over-represented in juvenile hall and family court cases, and as a result, they are removed from their families in droves, and placed in the federal system.³¹ This is due to two reasons.

First, the high incarceration rate has not ignored families: mothers and fathers are incarcerated as well. This leads to a lack of a parental (mother or father incarcerated) figure to provide a good role model and stabilize a household. The impacts on their children are severe. African-American youths are becoming highly involved in gangs in order to generate income for their families lacking a primary breadwinner; with the War on Drugs having made the drug trade lucrative, it is a far more profitable for them to work for a dangerous drug gang than at a safe entry-level job.³² The second-hand consequences of this are African-American youths dropping out of school, being tried for drug-related crime, and acquiring AIDS at disparate levels.³³

Second, the high incarceration rate has led to the juvenile justice system and family courts to use race as a negative heuristic in trials, leading to a reinforcing effect: as more African-Americans are incarcerated, the more the heuristic is enforced in the eyes of the courts.³⁴ This contributes to yet higher imprisonment rates among African-American children, and tearing apart already damaged families.

The high imprisonment rate has also led the police to target African-American communities at disparately high levels of surveillance, invading privacy rights of individuals without probable cause, and ultimately breeding a distrust for police among African-American communities.³⁵ High numbers of African American arrests and charges of possession show that although the majority of drug users in the United States are white, African Americans are the largest group being targeted as the root of the problem.³⁶ A distrust of the police in African-American communities seems like a logical feeling. Harboring these emotions can lead to a lack of will to contact the police in case of an emergency by members of African-American communities, ultimately leaving many people unprotected. Disproportionate arrests in African-American communities for drug-related offenses has not only spread fear but also perpetuated a deep distrust for government and what some call racist drug enforcement policy.

Women of Color

The War on Drugs also plays a negative role in the lives of women of color. In 1997, of women in state prisons for drug-related crimes, forty-four percent were Hispanic, thirty-nine percent were black, and twenty-three percent were white, quite different from the racial make up shown in percentages of the United States as a whole^{Y41} Statistics in England, Wales, and Canada are similar. Women of color who are implicated in drug crimes are "generally poor, uneducated, and unskilled; have impaired mental and physical health; are victims of physical and sexual abuse and mental cruelty; are single mothers with children; lack familial support; often have no prior convictions; and are convicted for a small quantity of drugs".^{l341}

Additionally, these women typically have an economic attachment to, or fear of, male drug traffickers, creating a power paradigm that sometimes forces their involvement in drug-related crimes.^{l351} Though there are programs to help them, women of color are usually unable to take advantage of social welfare institutions in America due to regulations. For example, women's access to methadone, which suppresses cravings for drugs such as heroin, is restricted by state clinics that set appointment times for women to receive their treatment. If they miss their appointment, (which is likely: drug-addicted women may not have access to transportation and lead chaotic lives), they are denied medical care critical to their recovery. Additionally, while women of color are offered jobs as a form of government support, these jobs often do not have childcare, rendering the job impractical for mothers, who cannot leave their children at home alone^{Y51}

See also

- Race and crime
- Race and crime in the United States
- United States incarceration rate
- Methamphetamine and Native Americans
- Statistics of incarcerated African-American males
- Race in the United States criminal justice system
- Racial profiling in the United States

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U.S. Drug Arrests, 1980-2014



Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports. ⁸

World Incarceration Rates

Source: International Centre for Prison Studies, World Prison Brief.³

The Drug War Drives Mass Incarceration and Racial Disparities in U.S. Judicial Systems

There were more than 1.5 million drug arrests in the U.S. in 2014. The vast majority- more than 80 percent -were for possession *only*.⁴ At year-end 2013, 16 percent of all people in state prison were incarcerated for a drug law violation - *of whom nearly 50,000 were incarcerated for possession alone*.⁵ More than 50 percent of people in federal prisons are incarcerated for drug law violations. Almost 500,000 people are behind bars for a drug law violation on any given night in the United States⁶ - ten times the total in 1980.⁷

Drug law violations have been the main driver of new admissions to prison for decades. An analysis by Brookings Institution found that there were more than 3 million admissions to prison for drug offenses between 1993 and 2009 in the United States. In each year during that period, more people were admitted to prisons for drug law violations than violent crimes. During that same timeframe, there were more than 30 million drug arrests.⁹

People of color experience discrimination at every stage of the judicial system and are more likely to be stopped, searched, arrested, convicted, harshly sentenced and saddled with a lifelong criminal record. This is particularly the case for drug law violations.

Black people comprise 13 percent of the U.S. population,¹⁰ and are consistently documented by the U.S. government to use drugs at similar rates to people of other races.¹¹ But black people comprise 31 percent of those arrested for drug law violations,¹² and nearly 40 percent of those incarcerated in state or federal prison for drug law violations.¹³

Similarly, Latinos make up 17 percent of the U.S. population, but comprise 20 percent of people in state prisons for drug offenses and 37 percent of people

incarcerated in federal prisons for drug offenses.¹⁴ In 2013, Latinos comprised almost half (47 percent) of all cases in federal courts for drug offenses.¹⁵ National-level data on arrests of people of Latino ethnicity are incomplete. Yet among drug arrest incidents in 2014 in which ethnicity was reported, more than 22 percent of those arrested were Latino.¹⁶ State and local level data show that Latinos are disproportionately arrested and incarcerated for drug possession violations.¹⁷

Disproportionate Impact of Drug Laws on Black and Latino Communities

U.S. Male Incarceration Rates, December 31, 2014

Source: *Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2015.*²⁴

Collateral Consequences of Mass Incarceration

Punishment for a drug law violation is not only meted out by the criminal justice system, but is also perpetuated by policies denying child custody, voting rights, employment, business loans, licensing, student aid, public housing and other public assistance to people with criminal convictions. Criminal records often result in deportation of legal residents or denial of entry for noncitizens trying to visit the U.S. Even if a person does not face jail or prison time, a drug conviction often imposes a lifelong ban on many aspects of social, economic and political life.²⁵

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; Bureau of Justice Statistics.¹⁹

Widely adopted in the 1980s and '90s, mandatory minimum sentencing laws have contributed greatly to the number of people of color behind bars.²⁰ Research shows that prosecutors are twice as likely to pursue a mandatory minimum sentence for black people as for white people charged with the same offense.²¹ Among people who received a mandatory minimum sentence in 2011, 38 percent were Latino and 31 percent were black.²²

Mass Incarceration Destroys Families

2.7 million children are growing up in U.S. households in which one or more parents are incarcerated. Two-thirds of these parents are incarcerated for nonviolent offenses, including a substantial proportion who are incarcerated for drug law violations. One in nine black children has an incarcerated parent, compared to one in 28 Latino children and one in 57 white children.²³

Such exclusions create a permanent second-class status for millions of Americans, and, like drug war enforcement itself, fall disproportionately on people of color. Nearly eight percent of black people of voting age are denied the right to vote because of laws that disenfranchise people with felony convictions.²⁶

Policy Recommendations

1. Decriminalize drug possession, removing a major cause of arrest and incarceration of primarily people of color, helping more people receive drug treatment and redirecting law enforcement resources to prevent serious and violent crime.
2. Eliminate policies that result in disproportionate arrest and incarceration rates by changing police practices, rolling back harsh mandatory minimum sentences, and repealing sentencing disparities.
3. End policies that exclude people with a record of arrest or conviction from key rights and opportunities. These include barriers to voting, employment, public housing and other public assistance, loans, financial aid and child custody.

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Criminal Justice Fact Sheet

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Incarceration Trends in America

- From 1980 to 2008, the number of people incarcerated in America quadrupled—from roughly 500,000 to 2.3 million people
- Today, the US is 5% of the World population and has 25% of world prisoners.
- Combining the number of people in prison and jail with those under parole or probation supervision, 1 in every 31 adults, or 3.2 percent of the population is under some form of correctional control

Racial Disparities in Incarceration

- African Americans now constitute nearly 1 million of the total 2.3 million incarcerated population
- African Americans are incarcerated at nearly six times the rate of whites
- Together, African American and Hispanics comprised 58% of all prisoners in 2008, even though African Americans and Hispanics make up approximately one quarter of the US population
- According to *Unlocking America*, if African American and Hispanics were incarcerated at the same rates of whites, today's prison and jail populations would decline by approximately 50%
- One in six black men had been incarcerated as of 2001. If current trends continue, one in three black males born today can expect to spend time in prison during his lifetime
- 1 in 100 African American women are in prison
- Nationwide, African-Americans represent 26% of juvenile arrests, 44% of youth who are detained, 46% of the youth who are judicially waived to criminal court, and 58% of the youth admitted to state prisons (Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice).

Drug Sentencing Disparities

- About 14 million Whites and 2.6 million African Americans report using an illicit drug
- 5 times as many Whites are using drugs as African Americans, yet African Americans are sent to prison for drug offenses at 10 times the rate of Whites
- African Americans represent 12% of the total population of drug users, but 38% of those arrested for drug offenses, and 59% of those in state prison for a drug offense.
- African Americans serve virtually as much time in prison for a drug offense (58.7 months) as whites do for a violent offense (61.7 months). (Sentencing Project)

Contributing Factors

- Inner city crime prompted by social and economic isolation
- Crime/drug arrest rates: African Americans represent 12% of monthly drug users, but comprise 32% of persons arrested for drug possession
- "Get tough on crime" and "war on drugs" policies
- Mandatory minimum sentencing, especially disparities in sentencing for crack and powder cocaine possession

- In 2002, blacks constituted more than 80% of the people sentenced under the federal crack cocaine laws and served substantially more time in prison for drug offenses than did whites, despite the fact that more than 2/3 of crack cocaine users in the U.S. are white or Hispanic
- "Three Strikes"/habitual offender policies
- Zero Tolerance policies as a result of perceived problems of school violence; adverse affect on black children.
- 35% of black children grades 7-12 have been suspended or expelled at some point in their school careers compared to 20% of Hispanics and 15% of whites

Effects of Incarceration

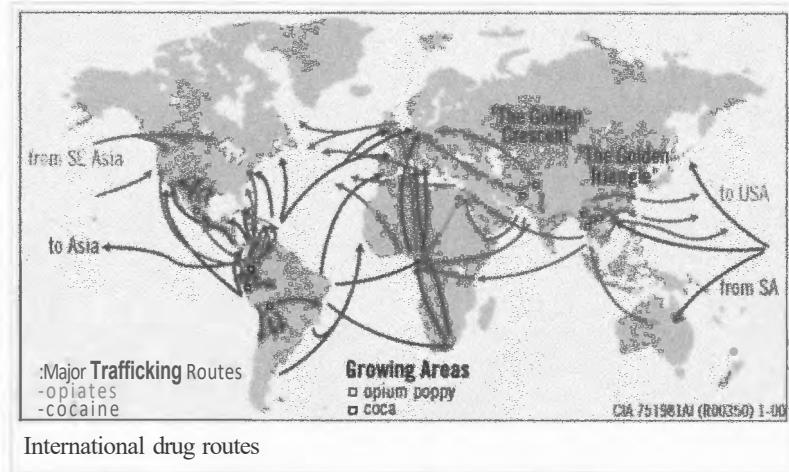
- Jail reduces work time of young people over the next decade by 25-30 percent when compared with arrested youths who were not incarcerated
- Jails and prisons are recognized as settings where society's infectious diseases are highly concentrated
- Prison has not been proven as a rehabilitation for behavior, as two-thirds of prisoners will reoffend

Exorbitant Cost of Incarceration: Is it Worth It?

- About \$70 billion dollars are spent on corrections yearly
- Prisons and jails consume a growing portion of the nearly \$200 billion we spend annually on public safety

The **illegal drug trade** is a global black market dedicated to the cultivation, manufacture, distribution and sale of drugs that are subject to drug prohibition laws. Most jurisdictions prohibit trade, except under license, of many types of drugs through the use of drug prohibition laws.

A UN report has stated that "the global drug trade generated an estimated US\$321.6 billion in 2003.¹¹ With a world GDP of US\$36 trillion in the same year, the illegal drug trade may be estimated as nearly 1% of total global trade. Consumption of illegal drugs is widespread globally.



History

Chinese edicts against opium smoking were made in 1729, 1796 and 1800.²¹ Addictive drugs were prohibited in the west in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.²²²³

In the early 19th century, an illegal drug trade in China emerged. The Chinese government retaliated by enforcing a ban on the import of opium that led to the First Opium War (1839–1842) between the United Kingdom and Qing dynasty China. Chinese authorities had banned opium, but the United Kingdom forced China to allow British merchants to trade opium. Trading in opium was lucrative, and smoking opium had become common in the 19th Century, so British merchants increased trade with the Chinese. As a result of this illegal trade, by 1838 the number of Chinese opium addicts had grown to between four and twelve million.²⁴ The Second Opium War broke out in 1856, with the British joined this time by the French. After the two opium wars, the British Crown, via the treaties of Nanking and Tianjin, took large sums of money from the Chinese government through this illegal trade, which were referred to as "reparations".

In 1868, as a result of the increased use of opium, the UK restricted the sale of opium in Britain by implementing the 1868 Pharmacy Act.²⁵ In the United States, control of opium was a state responsibility until the introduction of the Harrison Act in 1914, following the passing of the International Opium Convention in 1912.

Between 1920 and 1933, alcohol was banned in the United States. This law was considered to have been very difficult to enforce and resulted in the growth of many criminal organizations, including the modern American Mafia.²⁶²⁷

The Australian Crime Commission's illicit drug data report for 2011–2012 was released in Western Sydney on 20 May 2013, and revealed that the seizures of illegal substances in Australia during the reporting period were the largest in a decade, due to record interceptions of amphetamines, cocaine and steroids.²⁸

The beginning of the 21st century saw a drug use increase in North America and Europe, with a particularly increased demand for marijuana and cocaine.²⁹³⁰ As a result, international organized crime syndicates such as the Sinaloa Cartel and 'Ndrangheta have increased cooperation among each other in order to facilitate trans-Atlantic drug trafficking.³¹³² Another illicit drug with increased demand in Europe is hashish, which is generally smuggled from Morocco to Spain, where it is later exported to its final markets (mostly France and Western Europe).³³³⁴

The UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), the chief drug policymaking body of the United Nations, held its annual meeting in Vienna, Austria in mid-March 2014, following a period of historic drug policy reforms throughout the world—such as the decision of the Uruguay government to become the first national jurisdiction in the world to legalize cannabis.³⁵ The International Drug Policy Consortium stated in the lead-up to the meeting that "[t]he meeting itself is likely to feature standoffs between reform-oriented countries and governments that favour failed criminal justice models,

which have resulted in mass incarceration and rampant human rights abuses such as the death penalty for non-violent drug offences." The support of drug policy reform by Joanne Csete, deputy director of the Open Society Global Drug Policy Program, was also published in the consortium's media release that "[t]here will be no shortage of governments that seek to bury their heads in the sand and pretend these drug policy reforms aren't happening. But try as they might, the movement for drug law reform is unstoppable."^[7]

Legal penalties

Drug trafficking is widely regarded by lawmakers as a serious offense around the world. Penalties often depend on the type of drug (and its classification in the country into which it is being trafficked), the quantity trafficked, where the drugs are sold and how they are distributed. If the drugs are sold to underage people, then the penalties for trafficking may be harsher than in other circumstances.

Drug smuggling carries severe penalties in many countries. Sentencing may include lengthy periods of incarceration, flogging and even the death penalty (in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and elsewhere). In December 2005, Van Tuong Nguyen, a 25-year-old Australian drug smuggler, was hanged in Singapore after being convicted in March 2004.^[8] In 2010, two people were sentenced to death in Malaysia for trafficking 1 kilogram (2.2 lb) of cannabis into the country.^[19] Execution is mostly used as a deterrent, and many have called upon much more effective measures to be taken by countries to tackle drug trafficking;^[20] for example, targeting specific criminal organisations (which are often also active in the smuggling of other goods (i.e. wildlife) and even people^[21]^[22] In some cases, even links between politicians and the criminal organisations have been proven to exist.^[23]

Effects of the illegal drug trade on societies

The countries of drug production and transit are some of the most affected by the drug trade, though countries receiving the illegally imported substances are also adversely affected. For example, Ecuador has absorbed up to 300,000 refugees from Colombia who are running from guerrillas, paramilitaries and drug lords. While some applied for asylum, others are still illegal immigrants. The drugs that pass from Colombia through Ecuador to other parts of South America create economic and social problems.^[24]

Honduras, through which an estimated 79% of cocaine passes on its way to the United States,^[25] has the highest murder rate in the world.^[26] According to the International Crisis Group, the most violent regions in Central America, particularly along the Guatemala-Honduras border, are highly correlated with an abundance of drug trafficking activity.^[7]

Violent crime

In many countries worldwide, the illegal drug trade is thought to be directly linked to violent crimes such as murder. This is especially true in developing countries, such as Honduras, but is also an issue for many developed countries worldwide.

In the late 1990s in the United States the Federal Bureau of Investigation estimated that 5% of murders were drug-related.^[8] In Colombia, Drug violence can be caused by factors such as, the economy, poor governments, and no authority within the law enforcement.^[9]

After a crackdown by US and Mexican authorities in the first decade of the 21st century as part of tightened border security in the wake of the September 11 attacks, border violence inside Mexico surged. The Mexican government estimates that 90% of the killings are drug-related.^[11]



Jamaican drug lord Christopher Coke being escorted by DEA agents

A report by the UK government's Drug Strategy Unit that was leaked to the press, stated that due to the expensive price of highly addictive drugs heroin and cocaine, drug use was responsible for the great majority of crime, including 85% of shoplifting, 70-80% of burglaries and 54% of robberies. It concluded that "(t)he cost of crime committed to support illegal cocaine and heroin habits amounts to £16 billion a year in the UK" [21]

Illegal cocaine trade via Venezuela

Historically Venezuela has been a path to the United States and Europe for illegal drugs originating in Colombia, through Central America, Mexico and Caribbean countries such as Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico.

According to the United Nations, there was an increase of cocaine trafficking through Venezuela since 2002.^[33] In 2005 Venezuela severed ties with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), accusing its representatives of spying.^[34] Following the departure of the DEA from Venezuela and the expansion of DEA's partnership with Colombia in 2005, Venezuela became more attractive to drug traffickers.^[5] Between 2008 and 2012, Venezuela's cocaine seizure ranking among other countries declined, going from being ranked fourth in the world for cocaine seizures in 2008^[36] to sixth in the world in 2012.^[37]

Illegal cocaine trade via West Africa

Cocaine produced in Colombia and Bolivia increasingly has been shipped via West Africa (especially in Cape Verde, Mali, Benin, Togo, Nigeria, Cameroon, Guinea-Bissau and Ghana).^[8] The money is often laundered in countries such as Nigeria, Ghana and Senegal.

Cargo planes are now also used for transport from the production countries to West Africa. Before this, cocaine was only shipped to the US. Because the market became saturated there, illicit drug traders decided to increase shipping to Europe. When these new drug routes were uncovered by authorities, West Africa was chosen as a stop-over. In 2005, police intercepted a major cocaine shipment for the first time.

According to the Africa Economic Institute, the value of illicit drug smuggling in Guinea-Bissau is almost twice the value of the country's GDP.^[8] Police officers are often bribed. A police officer's normal monthly wage of \$94 is less than 2% of the value of 1 kilogram (2.2 lb) of cocaine (€7000 or \$8821). The money can also be laundered using real estate. A house is built using illegal funds, and when the house is sold, legal money is earned.^[9] When drugs are sent over land, through the Sahara, the drug traders have been forced to cooperate with terrorist organizations, such as Al Qaida in Islamic Maghreb.^{[40][41]}

Main drug trafficking route in Asia

A large amount of drugs are smuggled into Europe from Asia. The main source of these drugs is Afghanistan. Farmers in Afghanistan produce drugs which are smuggled into the West and central Asia. Iran is a main route for smugglers. The Border Police Chief of Iran says his country "is a strong barrier against the trafficking of illegal drugs to Caucasus, especially the Republic of Azerbaijan."^[42]

Online

Drugs are increasingly traded online on the dark web on Darknet markets.^[43]

Profits

Statistics about profits from the drug trade are largely unknown due to its illicit nature. In its 1997 World Drugs Report the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime estimated the value of the market at \$4 trillion, ranking drugs alongside arms and oil among the world's largest traded goods.^[44] An online report published by the UK Home Office in 2007 estimated the illicit drug market in the UK at £4–6.6 billion a year.^[45]

In December 2009 United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Executive Director Antonio Maria Costa claimed illegal drug money saved the banking industry from collapse. He claimed he had seen evidence that the proceeds of organized crime were "the only liquid investment capital" available to some banks on the brink of collapse during 2008. He said that a majority of the \$352 billion (£216bn) of drug profits was absorbed into the economic system as a result:

"In many instances, the money from drugs was the only liquid investment capital. In the second half of 2008, liquidity was the banking system's main problem and hence liquid capital became an important factor... Inter-bank loans were funded by money that originated from the drugs trade and other illegal activities... there were signs that some banks were rescued that way".^[46]

Costa declined to identify countries or banks that may have received any drug money, saying that would be inappropriate because his office is supposed to address the problem, not apportion blame.



US\$207 million and additional amounts in other currencies were confiscated from Mexican Zhenli Ye Gon in 2007.



Hashish seized in Operation Albatross, a joint operation of Afghan officials NATO and the DEA

Is The War On Drugs Racist?

The black inmate population reflects black criminality, not a racist criminal justice system.

By [Jason Riley](#)

Jason Riley

By [Jason Riley](#)

July 17, 2014

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Are racist drug laws driving black incarceration rates? Might that help explain why blacks are 13 percent of the population but half of all prison inmates?

In 1986, in response to the crack cocaine epidemic that was crushing American inner cities, Congress passed the Anti-Drug Abuse Act, which instituted harsher penalties for crack cocaine offenses than for powder cocaine offenses. For sentencing purposes, the law stipulated that one gram of crack cocaine be treated as equivalent to 100 grams of powder cocaine. Because crack cocaine offenders tended to be black and powder cocaine offenders tended to be white, critics of the law denounced it as racially biased in hindsight. But it's worth remembering that black lawmakers led the initial effort to pass the legislation.

The harsher penalties for crack cocaine offenses were supported by most of the Congressional Black Caucus, including New York Representatives Major Owens of Brooklyn and Charles Rangel of Harlem, who at the time headed the House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control. Crack was destroying black communities, and many black political leaders wanted dealers to face longer sentences. "Eleven of the twenty-one blacks who were then members of the House of Representatives voted in favor of the law which created the 100-to-1 crack-powder differential," noted Harvard law professor Randall Kennedy. "In light of charges that the crack-powder distinction was enacted partly because of conscious or unconscious racism, it is noteworthy that none of the

black members of Congress made that claim at the time the bill was initially discussed." Kennedy added: "The absence of any charge by black members of Congress that the crack-powder differential was racially unfair speaks volumes; after all, several of these representatives had long histories of distinguished opposition to any public policy that smacked of racial injustice. That several of these representatives demanded a crackdown on crack is also significant. It suggests that the initiative for what became the crack-powder distinction originated to some extent within the ranks of African-American congressional officials."

Despite this history, the crack-powder sentencing disparity would, over the next quarter century, become one of the left's favorite examples of America's racist criminal justice system. Barack Obama criticized the law while running for president in 2008 and early in his first term moved to lessen the differential. That effort culminated in the Fair Sentencing Act of 2010, which lowered the ratio to 18 to 1. This was no doubt great news for criminals, but what's been lost in the discussion is whether such a change leaves law-abiding blacks better off. In 2009 blacks were 85 percent of crack offenders, and sentences for crack offenses averaged twenty-four months longer than those for powder cocaine. Civil rights groups and others who equate racial disparities with racism have used such data to decry the sentencing guidelines as racially unjust, yet they don't seem overly concerned with whether blacks in the main are helped or hurt when crack dealers are locked up longer for pushing a substance that has devastated urban black neighborhoods. Why is their sympathy with the lawbreakers?

Black crime rates are vastly higher than white crime rates. And it's hard to see how wishing away this reality, inventing conspiracy theories to explain it, or calling those who point it out "racist" will help improve the situation.

Celebrated left-wing academics like Michelle Alexander reluctantly acknowledge that "some black mayors, politicians, and lobbyists-as well as preachers, teachers, barbers, and ordinary folk-endorse 'get tough' tactics" by police and the courts that facilitate the high black incarceration rates that she laments. But is it any great shock that black people without advanced degrees have less sympathy for black thugs? The black homicide rate is seven times that of whites, and the George Zimmermans of the world are not the reason. Some 90 percent of black murder victims are killed by other blacks. Why should we care more about black criminals than their black victims? Still, Alexander dismisses tough-on-crime blacks as ignorant and "confused."

Liberal elites would have us deny what black ghetto residents know to be the truth. These communities aren't dangerous because of racist cops or judges or sentencing guidelines. They're dangerous mainly due to black criminals preying on black victims. Nor is the racial disparity in prison inmates explained by the enforcement of drug laws. In 2006 blacks were 37.5 percent of the 1,274,600 people in state prisons, which house 88 percent of the nation's prison population, explained Heather Mac Donald of the Manhattan Institute. "If you remove drug prisoners from that population, the percentage of black prisoners drops to 37 percent-half of a percentage point, hardly a significant difference."

It's true that drug prosecutions have risen markedly over the past thirty years. Drug offenders were 6.4 percent of state prison inmates in 1979 but had jumped to 20 percent by 2004. "Even so," wrote Mac Donald, "violent and property offenders continue to dominate the ranks: in 2004, 52 percent of state prisoners were serving time for violence and 21 percent for property crimes, for a combined total over three and a half times that of state drug offenders." Drug-war critics like to focus on federal prisons, where drug offenders climbed from 25 percent of the inmate population in 1980 to 47.6 percent in 2006. "But the federal system held just 12.3 percent of the nation's prisoners in 2006,"

noted Mac Donald. "So much for the claim that blacks are disproportionately imprisoned because of the war on drugs."

The black inmate population reflects black criminality, not a racist criminal justice system, which currently is being run by one black man (Attorney General Holder) who reports to another (the president). Black crime rates are vastly higher than white crime rates. And it's hard to see how wishing away this reality, inventing conspiracy theories to explain it, or calling those who point it out "racist" will help improve the situation.

Nixon official: real reason for the drug war was to criminalize black people and hippies

Updated by [German Lopez](#) on March 23, 2016, 6:05 p.m. ET@gennanlopez

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President Richard Nixon gives a nationally televised address. Hulton Archive via Getty Images

The [war on drugs](#): Is it a genuine public health crusade or an attempt to carry out what author Michelle Alexander characterizes as ["the New Jim Crow"](#)?

A new [report](#) by Dan Baum for Harper's Magazine suggests the latter. Specifically, Baum refers to a quote from John Ehrlichman, who served as [domestic policy chief](#) for President Richard Nixon when the administration [declared](#) its war on drugs in 1971. According to Baum, Ehrlichman said in 1994 that the drug war was a ploy to undermine Nixon's political opposition - meaning, black people and critics of the Vietnam War:

At the time, I was writing a book about the politics of drug prohibition. I started to ask Ehrlichman a series of earnest, wonky questions that he impatiently waved away. "You want to know what this was really all about?" he asked with the bluntness of a man who, after public disgrace and a stretch in federal prison, had little left to protect. "The Nixon campaign in 1968, and the Nixon White House after that, had two enemies: the antiwar left and black people. You understand what I'm saying? We knew we couldn't make it illegal to be either against the war or black, but by getting the public to associate the hippies with marijuana and blacks with heroin, and then criminalizing both heavily, we could disrupt those communities. We could arrest their leaders, raid their homes, break up their meetings, and vilify them night after night on the evening news. Did we know we were lying about the drugs? Of course we did."

This is an incredibly blunt, shocking response - one with troubling implications for the 45-year-old war on drugs.

It's possible Ehrlichman wasn't being honest, given that he [reportedly felt](#) bitter and betrayed by Nixon after he spent time in prison over the [Watergate scandal](#). Nixon also [very much despised](#) drugs, which likely played a role in his policies beyond political goals. And his drug czar, Jerome Jaffe, [strongly pushed](#) for treating drugs as a health issue, not solely a criminal matter as Ehrlichman suggested.

But the claim of racial prejudice is not implausible. Although black Americans aren't more likely to [use](#) or [sell](#) drugs, they're much more likely to be [arrested](#) for them. And when black people are convicted of drug charges, they generally face longer prison sentences for the same crimes, according to a [2012 report](#) from the US Sentencing Commission.

Joe PosnerNox

Ehrlich man claimed this was a goal of the drug war, not an unintended consequence. And Baum cites this as one of many reasons to end the drug war once and for all.

Ending the war on drugs doesn't have to be a binary choice between prohibition and legalization

Baum's argument: Drug prohibition began with poor intentions, it has contributed to terrible consequences (racial disparities in the justice system and drug-fueled violence around the world), and it has failed to significantly curtail drug abuse and trafficking. So we should try a new approach - and legalize and regulate drugs.

But in doing this, Baum glosses over a few options. Even if it's true that the drug war was launched on faulty reasons, that doesn't mean it hasn't led to some benefits. And even if those benefits aren't worth the costs of the current model of prohibition, there are alternatives to pulling back drug prohibition besides legalization.

As I've written before, the drug war does likely prevent some drug use: One study by Jon Caulkins, a drug policy expert at Carnegie Mellon University, suggested that prohibition multiplies the price of hard drugs like cocaine by as much as 10 times. And illicit drugs obviously aren't available through easy means - one can't just walk into a CVS and buy heroin. So the drug war is likely stopping some drug use: Caulkins estimates that legali ation could lead hard drug abuse to triple, although he told me it could go much higher.

there are alternatives to pulling back drug prohibition besides legalization

America's latest drug epidemic provides some evidence for Caulkins's claims. In the past couple decades, doctors loosened access to very addictive and potentially deadly opioid painkillers. Painkiller abuse exploded, leading not just to more overdose deaths but to people trying other opioids, such as heroin, and overdosing on those as well. So more access led to more abuse and deaths.

Does this mean the war on drugs, as it's currently fought, is worth it? Not necessarily. It's a matter of weighing the pros and cons of the current model of drug prohibition.

So maybe the drug war reduces drug use. But it also enables and reinforces the justice system's biases against minority Americans. And it perpetuates a black market for drugs that fuels violence in the US and around the world, particularly" in Mexico.

Graves in Mexico - a result of the country's drug war. Graves in Mexico - a result of the country's drug war. Richard Ellis/Getty Images

But there are options to draw down the war on drugs without legalization. The US could decriminalize-remove jail time and other criminal penalties for personal possession but not sales - and emphasize prevention and treatment, as Portugal has done. It could allow supervised injection sites for heroin users to provide a safe place to use the drug, as Canada, Switzerland, and several others have done. It could allow for the medical use of some drugs, such as psychedelics, as some researchers have pushed for. These are steps countries and states could take without legalizing drugs.

Baum does, however, acknowledge that even if a country does legalize, there are various ways to do it. Governments could spend much, much more on prevention and treatment programs alongside legalization to deal with a potential wave of new drug users. They could require and regulate licenses

to buy drugs, as some states do with guns. Or they could ban private, for-profit sales of drugs, limiting greedy companies' abilities to market and sell the drugs no matter the consequence (as tobacco companies have done to get Americans hooked on cigarettes - to still very deadly effects).

None of these policies would wholly eliminate drug abuse, drug deaths, or drug-related violence and crime. But drug policy is often about picking the best out of the available bad options, rather than picking the perfect solution.

Still, there are far more options than prohibition and legalization, and different drugs with all sorts of different risks likely merit different policies. But it's going to be very difficult to get to the right balance of policies if the debate is framed as deciding between *only* legalization and prohibition.

Blacks Were Targeted for CIA Cocaine**It Can Be Proven****By****Michael C. Ruppert**

January 28, 1999

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For a long time, many people have believed that African-Americans were targeted by the Central Intelligence Agency to receive the cocaine which decimated black communities in the 1980s. It was, until now, widely accepted that the case could not be proven because of two fallacious straw obstacles to that proof. Both lie smack dab in the misuse of the word "crack" and that is why, in my lectures, I have strenuously objected to the term "CIA crack1::

First, it cannot and probably never will be established that CIA had anything to do with the first creation of crack cocaine. Chemically, that problem could have been solved as a test question for anyone with a BS in chemistry. The answer: add water and baking soda to cocaine hydrochloride powder and cook on a stove. A study of the literature (including articles I wrote 14 years ago for The U.S. Journal of Drug and Alcohol Dependence), as opposed to, for example, that pertaining to LSD, shows no CIA involvement whatever in the genesis of crack cocaine. Also, there has never been any evidence provided that CIA facilitated the transport or sale of crack itself. What is beyond doubt is that CIA was directly responsible for the importation of tons of powdered cocaine into the U.S. and the protected delivery of that cocaine into the inner cities.

Another obstacle has been the fact that CIA imported so much cocaine that, even if every black man, woman and child in the country had been using it, they could not have used all of what CIA brought in. Ricky Ross, the celebrated dealer of Gary Webb's Dark Alliance, sold approximately four tons of cocaine during his roughly five years in business. Yet one CIA ring, that of Miguel Angel Felix Gallardo and Rafael Caro-Quintero, was moving four tons a month. And that was only a fraction of the total CIA operation.

Leaving the unsupportable arguments aside, is there a supportable case that CIA directly intended for African-Americans to receive the cocaine which it knew would be turned into crack cocaine and which it knew would prove so addictive as to destroy entire communities? The answer is absolutely, yes.

And the key to proving that CIA intended for blacks to receive the drugs which virtually destroyed their communities lies in the twofold approach, of proving that they brought the drugs in and interfered with law enforcement - AND that, by virtue of CIA's relationships with the academic and medical communities, they knew exactly what the end result would be. Knowing that, we then have a mountain of proof, especially since the release of volume II of the CIA's Inspector General's Report (10/98) that the CIA specifically intended and achieved a desired result.

For anyone not familiar with the ways in which CIA studies and manipulates emerging social and political trends I cannot encourage strongly enough a reading of The Secret Team by L Fletcher Prouty, Col., USAF (ret.).

This article is a start, a beginning on the painful work that needs to be done to build a class-action lawsuit. Such a suit, by necessity, will have to include room for all the whites, Asians and Latinos who also fell prey to cocaine addiction. But this article should convince any reader that the argument is solid - and winnable. I thank Gary Webb and Orange County Weekly reporter Nick Schou for giving me the missing pieces I had waited nineteen years to find.

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As a budding LAPD narcotics investigator I was selected in 1976 to attend a two-week DEA training school in Las Vegas. The diploma I received from that school, approximately 30% larger than the one I received from UCLA, hangs above my desk to this day. At that school I was given the official position of the DEA and the government, which was that cocaine was less addictive and less harmful than marijuana. I had only made one arrest for cocaine, a heroin addict who liked speed balls (heroin and cocaine mixed), and I had seen it less than a half dozen times in my life.

One of those times was right after my fiancée Nordica D'Orsay, a CIA agent, had broken her ankle in the summer of 1976. Before I could take her to the emergency room she had to make some urgent calls from a pay phone equipped with the then new touch-tone technology. Our home phone was monitored, she said. Having broken both ankle bones she was in severe pain. She went into her purse and produced a paper bindle filled with a white crystalline powder. She rolled a dollar bill and snorted the powder. Her people, she said, recommended it to treat pain when an agent was wounded or over-tired and needed extra strength. Once she ingested what was in the bindle we delayed for about an hour while she made the urgent phone calls from a gas station. Only then was I permitted to take her to the hospital. Her ankle had swollen to the size of a grapefruit. She came out five hours later with a cast from her toes to her crotch. Who was I to question the CIA?

That was the only time I was ever aware of her in physical possession of cocaine. But it was not the only time she ever talked about it.

In 1979 Congress held rushed hearings into the perils of cocaine and was told, time and again by expert after expert that cocaine was not a problem because it was not seriously addictive, too expensive and not easy to find. The hearings, chaired by

Republican Congressman Tennyson Guyer in the House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control did not live up to Guyer's hopes of finding a devil in the drug cocaine.

"Witness after witness trooped up to the microphone to tell Congress that cocaine was not only a relatively safe drug, but so rare that it could hardly be called a nuisance, much less the menace Guyer was advertising." (Webb - p24). Ron Siegel, PhD of UCLA's Neuropsychiatric Institute (NPI) had written in an earlier monograph, "The rediscovery of cocaine in the seventies was unavoidable because its stimulating and pleasure-causing properties reinforce the American character with its initiative, its energy, its restless activity and its boundless optimism." (Webb - p19).

Siegel, one of the world's leading experts on drug abuse had, however, written a February, 1979 article for The New England Journal of Medicine which warned of a growing trend toward the smoking of cocaine (freebase, not rock) in the western United States. He traced the origins of freebasing back to 1974 in the San Francisco Bay area. He, like others, noted that smoking was a much more effective and powerful way to ingest cocaine because the surface area of the lungs absorbed the drug more rapidly, more efficiently and in larger quantities. He cautioned that smoking cocaine was also many times more addictive than snorting. Yet Siegel concluded, "All in all the long term negative effects of cocaine use were consistently overshadowed by the long term positive benefits," (Webb - pp. 31-33).

The witnesses testifying before congress included the heads of the Drug Enforcement Administration, that National Institute on Drug Abuse (**NIDA**) and a host of medical and psychiatric experts. The conclusion: cocaine was not a problem.

[NOTE: My sixteen years in 12 Step recovery from alcoholism and my work with scores of recovering alcoholics and addicts belies the fact that powdered cocaine can be, in and of itself, extremely destructive and addictive.]

Only one man, Dr. Robert Syck of Yale University was insistent that trouble was coming and it was BIG trouble. Syck was a professor of psychiatry and pharmacology at Yale Medical School. He began his testimony by stating, "What I would like to talk to you about for the most part is the importance of telling the truth. We have given a great deal of cocaine to many individuals and find it to be a most unremarkable drug."

But, according to Webb, "Syck told the Committee that he'd hesitated for a long time about coming forward with the information and was still reluctant to discuss the matter at a public hearing. 'Usually, when things like this are reported, the media advertises them, and this attention has been a problem with cocaine all along.' The information Syck had was known to only a handful of drug researchers around the world.

"For about a year, a Peruvian police psychiatrist named Dr. Raul Jeri had been insisting that wealthy drug users in Lima were being driven insane by cocaine. A psychiatrist in Bolivia, Dr. Nils Noya, began making similar claims shortly thereafter." What had been discovered was an addiction so overwhelming that middle and upper class students and middle class wage earners in Peru and Bolivia had abandoned every aspect of a normal human life, including eating, drinking, personal hygiene to the point of defecating in clothes that would remain unchanged for days, family and shelter in the pursuit of "basuco". (Webb - pp25-30).

Basuco, a sticky paste, was the first-stage product in the refinement of coca leaves into powder. Although frequently mixed with a cesspool of toxic waste such as gasoline, kerosene and other chemicals, the pharmacological effects of smoking basuco are identical to the effects of smoking crack cocaine which became popular in the US ten years later. So intense was the addiction that desperate South American psychiatrists

had resorted to bilateral anterior cingulotomies (lobotomies) to stop the addiction (Ruppert 3). But even these drastic measures resulted in a relapse rate of between 50-80% (Webb - p36) (Ruppert 2). Yale medical student David Paly, working under Dr. Byck, recalled a 1978 conversation with his mentor. "The substance of my conversation with ByckE was that if this ever hits the U.S., we're in deep trouble." (Webb - p30)

Byck traveled to Peru to attend a symposium on cocaine with Siegel and other experts in 1979. Later he obtained police permits and federal grants to begin intensive research into cocaine smoking (Webb - p 31). The CIA routinely monitors overseas travels of U.S academics and the purposes of their travels. Since the Nixon Administration, emerging drug trends in producing countries had been a mandate of CIA collection efforts. When law enforcement grants, approvals and funding crossed international boundaries, the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) and several special units within CIA were automatically notified. Here, we begin to see that CIA must have been well aware of the effects of basuco. The CIA's well-documented role in providing training, assistance and advice to Latin American law enforcement agencies guarantees that CIA was collecting intelligence on the destructiveness of cocaine smoking as soon as it began to be a problem. (Colby, Prouty). That was as far back as 1974. (Webb - p33).

By the time the government was compelled to acknowledge that cocaine smoking had reached the U.S., and that it was having a devastating effect, the experts, including Siegel and Byck, who was now warning of an epidemic of near biblical proportions, encountered nothing but resistance from the government.

According to Webb "Byck said the Food and Drug Administration shut down attempts to do any serious research on addiction or treatment, refusing to approve grant requests or research proposals and withholding government permits necessary to run experiments with controlled substances. 'The FDA almost totally road blocked our getting anything done. They insisted that they had total control over whether we could use a form of cocaine for experimental purposes, and without a so-called IND [an Investigation of New Drug permit] we couldn't go ahead with any cocaine experiments. And they wouldn't give us an IND.'

" Why not? Once you get into the morass of government, you never understand exactly who is doing what to whom and why." (Webb - p 37)

Again, to understand how CIA infiltrates various government agencies including the FDA, The Forest Service and the Postal Service I recommend Prouty and From The Wilderness (Dec. 1998).

What was Ron Siegel's experience? According to Webb, "When Siegel, under U.S. Government contract, finished a massive report on the history and literature of cocaine smoking, he couldn't get the government to publish it." (Webb - p37). This writer interviewed Ron Siegel a number of times in the mid 1980s and what I learned was that all of his studies had shown that "rock" smoking, as it was then called, was, in effect, the bubonic plague of drug abuse.

Between 1984 and 1987 I served as the West Coast Correspondent for The U.S. Journal of Drug and Alcohol Dependence. During that time I had a number of occasions to interview some of the world's leading experts on drug abuse and rock cocaine. They included Dr. Louis "Joly" West, Dr. Sidney Cohen and Ron Siegel. All were a part of UCLA's Neuro-psychiatric Institute (NPI) which is a world-renowned facility that includes among its specialties drug abuse research. NPI is also jointly funded by the RAND Corporation, which was a creation of the CIA and the U.S. Air Force. How tight is the relationship between NPI and RAND? A check of NPI's home page on the Internet

(www.hsrcenter.org/program) reveals that 5 of 19 faculty scholars and 19 out of 54 current investigators at NPI come from the RAND Corporation.

A check of the RAND Corporation's home page (www.rand.org) leads to the following quote: "RAND's research agenda has always been shaped by the priorities of the nation. With roots in the Cold War competition with the Soviet Union, the early defense related agenda evolved - in concert with the nation's attention - to encompass such diverse subject areas as space, economic, social and political affairs overseas; and the direct role of government in social and economic problem solving at home."

I remember when I was as a young boy, that my father, who worked on CIA related projects for Martin-Marietta Corp, met frequently with people from the RAND Corporation. In fact, my first boyhood crush was on the daughter of a RAND executive. It was no small matter of pride in my family that RAND was known to be part of the CIA.

As further corroboration for RAND's connection to both UCLA and the CIA I met with UCLA Political Science professor Paul Jabber in early 1982. It was Paul who confirmed for me that the National Security Council and CIA had approved the use of heroin smuggled through Kurdestan, as a means of (re)arming the Kurds to fight against Saddam Hussein in 1975. This was the operation which, when I discovered it, ended my LAPD career in 1978. (For further on this see my written Senate testimony at www.copvcia.com.)

Paul Jabber had been a RAND consultant and an NSC/CIA consultant throughout the Carter Administration. He was still a RAND consultant when I met him at UCLA.

A search of retired CIA officer Ralph McGehee's excellent CIABase (www.ciabase.com) reveals 73 pages of annotated references to CIA's longstanding relations with academia. Two portions of those printouts are telling. One, a response to a Freedom of Information Act request turned up more than 900 pages of documents relating to CIA contracts with the University of California. Another quote indicates that, circa 1957-77, "Docs released under FOIA reveal long history contacts between CIA and University California. Activities cover wide range cooperation between several of its 9 campuses including: UC Vice Presidents 2-week tour with CIA in which he advised Agency relating to student unrest, recruiting UC students, Academic cover for Professors doing research for the CIA, and improving CIA's image on campuses; a series of CIA sponsored seminars in Berkeley and other sites for professors to share info with CIA; providing a steady flow of CIA material on China and the USSR to CIA-approved professors."

The CIA connections grow deeper and more ominous. Louis "Joly" West, who died this month, served for many years as Director of NPI. The documentation from government records is voluminous that West was a pioneer for CIA in the development of and experimentation with LSD in the 1950's and 1960s. The first time I met him a group of doctors were joking about how he had "administered 10,000 micrograms of LSD to an enraged elephant for the CIA. The elephant died. I recall one doctor quipping, "I sure am glad it was a communist elephant!"

One last note before we move on: Joly West, is extremely well documented from CIA's own records as having been one of the principal researchers in CIA's MK-ULTRA program which used drugs and torture to produce mind-control assassins and other useful servants. I recall one telling discussion with NPI's sympathetic Dr. Sid Cohen who knew of my past struggles against CIA. He told me, "CIA pretty much knows everything we do at NPI. It was set up that way from the start." Cohen was qualified to speak on this subject. He had been a consultant for the State Department, the U.S. Army and the World Health Organization.

If that was the case, and if NPI housed some of the world's foremost experts on crack cocaine, it is impossible not to believe that CIA didn't know what UCLA, RAND and the governments of Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia knew.

Until the book *Dark Alliance* and an absolutely fabulous series of articles appeared in *The Orange County Weekly* by reporter Nick Schou I had been unconvinced that CIA had directly targeted African-Americans. I believed it in my heart but I had never seen the evidence to prove it. In August 1996, right after the Webb stories appeared, I was a call-in guest on a number of radio talk shows with Gary and I recall stating that I knew nothing about CIA selling crack cocaine on street corners but I knew a great deal about CIA bringing it in on airplanes and boats. It was not until Schou's series and Webb's book appeared that I was not only convinced, I was certain that CIA had targeted blacks.

It is beyond the scope of this article to describe just how well Gary Webb used court records, DEA, Justice Department, CIA and L.A. County Sheriff's records to establish that the drug dealing operations of Danilo Blandon and Norwin Meneses were sanctioned and protected by both DEA and the CIA. The revelations in both volumes of the CIA's Inspector General's reports, as covered in *From The Wilderness*, corroborate much of Gary's work.

In particular, Webb documented how Ricky Ross always seemed to avoid arrest at the peak of his career. Danilo Blandon's direct connections to CIA assets and agents are now a given. Let's look at what Ricky Ross had to say about Blandon. "All I knew was like, back in LA he [Blandon] would always tell me when they was going to raid my houses. The police always thought I had somebody working for the police.

"And he was always giving me tips like, 'Man don't go back over to that house no more,' or 'Don't go to this house over here.'" (Webb - p179)

The police told of serious frustrations at trying to arrest Ross. The most telling event was when a joint task force of Sheriffs, LAPD and other agencies set out to raid fourteen different locations in 1986. All of them had been cleaned out by the time the surprise raids hit. (Webb - p310-321). Only one location, the home of Ronald Lister, turned up anything of value - government documents. Both Webb and Schou tied Lister directly to CIA and Contra support operations and to Scott Weekly, an Annapolis classmate of Oliver North. Subsequent investigations, lasting into 1997, not only showed evidence of Weekly's links to CIA and DIA, including FBI wiretaps of his phone conversations, but also established links between Weekly, North and the staff of Vice President George Bush (Webb - pp320-323). Sheriff's deputies and LAPD officers were amazed and knew full well that they were investigating a CIA operation, which was being protected. Hundreds of pages of government documents mysteriously disappeared from Sheriffs custody and Blandon never got arrested. Neither did Ricky Ross until much later.

One of the heroes of *Dark Alliance*, Bell PD detective Jerry Guzetta, summed up all of the police experience in trying to arrest Ricky Ross and Danillo Blandon. "Every policeman who ever got close to Blandon was either told to back off, investigated by their department, forced to retire or indicted," (Webb - p375).

In early November 1996, two weeks before I confronted CIA Director John Deutch at Locke High School in Watts, I attended another congressional town hall meeting in Compton hosted by Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald. At that meeting, before I took the microphone to talk about CIA drug dealing, I had an opportunity to talk in private with Department of Justice Inspector General Michael Bromwich and the commander of LAPD's Narcotics Group, Commander (now Deputy Chief) Gregg Berg. I told both men exactly how CIA protected their drug operations.

At the time all police agencies belonged to an organization known as the Narcotics Intelligence Network (NIN). Any law enforcement agency conducting an investigation of a drug trafficker must first run the suspect's name through a computer search to find out if anyone else has an ongoing investigation of that suspect. Such an arrangement is necessary to prevent one agency from arresting another agency's undercover operatives. What the CIA does is to use its contract agents or deep covers within local police departments to constantly monitor **NIN**, which has to be notified of pending raids. The CIA also uses its deep covers within police departments to monitor investigations and warn CIA assets in time to avoid arrest.

How did I know this? Ten years before the Ricky Ross raids, in 1976, my CIA agent fianc:Ze had told me this was how "her people" protected certain things. The job she was recruiting me for, which I refused to take, was to work myself, with a little help, into a position where I would be the one doing the monitoring - and the warning. She once told me that she had asked "her people" if she could give me information which would lead directly to a Los Angeles arrest of a major dealer. They wouldn't let her because I had already told her that I would never overlook illegal narcotics. The unspoken message was that if I wouldn't overlook when asked I couldn't be given a "freebie".

Lister, an ex-policeman who served as a bodyguard/courier for Blandon delivered both drugs and money while enjoying CIA protection. He and Blandon delivered drugs and guns all over South Central. Danillo Blandon even sold guns to Ricky Ross' immediate entourage. Ollie Newell, Ross's partner, was able to purchase a .50 caliber machine gun on a tripod (Webb p 188). This is a pure military weapon known as a "Ma Deuce" and something which is not obtainable at your local surplus store.

Webb and Schou also documented that the police and the FBI knew that Lister and Blandon were delivering not only guns but sophisticated radio equipment (which enabled the monitoring of secure police frequencies) to Ross and the gangs (Webb - pp. 179-193) (Schou). I knew then that the whole operation was protected from start to finish by the Central Intelligence Agency. Why? If you walk into a room filled with policemen and yell "Anybody want to take some drugs off the street?" maybe half the room will stand up. But if you walk into the same room and yell, "Anybody want to take some guns off the street?" you will be crushed in the ensuing stampede. Only the federal government, and especially the CIA, have the horsepower to make cops stay away from arresting those who put guns on the streets.

Nick Schou demonstrated how Lister, through arms dealer Tim La France and Weekly (who is himself a firearms master), was working on Agency contracts serious enough to secure him end-user certificates from the State Department to export weapons in a matter of days when the process usually requires months. Indirect confirmation of these relationships was established when the FBI denied release of some of Lister's documents under provisions of the National Security Act (Webb - p 193).

As documented by phone records and telephone calls placed to the Fluor Corporation in Irvine, California by Lister's associates, Ron Lister held frequent meetings with a Fluor Vice President named Bill Nelson (Webb - pp191-193) (Schou). Bill Nelson was a retired Deputy Director of Operations (ODO) of the CIA who had personally overseen the destabilization and overthrow of Chile's Salvador Allende in the 1970s. The ODO is the second most powerful position in the CIA and is directly in charge of all covert operations. The Fluor Corporation, according to confidential sources, was a major multi-national corporation which regularly provided services and cover for the CIA over a period of roughly fifteen years.

It is inconceivable that a courier and contractor like Lister could have held regular meetings with a retired DDO in Southern California unless he was protected at the

highest levels. One good narcotics detective could have tailed Lister to one meeting which would have been enough to totally compromise the Agency - especially if it had occurred just after Lister had transported twenty kilos of cocaine or a trunk load of sub-machine guns. Conversely, it is also inconceivable that a retired DDO would meet with anybody unless he knew everything in the world there was to know about that person beforehand. The Agency just does not work that way.

A former CIA officer, John Vanderwerker, confirmed to Schou that Nelson and Lister knew each other (Webb - p195).

Crack cocaine was particularly devastating for African-American communities. This was, I believe, by design. In early 1985 USC Sociologists Klein and Maxson researched the phenomenon of crack use. "One thing they were unable to explain was why crack was found only in L.A.'s black neighborhoods. 'The drug,' the sociologists wrote, at least currently seems to be ethnically specific. Cocaine is found widely in the Black Community in Los Angeles, but it is almost totally absent from the Hispanic areas," (Webb - p184).

And the effects of crack use were, indeed, biblical. In 1985 50% of the emergency room admissions in LA were due to crack. Full-blown cocaine psychosis was occurring as soon as eight months after first use and crack cocaine hit hardest among those African-Americans who had some college education and held steady jobs (Ruppert1&2).

I wrote in 1985. "So pervasive is\he epidemic that it is threatening the political and social systems that have held black communities together in the face of cuts in social programs and rising unemployment in an already depressed economy," (Ruppert 1). The Webster Commission, charged with finding the causes of the 1992 LA riot/insurrection found that one of the primary causes was crack cocaine. The LA riots remain, to this day, the largest domestic insurrection since the civil war.

Picture a jury trial for a man accused of arson. No one saw the man light the match (taught the dealers how to make the crack). Yet there is incontrovertible evidence that the man knew and had studied fire science and thus knew that by pouring gasoline onto dry wood and striking a match, that the wood building would burn. There is also incontrovertible evidence that the man brought gasoline, small bits of kindling and a person who liked to play with matches to a large building. There is also hard proof that the man, once a fire had started, deliberately interfered with fire fighters attempting to reach the blaze. Then he brought in lots more gasoline. Not only that but the man provided the match striker with guns and radios which monitored the fire department frequencies so that he could fight offfirefighters and continue lighting more fires.

As the building burned, and people died inside, our suspect attempted to cover-up for the match lighter and interfered with law enforcement investigations into his activities. He even lied to Congress, which was alarmed by the damage and the number of deaths. And, being trusted by Congress, our suspect continued to thwart attempts to stop the fire and find the cause.

Such a man would be convicted of arson in a heartbeat.

There is a long and expanding history of American tax payer dollars being used to help certain people get rich off of illicit drug sales.

Gang violence has been a part of some Los Angeles neighborhoods for decades, but it wasn't until the 1980's that gang members saw their biggest money making opportunity with crack cocaine. Little did they know that the CIA was using them as pawns in a larger scheme by allowing the more affordable drug to come into their neighborhood.

Freeway Ricky Ross, one of America's biggest drug dealers, unwittingly became a main player in the Central American drug connection, which sent millions of American dollars in drug money to Nicaragua. The CIA's plan was to promote and finance the Contra revolutionary group, which was trying to depose the Socialist Sandinista government in the Central American country.

"Russia had given the Sandinistas a hundred million dollars to fight with. Congress had cut off all the money from the contras, so now, the Sandinistas had the advantage," said Ricky Ross.

President Ronald Reagan and then Vice President George H. W. Bush fretted over Soviet influence in Nicaragua.

"They would be in our backyard. I believe that they felt it was more valuable to sacrifice a particular sector of America, and a race of people in America in order to save the whole country," said Ross.

Former LAPD detective and author Michael Ruppert has written extensively about the government's involvement in drug trafficking around the world. He says politics isn't the only motive.

"The control of the cash from the drug trade is of vital importance to wall street, because drug profits are laundered under corporations and banks net profits," said Ruppert.

1 Tags

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The CIA's policy of looking the other way wasn't just for the benefit of big business or crushing revolutionary movements abroad. Domestically, drugs and drug lords were used to quell black activist movements that challenged the status quo.

Imam Abdul Alim Musa was a major drug dealer in Oakland, California where the revolutionary Black Panther Party had its headquarters.

"So the government wanted to stop the black movement in this track?? Technically they used us, drug dealers, it gave us high quality heroin and cocaine to pop into our own neighborhood and then we sold it to our own people, to break the back of the revolution," said Alim Musa.

The drug ravaged Oakland's poor community just like Ricky Ross' drug empire ruined parts of Los Angeles.

Ross admits to his crimes, but he doesn't think that he should have been the only one who was punished over the Contra cocaine connection. Many in his community agree, including gang expert, Alex Alonso.

"We just want to blame black or Hispanic drug dealers. At the end of the day, we want to ignore this totality of circumstances that really ends up causing drugs to be grown in Colombia and ending up on our doorsteps in the United States," said Alonso.

The government's efforts resulted in a generation of young black men being sent to prison and caused many hard working families to lose their homes. Many wonder if Los Angeles' poor neighborhoods can recover from the damage inflicted by the crack epidemic.

"So once you look at this here, then it's easy for you to see they didn't mind sacrificing a particular sector of America," said Ross.

As long as the government and America's elite continue to benefit from the illegal drug trade, more suffering may lie ahead.

As minorities fall through the cracks the CIA created through drug addiction, US media has largely ignored the epidemic and discounted any investigation into the problem.

"Investigative reporting has been suffering probably in this country [United States] for the past 30 years. And good reporting is bad business, so you have the corporatization of media as well," explained Georgetown University professor Chris Chambers.

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Radio host Alex Jones said the allegations against the CIA regarding drugs and black market money are facts, not merely speculation and that the CIA control the profits for the prison system via money laundering and lobbying.

"They [CIA] sell you the drugs, and when their police on the street catch you with them, they then put you in their prisons working for 25 cents an hour displacing American workers and driving down wages," he said. *"This is all still going on at an even greater level today in Afghanistan and is now hidden in plain view."*

He further argued the US uses the drug war as a cover to spy on the world.

Secret ties between CIA, drugs revealed

By Rosalind Muhammad

Originally Published, 1996

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For nearly a decade the CIA helped spread crack cocaine in Black ghettos

[Note: This article was originally published in 1996 by then Final Call dark_alliance.jpg News West Coast Bureau Chief, Rosalind Muhammad.]

- [The Complete Archive of Gary Webb's Explosive Series: "Dark Alliance" \(NarcoNews\)](#)
- [Read about the FBI's COINTEL Program \(NOI.org/COINTELPro\)](#)

LOS ANGELES (FinalCall.com) - New evidence has surfaced linking the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency to the introduction of crack cocaine into Black neighborhoods with drug profits used to fund the CIA-backed Nicaraguan Contra army in the early 1980s.

This evidence has given credence to long-held suspicions of the U.S. government's role in undermining Black communities.

Thousands of young Black men are serving long prison sentences for selling cocaine -- a drug that was virtually unobtainable in Black neighborhoods before members of the CIA's army started bringing it into South Central in the 1980s at bargain basement prices," wrote Mercury News reporter Gary Webb, in the first installment of the shocking series of reports.

According to a series of groundbreaking reports by the *San Jose Mercury News*, for the better part of a decade, a San Francisco Bay Area drug ring, comprised of CIA and U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency agents and informants, sold tons of cocaine to the Crips and Bloods street gangs of Los Angeles.

Millions of dollars in drug profits were then funneled to the Fuerza Democratica Nicaraguense (Nicaraguan Democratic Force), the largest of several anti-Communists commonly called the Contras. The 5,000-man FDN was created in mid-1981 and run by both American and Nicaraguan CIA agents in its losing war against Nicaragua's Sandinista government, the Cuban-supported socialists who had overthrown U.S.-backed dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1979.

This CIA-backed drug network opened the first pipeline between Columbia's cocaine cartels and the Black neighborhoods of Compton and Los Angeles, according to the *Mercury News*.

In time, the cocaine that flooded Los Angeles helped spark a "crack explosion" in urban America and provided the cash and connections needed for Los Angeles's gangs to buy Uzi sub-machine guns, AK-47 rifles, and other assault weapons that would fuel deadly gang turf wars, drive-by shootings, murders and robberies -- courtesy of the U.S. government, according to the article.

"While the FDN's war is barely a memory today, Black America is still dealing with its poisonous side effects. Urban neighborhoods are grappling with legions of homeless crack addicts. Thousands of young

Black men are serving long prison sentences for selling cocaine -- a drug that was virtually unobtainable in Black neighborhoods before members of the CIA's army started bringing it into South Central in the 1980s at bargain basement prices," wrote *Mercury News* reporter Gary Webb, in the first installment of the shocking series of reports.

Although the *Mercury News* details the activities of numerous Nicaraguan and American informants and ties involved in the drug-gun trade, three men are cited as key players: Norwin Meneses, a Nicaraguan smuggler and FDN boss; Danilo Blandon, a cocaine supplier, top FDN civilian leader in California, and DEA informant; and Ricky Donnell Ross, a South Central Los Angeles high school dropout and drug trafficker of mythic proportions, who was Mr. Blandon's biggest customer.

According to the *Mercury News* article, for the better part of a decade, "Freeway Rick," as he was nicknamed, was unaware of his supplier's military and political connections.

But together, the trio was directly and indirectly responsible for introducing and selling crack cocaine as far away as Cleveland, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Dayton and St. Louis.

Ricky Ross' street connections, ability to obtain cocaine at low prices and deals that allowed him to receive drugs from Contra-CIA operatives with no money upfront helped him to undercut other dealers and quickly spread crack. He also sold crack wholesale to gangs across the country, said the *Mercury News* report.

Most of the information surrounding the CIA's involvement in the crack trade came from testimony in the March drug trafficking trial of Mr. Ross, 36, who, along with two other men were convicted of cocaine conspiracy charges in San Diego.

A federal judge indefinitely postponed Mr. Ross's Aug. 23 sentencing to grant his lawyer time to try to show that federal authorities misused DEA agent Mr. Blandon to entrap Mr. Ross in a "reverse" sting last year. Mr. Ross could receive life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Records show that Mr. Ross was still behind bars in Cincinnati in 1994, awaiting parole, when San Diego DEA agents targeted him for the reverse sting-- one in which government agents provide the drugs and the target provides the cash.

Though Mr. Blandon has admitted to crimes that have sent others away for life, the U.S. Justice Department turned him loose on unsupervised probation in 1994 after only 28 months behind bars and has paid him more than \$166,000 since, court records show.

Mr. Blandon's boss in the FDN's cocaine operation, Norwin Meneses, has never spent a day in a U.S. prison, even though the federal government has been aware of his cocaine dealings since at least 1974, according to the *Mercury News* article.

For years, writers, authors, activists, gang members and others have implicated the U.S. government in the deadly crack cocaine-gun trade.

Many have charged the U.S. government with supplying gang members with these tools in an effort to undermine and eradicate the Black community through wanton murder, drug addiction and crime.

crack300x225.jpg

For years, writers, authors, activists, gang members and others have implicated the U.S. government in the deadly crack cocaine-gun trade.

Some believe crack did not become an "American problem" until the drug began hitting white neighborhoods and affecting white children.

On Aug. 23, the Los Angeles City Council, responding to pressure by the Los Angeles Chapter of the Black American Political Association of California (BAPAC), asked U.S. Atty. Janet Reno to investigate the government's involvement in the alleged sale of illegal street drugs in Los Angeles' Black community to support the CIA-backed Contras.

BAPAC vice chairman Glen Brown told *The Final Call* that a federal agency monitored by a civilian advisory board is one way the government could investigate the matter because "we can't have people who are responsible for this investigate themselves."

BAPAC, a statewide coalition of political activists, has also demanded that the U.S. government provide the necessary funding, materials and labor to rebuild urban areas destroyed by crack cocaine, as well as the necessary medical care, education, counseling, and vocational training to restore shattered lives.

Long-term Los Angeles activists Chilton Alphonse, founder of the Community Youth Sports & Arts Foundation, which aids former gang members, said he briefly assisted Ricky Ross when the drug dealer was paroled from prison in October 1994, after serving about half of a 10-year prison sentence in Cincinnati in exchange for his testimony against corrupt Los Angeles police detectives.

"He came back to Los Angeles and tried to get his life together," Mr. Alphonse said. "Rick was a legend in the streets. But he flipped (testified against law enforcement officers). He said they used him to skim money from him."

Mr. Alphonse was referring to Mr. Ross's 1991 testimony against Los Angeles Police Department narcotics detectives who had been fired or indicted along with dozens of deputies from the Los Angeles County sheriffs elite narcotics squads for allegedly beating suspects, stealing drug money and planting evidence.

Mr. Alphonse, who now resides in Alabama, said he has warned for years that the flood of crack cocaine and assault weapons into the Black community was not the doing of the Bloods and Crips.

"Inner city youth don't have the resources to manufacture cocaine or ship in guns," Mr. Alphonse said.

Others agree.

In December 1989, while head of the NAACP Los Angeles Chapter, Anthony A. Samad (then Anthony Essex) announced his findings that some Bloods and Crips members had implicated the U.S. government in the ruthless crack and assault weapons trade among Los Angeles street gangs. Mr. Samad said that he learned this after extensive interviews with gang members housed in Los Angeles County Jail. But he was largely ignored by Black elected officials, he said who sided with law enforcement.

"Gang members charged then that gang rivalry and drug wars were being perpetuated by the police and the government," said Mr. Samad, who is now president of Samad & Associates, a consulting firm.

Henry Stuckey, of Stop the Violence/Increase the Peace, said that government involvement in community drug trafficking was common knowledge in some circles.

"Obviously African American males didn't have planes and boats to move the guns and narcotics into the Black community." Mr. Stuckey said.

Mr. Stuckey said that Black and Latino youths must be apprised of the government's involvement in order to understand that their communities will continue to be the dumping grounds for guns and drugs unless the youths "do for self."

"I do think that the blame that was laid on the gangs was wrong," Mr. Stuckey said. "But I can't say that it vindicates them for their actions because they had a choice in the matter. (Still) it's horrible that the government targeted our youth."

Roland Freeman, a spokesperson for the Los Angeles Chapter of the International Campaign to Free Geronimo Pratt, is a former member of the Black Panther Party. The BPP was targeted and ultimately nullified by FBI counterintelligence programs.

Mr. Freeman said he knows firsthand of the deceit of which the government is capable; a government, he said, that tries to "set itself up as if it's higher than God when really it's lower than the devil."

"(They put) small pox in the Indian's blankets and gave them fire water," Mr. Freeman said. "They make drugs available to Blacks and other minorities. It only surprises me that (the CIA) got caught."

One on One with "The Real" Rick Ross

BY FmALCALL.COM NEWS | LAST UPDATED: DEC 25, 2009 - 11:05:41 AM

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Former crack kingpin embraces a new life

Originally posted: Oct. 2009

Freeway Ricky Ross is a free man. Free from a 20-year prison sentence he served for his role as a pawn, who unwittingly distributed crack cocaine for the C U throughout the urban cities of America in the 1980s. He helped to spark an epidemic whose impact has spawned at least two generations of crack mothers, crack babies and crack wars. He first had a life sentence without the possibility of parole, which was reversed to 20 years on appeal. In his own words, he was either a victim or a villain, he once told the Final Call. But today, Ricky Ross serves as a savior. He took time during his celebration, and away from working on his yet unnamed TV reality show and theatrical film about his life, to share how during a one-on-one interview with Chanene Muhammad, Western Region Correspondent. They spoke at his mother's home on September 29.



Ricky Ross, in dark shirt, with family and friends. Photo: Chanene Muhammad

FINAL CALL (FC) - Thanks for inviting the *Final Call* to your homecoming celebration. How are you doing? How are you feeling? What are you thinking right now?

RICKY ROSS (RR) - I'm doing super. I'm glad to be home. It's been a long journey but I never gave up the faith. I knew that one day I'd be back here, sitting in this house with my friends and family. It's wonderful. The greetings that I've been getting are overwhelming. I feel like a king. Yeah, I feel like a king. Health wise I'm pretty good. I've got a little cough right now, a little congestion in my chest, but other than that I feel like a 20-year-old. I'm a vegetarian. I don't eat any animal products, going on 18 years.

FC: I've been calling you Freeway Ricky Ross and you haven't objected, so I see you still go by that name. **There's been no change since you've been incarcerated?**

RR: No it hasn't. It's not the name that needed to change. It was the mindset. So my mindset has changed and that's the most important part. Once the mindset has changed, everything else can stay same but it's a different person. He may look the same. You may call him by the same name, but he's not the same person anymore. And basically that's what's happening with me my mindset has changed and I'm not the same person that I was 14 years ago.

FC: Of course other than you being free from incarceration right now, are there any other changes, large or small that I can share with the readers?

RR: Really, I've been from lockdown. I haven't been locked down these 14 years. Basically they had my body confined but my mind was running free. I did a lot of studying. The Minister [Louis Farrakhan] helped me out a lot. I watched tapes of the Minister. I think he's one of the most brilliant men living right now. I can't think of anybody else that I've run into, in all the books I've read, and everything, that I can put above him or on his level. Hands down, he's probably been one of the biggest helps to me changing my life. He talks all the time about us coming out of the old and coming into the new. He touched me one day I was watching a tape. This is when I had the life sentence and I've been trying to find that tape for years ... he talked about being trapped in a situation and what he said is that the black man is trapped in America but if they grow they can overwhelm the system. And he said it was like a woman being pregnant. That if the baby continues to develop that the woman has to have this baby. There's nothing that she can do other than abort the baby to stop this baby from coming. When he said that, it touched me. I was sitting in the chapel. He's telling me to outgrow this prison system. So that hit me like a ton of bricks so I really started to grow. I'd been growing a little but not like I could have. Then he always tells us to go out our minds. Watch the music. Watch the TV that we listen to. Watch the books we read. When he told me that I cut out all the TV, cut out all the novels, all the fun and games. I stopped playing all the table games and I went strictly to studying. From that, right now, being on the streets these six months, it makes the world seem easy. It's like, I hear a lot of people complaining about the challenges and to me it's like baby's play, this is like taking candy from a baby. What are you guys talking about it's tough out here? It's hard? I took those teachings and it just made life so straight and narrow. All you gotta do is just keep going right down that road and whatever you want you can pretty much have it.

FC: I've interviewed many people who were incarcerated and I've found that no matter what they've been in for, the readjustment period is difficult. But because you studied Min. Farrakhan it helped you not only adjust but re-enter on a high plane?

RR: Yeah. People ask me what is it like, and it's like just another day to me. I haven't had any problems. My thing right now is solving other peoples' problems. Right now I don't have nothing to complain about. I don't need anything. I don't want anything. I'm free. They can't hold nothing against me. Right now they could come and say we're going to put you back in jail and it wouldn't bother me. No problem. Whatever, I'm just free. It's like a feeling that's hard to explain. I'm in my own little world and the only thing that gets me off is helping other people, solving their problems, because I don't have any problems. I've been through it. I've done it, and now I'm just floating. Like the Minister said, he's working for the people and I can understand what he means. I feel what he's saying. Even though I'm not spiritually like that, but as far as wanting to help the people, I know exactly what he means. I understand that totally.

FC: In terms of being free, and the CIA's role in the crack cocaine scandal, do you think that the government has really fully stepped up to its role in that? Or that the government owes you? I mean when you look at the news and you see Colonel Oliver North and others who were involved, it's like a where are they now sort of situation and the person who was actually the pawn, used, is the only person who actually paid the price?

RR: I don't think that the government's going to step up. I don't think that they will ever fully admit to what actually took place. I mean it would be devastating to their reputation and to their character for them to step up and I was amazed that they said what they did say, that they knew that they were selling drugs but they didn't sanction it. To me that was like, man I was still like kind of, did the government really do this? Were they really involved? Even with what was going on with what Gary (Webb, now-deceased San Jose Mercury News reporter who broke the story about Mr. Ross and the CLA's involvement) was saying, I still had doubts in mind. Then I see them step up and admit that they knew. I mean, you knew they were selling drugs, was like them saying they know that I'm selling drugs and don't do anything. I mean, you're the government, you don't know this guy is selling drugs and you don't stop it. Your job is to stop drugs, and you know that they're selling drugs and you even have the nerve to go and ask the attorney general to not prosecute you for not prosecuting them. That's deep, but knowing all of that, but I have to move forward. I know all this. I know what's happening. Basically they're not going to do 'nything and I'm not looking for them to give me anything. They gave me enough when they put me in prison. I took prison and turned it. They tried to punish me with prison but prison turned out to be maybe one of the best things that ever happened to me. I got to know people that I never would have known before. It gave me time to sit down and get to know myself, because I didn't know myself. You know when you're on the streets, you're running, you're moving. You never get to know who you are.

FC: Where do you think you'd be now if you hadn't been incarcerated?

RR: I could be dead. That's a possibility because I probably would have kept selling drugs. It's crazy because something has to wake you up and jail just happened to be what shook me and brought me to reality. In a lot of ways jail has been a blessing to me. Malcolm X said if they lock us up we'll learn how to read and write books. That was my situation. I read his book too and I learned from him. I just learned from all these different people that I was able to sit down and through their books I got to know them and through their books, their character became my character. Jail has been a blessing to me.

FC: What have you learned from this ordeal, and was it an overall learning or did it come in stages, that can be passed on to young brothers or sisters who might now be in the game or just want to know about Ricky Ross?

RR: I learned so many things, it might take us a lifetime to go through all of them, but I learned that we must hold onto our dreams. We can't let others crush our dreams. Too often we have goals that we set for ourselves, but people smash them. They tell you, you can't do it or you shouldn't do this or shouldn't do that, never looking to see if it's good or bad. I call them now dream busters. And a lot of times it's your own family. They tell you that it's certain things you can't do, if you want to start your own business, want to be a tennis player, play music, if it's something that's not the norm, and it's rampant in the Black community. We're so hard on our own. Go to school. Get an education. Get a job. We don't want to think outside the box, but I've learned it's ok to think outside the box. It's ok to be different. With me, I couldn't read and write in school, but I'm excellent with people. I've always been able to get people to follow me and do what I wanted them to do and I felt that somebody should have harnessed those skills and showed me how to work those skills at a young age and it would have turned my life in a whole different direction instead of me taking those skills and using them in the drug business. Reading is important ... you must read and continue to educate yourself. We need to learn who we are. So many times we go through our lives and people are putting us down, telling us we're not going to be anything. I remember people used to tell me, boy, you ain't going to be nothing but a thug, and consciously that starts to set in and you take on that personality that they put in you, so you've got to guard your mind against people putting bad things in it, because you'll pick up that personality and start to live it out and you won't even know it

FC: Any regrets over time, since you were that 11-year-old young man that was turned onto this by someone who was actually supposed to be a mentor?

RR: Well my life was an experiment. What I went through, now I know was for me to do what I got to do. I have a job that I have to do now and had I not went through that, I couldn't do the job that I'm fixing to do now. So when you say regrets, hmm. That's a tough one because to have a regret is to say that I can't do this job that I'm getting ready to do now for my people and that I wasn't willing to

go through what I went through, but I was. I went through it. I did it and I'm sorry to see my people suffering the way they are now. I'm sorry to see what crack cocaine is doing to the people and all drugs, but to do this job that I gotta do, I don't have no regrets about it. I'm excited about it I can hardly sleep. I'm ready to take it on full speed ahead.

FC: What is that Job? What are you getting ready to do?

RR: I'll be speaking in juvenile halls, I'll be starting there, because those are the ones that people have forgotten about. I met guys in prison that told me they were in juvenile hall for nothing. Just kids who didn't have a mother, didn't have a father, nobody to come and get them. They told me about the way they were treated. The first thing I'm going to do is start reaching out to those kids, start helping them rebuild their lives, show them who they can be and after that, start going from neighborhood to neighborhood, one person at a time. It reminds me of the commercial where the little girl is on the beach and she's throwing starfish back into the ocean. And the guy walks up and says oh, you can't save them. There's too many. And she picks one up and she throws him in the ocean, and she says I just saved that one. That's going to be my approach, one at a time and I'm going to do everything that I can to save the babies.

FC: Thank you.

RR: You don't have to thank me. You can thank the Minister for waking me up and showing me what my mission was. And I guess you can thank Elijah Muhammad for waking him up.

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A Special Message to Street Organizations

BY THE HONORABLE MINISTER LOUIS FARAKHAN | LAST UPDATED: AUG 5, 2007 - 12:59:00 AM

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[Editor's note: The following article is based on a message delivered by Minister Farrakhan on December 11, 2004 to the Bloods and the Clips in Newark, New Jersey. This message is not only relevant to the Bloods and Clips, but also to all of the Black and Latino street organizations throughout the cities of America. Click here to order CD/DVD of this message.]

In The Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

Above all today, I am honored to be in the presence of my young brothers, the Bloods and the Clips. I am very grateful to the leadership and those who follow that leadership who have tried their best to produce peace in the streets of Newark, New Jersey. There are too many mothers and grandmothers grieving because, in the natural sequence of things, parents should die before their children, having built a platform for them to stand on.

But circumstances in America and the world are such that children are dying before their mothers and grandmothers. Seeing a mother in a funeral parlor, grieving over her son who was shot down through the violence in the streets, feeling the pain of these mothers, fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers, gives way to great joy, knowing that you are making the effort to bring peace to the streets that you now control, to a degree.



The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

Some of you were stopped by police on your way here, harassed for nothing but the fact that you are organized. An unwritten law among the slave masters of our fathers and among the children of the slave masters today is that Black people must never be allowed to organize. That frightens the government. Whenever there are Bloods, Clips, Black Gangster Disciples, El Rukns, or the Nation of Islam, the Black Panther Party or anybody that sees the value of coming together as an organized unit, you become dangerous.

Brothers, the best greeting that we could give is "peace." I offer you peace and you offered me peace in return, meaning that from my lips and hands, you have nothing to fear, because peace is what I have in my heart for you, and I hope you have peace in your heart for me. So, we offer each other peace.

Although you made a peace treaty, you need to understand the depth of what peace means. Peace means that I love for you what I love for myself. Peace means that I'll never go behind your back and talk about you, but if there's something in me that I want to say to you, I will talk directly to you, brother to brother, man to man, sister to sister. Backbiting breaks peace; slander breaks peace; gossip and rumors break peace.

The moment you made peace, some people were not happy. Toe people who should have been happy about your peace were very disturbed about it. Why should people in government become disturbed that you made peace in the street? The police should have been the first to say, "This is good. It makes our job easier." Instead of certain members of the police and city administration becoming happy about your peace, they immediately tried to break the peace.

We have become tribes and clans. Clip is a tribe. Blood is a tribe. Baptist is a tribe. Methodist is a tribe. Catholic is a tribe. Sunni Muslim is a tribe. Ahmadiya Muslim is a tribe. Nation of Islam is a tribe. As long as we think like tribes, the enemy-who put Shoshani against Navajo, against Hopi, against Cree-[can](#) keep you fighting each other, until a leader comes along who makes you able to see each other as one people and not 11 tribes. Whoever has the wisdom to break down the barriers that separate us from each other becomes the most dangerous individual to the aim of White people, which is to dominate the people of color of our planet.

When we practice peace, there has to be certain laws that we follow in order to bring peace. I cannot steal from you, yet offer you peace. I cannot come in your house, after your sister and desecrate your family, yet offer you peace. I cannot know that you are married and want your wife, yet offer you peace. I cannot sell drugs to destroy your household, yet offer you peace. If we mean peace-because there is too much hypocrisy around the word "peace"-then what supports our peace has to be the principle, "I treat you like I want you to treat me." This is a code of righteous conduct. Peace with a righteous code supporting it produces love.

The Clips and the Bloods, if you do not love each other, then you will not feel the pain of your Brother when he is hurt. When you hear that a Clip was shot, or a Blood was shot, why does it send shockwaves through all the Bloods of that group or set, or all the Clips of that set? You tell yourself, "We must take revenge because we feel the pain of the hurt of one of our members." But instead of Bloods feeling the pain of only Bloods, or Clips feeling the pain of only Clips, suppose Clips feel the pain of Bloods and Bloods feel the pain of Clips. Then, you would know that we are becoming a family now-a real family.

It is similar to our bodies. someone steps on your toe, your toe does not speak, it is your mouth that opens in pain, because there is a connection between your mouth and your toe through a nervous system. The enemy does not want a replication of a nervous system developed among us, as a people, that when one of us aches, all of us feel that pain. When we are connected like that, we will stop the enemy's evil treatment of us all over the country. You will not have to ask him to stop police brutality, we will stop it ourselves when we feel each others' pain.

But now, if somebody can kill our Christian family and we, as Muslims, do not feel their pain, then we are disconnected. If somebody can hang one of our Brothers in Georgia and we read about it in Newark, but do not feel the pain, then we are not tied to each other. In the '60s, we could not watch television in Newark and see dogs and firehoses aimed at Black people in Alabama and Mississippi, and not feel the pain. That's why when Martin Luther King, Jr. was shot down, 100 cities were set on fire because of rioting in the streets.

You may not realize that part of the strategy of the government is to put you all against each other. If the enemy sees you trying to organize, he will send people to organize you. He says, "You have a spirit to come together, but I am going to make sure that whoever leads you is my man: This is the way the enemy thinks. He always sets up a counterelement or a countermovement.

Fifteen years ago, when the Berlin Wall was torn down because East and West Germany decided to be one Germany, many of the CIA operatives working in Eastern Europe were brought back to the United States and assigned to gangs.

What was the aim of the government? Why do you think the only industry thriving today is the **industry of prisons? Why do you think prisons are now on the stock market? People are investing in** the prospect of Blacks and Latinos filling the jails.

Do you know that in the 13th Amendment, which says that slavery is abolished, there is a clause that many do not mention, that states, "except that when you are charged with a crime: They are locking up our Brothers and Sisters all over the country, and when you are incarcerated, you lose your citizenship. This is a clever plan of the enemy_. The Latino family is growing, so if Black gangs get tired of fighting each other, the enemy will produce another fight for you. They urge you on, saying "The Latinos are growing in power and you have to do something about that." So, all of a sudden now, you find Black Brothers fighting their Latino Brothers. You all are being played against each other to somebody else's benefit. When the police stopped you today, they asked each other if they **had a warrant on any of you. You call it harassment, but it is also another means of placing leaders** behind bars, where they can make a punk out of you.

When some of you are sent to prison, you begin to engage in sex with other men. When you come out of jail, you start living on the "down low"-you are in a relationship with a woman by day, and another man by night. You claim to be a heterosexual, while living a secret gay lifestyle. Most of our women who contract HIV/AIDS were infected with the virus during a heterosexual relationship with a man. And now, Black women are dying from AIDS more than any other group. Can you not see that the enemy is plotting our destruction and we are playing into his hands by destroying one another?

The government wants you killing each other because it makes its job easier. In every major city in America, and even minor cities, who is filling up the funeral parlors? **It is our young Brothers age 18 to 35, either killed by AIDS, gunshot wounds, drug overdose or suicide. This is happening all over the country, Brothers, and it is part of a plot to deprive you of your future.**

What is your future that the enemy knows, but you do not know? Do you think that you were born to be nothing, to walk the streets, smoke dope, have sex, party, dance, rap and die? Do you think that is what Allah (God) intends for you, the children of slaves who have suffered the worst slavery of any people in the annals of history? What kind of God would want that for you?

In the Bible, God tells Abraham, "Know of a surety that your seed, your offspring will be a stranger in a strange land and they are going to be afflicted in that land for 400 years. But after that time, I will come, and I will judge that nation which they shall serve, and afterward shall they come out with great substance and go to their father in peace and be buried in a good old age"--for buried as a young man. Then, Moses is raised as a prophet from among the Children of Israel, who are suffering in bondage for 400 years. Allah (God) plagues Pharaoh and his people, takes the Children of Israel out of the country. He gives them a land of their own--for a piece of sky, but people were on the land who looked like giants to the Children of Israel. Allah (God) told the Children of Israel, "Go in and take the land." But out of fear of facing the giants, their fathers said to God, Moses and Aaron, "You go in the land first and clean the giants out, then we will go: So God said to the elders, 'I am going to let you wander in the wilderness until you die out. Then, I will take your children and they will inhabit the Promised Land."

Later in the Bible, in the Book of Deuteronomy, there is a prophecy, where God says He will raise the seed of Abraham who will be in a strange land among strange people, and He will also raise them up a prophet like unto Moses. But you do not need a man like Moses unless you have a wicked king like Pharaoh and a people in bondage like the Children of Israel. Once God raises that man like Moses, He says, "I will put My words in his mouth and he will speak unto them, all that I shall command him: You may think this prophecy is referring to the Jews, but it is referring to Black people in America. Our fathers were brought to these shores 450 years ago, and this is a strange land and we have been like strangers in it and afflicted ever since we have been here.

Now, America sees the Judgment of God on her. Throughout the countries of the world, dislike is increasing for America. Anti-American sentiments are so bad now that they give travel advisories to Americans.: "Don't go here. Don't go there." Americans even find it difficult to go to London, because the euro and the British pound weighs more than the American dollar. So, if you go to London, you have to spend a lot of money for little things that are much cheaper in America. The American dollar used to dominate the world economy, and if someone paid us, we would betray each other out of greed for money. I am warning those of you who think money is God, the wise economists are predicting that the dollar is going to collapse. After the dollar collapses, the government will collapse, as the Honorable Elijah Muhammad told me. Those who think that they have security in a dollar bill, rather than in God and the unity of their people, will cause blood to run in the streets.

The same bloodshed that is happening to the Palestinians by the Israelis will happen in America. The Palestinians have AK-47s, but the Israelis have helicopter gunships and jet planes flying over the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, firing rockets, and killing Palestinian leaders. You have guns. Who do you think is giving you guns and why are they supplying you with guns? I am not your enemy, I only want to make you wise to what is about to happen. The enemy will send people to join the gangs in order to spread rumors about your Brother to cause you to fight and kill one another. These demons will even kill a policeman and then blame it on the gangs. You need to wake up and realize that you are dealing with a people with a mindset that is opposed to the thinking of God, you are not dealing with righteous people. The White man has not changed his treatment of us. A few of them will speak nice words to us but, in the end, we have not gained anything substantial as a people. Instead, we continue to live in hell, while the rich enjoy heaven at the poor's expense.

The enemy joins the gangs, like he did most of the Black organizations, and places snitches around our leaders. They pretend like they are a Crip or a Blood, but really they are agents of the government of the United States of America. They give you an AK-47, a MAC 10, and other weapons that are rejects, and cannot shoot straight, so when you try to kill your Brother, a baby or somebody else innocent is killed instead as a result of your foolishness.

You are the people of God and God has come to take the bottom rail and bring it to the top, and make the last the first, and the least the most. But you are standing in the way of your own progress by your hatred of yourself and one another.

We, Muslims in the Nation of Islam, are not strangers to what you are facing on the streets. We are your Brothers, only we have been brought out of certain negative lifestyles with the Teachings of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. We were killers, pimps, hustlers, robbers, thieves and liars, but we are reformed now. But we still share the same spirit of brotherhood. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said, "My greatest followers are still in the street." You are the best generation that we have ever produced. You are stronger than the generation we had in the '60s, you only need guidance.

Why can't these young people find something to do other than street life? When city governments set their budgets, why do they cut these young people out? Somebody has to speak up for them. How are White policemen able to harass them in a city that may be predominantly Black? Why can't they become the policemen who patrol and protect their communities? Are they going to be told, "You've been to jail so you cannot patrol your community?" Time is out for playing games. If Black leaders call it like it is, the enemy will back up, but if they are too afraid to open their mouths to speak for the voiceless poor, they need to get out of their offices and jobs.

I am hurting for these young people because I see their beauty and I see how they are being betrayed. The only people that can deceive you are the people that you trust. We are living in a time of betrayal. How did Yasser Arafat get poisoned? How did Yuaschenko of the Ukraine get poisoned? How did Indira Ghandi get killed? It is always someone dose. How did Jesus get betrayed? There was a Judas in the family. You must understand that, during the height of the political movements of the '60s, the enemy had agents among us, pretending to be Muslims in the Nation of Islam, Socialists, Panthers, and even Christians in the church. They would say "Hallelujah" and "Praise the Lord" louder than everyone else, but they would also be reporting.

I am not trying to make you suspicious of one another, but I am trying to make you alert, because traps are being laid for the peacemakers. How can we mobilize the city for the 10th anniversary of the Million Man March-which saw members of rival gangs embrace as Brothers-, until we bring some peace to the streets? You cannot ask the Brothers to put their guns down, if you do not have anything for them to do in return. You cannot give them lip service. Brothers have children; brothers need jobs and income.

That's why I am concerned about these city budgets. Why can't city governments set aside money to train these Brothers in building skills? There are many run-down, dilapidated properties. If these Brothers were partnered with licensed plumbers, electricians, brick masons and painters, so that they could learn the skill, they could rehab and fix up these old abandoned houses. After the city sells the rehab buildings, they could put the profits in a Crip or Blood treasure, in order to buy more houses and land to start building their communities. When you start building, you control the streets but, right now, you do not own any part of the streets that you control. What good is controlling a street if you do not own it? You have to own it, then you are justified in controlling what you own. Then, when you own it, you want it run right.

Then, the next stage in community development is a Crip and a Blood getting elected to the city council. I heard that one of the Brothers told a city councilman, 'We decide whose sign goes up, whose sign goes down in the streets that we control.' But suppose it's your picture going up?

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**FREE AND CLEAR 'UNTIL SOMEONE COMES UP
DEAD.**

I wanted to add one more part to my "DRUG" section. I'm going to include monetary figures of each major drug because I want to make sure we know the EXACT reason we're being fed drugs to begin with. If you look back at your childhood, drugs were not introduced into our communities by "us".

Yes, jerks were selling it in the community, but they had to get the drugs from someplace, and I found the places.

THE GOVERNMENT (Pagans we've put in power) OWN EVERY LAST BRAGGING RIGHT! They are all up and through. They have had their slimy paws in this "set-up" for quite sometime! I'm talkin' like the B.C.'s! And they intend to ride this out until the wheels roll off! IT'S NOT A GAME!

Undercover students used in drug busts at some University of Wisconsin campuses

Experts raise concerns about coercion, campus officials stress safeguards

By [Sean Kirkby](#) | September 14, 2014

A former University of Wisconsin-Whitewater student poses with a playing card distributed by the campus warning of the penalties of a drug conviction. The student, who requested anonymity because he is looking for a job, sold drugs to another student on campus who was a confidential informant. UW-Whitewater is one of three four-year University of Wisconsin campuses to acknowledge using students to make controlled buys from suspected drug dealers. Photo shot Sept. 4, 2014, Madison.

Sean Kirkby/Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism

A former University of Wisconsin-Whitewater student poses with a playing card distributed by the campus warning of the penalties of a drug conviction. The student, who requested anonymity because he is looking for a job, sold drugs to another student on campus who was a confidential informant. UW-Whitewater is one of three four-year University of Wisconsin campuses to acknowledge using students to make controlled buys from suspected drug dealers. Photo shot Sept. 4, 2014, Madison.

Campus Informants

A related story focuses on the [penalties students could face for selling drugs on campus](#).

LISTEN

Wisconsin Public Radio criminal justice reporter Gilman Halsted collaborated with the Center on this report and produced his own story: ["UW Campuses Use Undercover Student Informants In Drug Busts."](#)

Center reporter Sean Kirkby discussed this topic on WPR's Central Time: ["A Look At Students As Police Informants On UW Campuses"](#)

PREVIOUS COVERAGE

Former Center reporter Mario Koran previously covered the unreliability of informant testimony in his 2013 report ["When lies lead to wrongful convictions."](#)

WHITEWATER- Moments after Javonni Butler was busted for selling marijuana in 2011, he says, police officers offered him a deal: Buy drugs to help convict others, and they would "sweep this under the rug."

Officers had just arrested Butler, a University of Wisconsin-Whitewater student and then-Whitewater city council member, for selling what court records describe as small quantities of marijuana twice to another student wearing a recording device.

He faced two felony charges that each carried a maximum of three and a half years in prison and a \$10,000 fine and a misdemeanor count of marijuana possession. His arresting officers, Butler says, warned that the charges would "ruin my life."

Butler, however, declined. In October 2011, he pleaded guilty to one felony and one misdemeanor charge as part of a plea deal and was sentenced to 45 days in jail. He was suspended from all UW System schools and lost his eligibility for federal financial aid. And, because the state's constitution bans convicted felons from holding public office, he was forced to resign his seat on the city council.

Javonni Butler, pictured at the time of his arrest, is a former Whitewater city council member who sold marijuana to another student wearing a recording device. He was convicted of a felony and forced to resign his seat in 2011.

Janesville Gazette / Janesville Gazette

Javonni Butler, pictured at the time of his arrest, is a former Whitewater city council member who sold marijuana to another student wearing a recording device. He was convicted of a felony and forced to resign his seat in 2011.

Butler, 25, is still angry, saying students are being pressured to become informants to avoid the consequences he faced.

"It's just pitiful, it's disgusting," Butler says. "They pretty much put kids in a spot until they have no choice but to snitch."

A member of the Walworth County Drug Unit, which arrested Butler, declined comment on whether the unit still uses students as informants. But UW-Whitewater Police Chief Matt Kiederlen says his department has used about 20 students as confidential informants during the past two years.

Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism checks at the UW System's 13 four-year campuses turned up two additional sites - UW-Stout and UW-Eau Claire - at which officials also acknowledge using students arrested for drug activities to make controlled buys. A recent study conducted by Rehabs.com ranked UW-Eau Claire and UW-Whitewater No. 2 and No. 11 in the nation respectively for having the highest proportion of on-campus drug arrests.

UW-Milwaukee police declined to say whether they use confidential informants to make drug buys. But the agency has a policy regulating the department's use of informants, including a rule that juveniles, felons on probation and the drug dependent "should be carefully looked at" when being considered for use.

Other campus police forces send students convicted of drug crimes to city police or county sheriff's offices, which may ask students to become informants to beat criminal charges. Some say they do not have the resources to sustain such long-term investigations.

UW-Green Bay and UW-Oshkosh acknowledge using students as confidential informants, but to collect information for search warrants and subpoenas, not to buy drugs. UW-Oshkosh police say they use the practice outside of just drug cases, including harassment and assault cases.

Opponents say the use of students in undercover drug investigations could place them in dangerous situations and exploits their vulnerability to losing thousands of dollars of federal financial aid and tuition by being suspended from school.

"Law enforcement can use whatever arrow in their quiver they have," says Alexandra Natapoff, professor at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles and an expert on confidential informants.

But supporters defend the practice, saying it provides an opportunity for students to avoid felonies - just as police departments across the country treat non-students facing similar charges.

"They're no different from anyone else," Kiederlen says. "Mom and dad tend to feel like they're still in school, but the reality is that they're adults and they're making adult decisions. And there are adult consequences."

'Highly dangerous operations'

While becoming a confidential informant may help students avoid consequences, undercover operations can turn deadly.

Rachel Hoffman, a 23-year-old Florida State University graduate, was pressured in 2008 to be an informant after Tallahassee, Florida, police searched her apartment and found a small amount of marijuana and ecstasy. But the buy turned out to be an armed robbery, and the robbers killed Hoffman after discovering her recording device, says Lance Block, a Florida attorney.

Block, who represented Hoffman's parents in a lawsuit following their daughter's murder, authored a 2009 Florida law that regulates informant use, a practice he says contradicts law enforcement's purpose.

"The police are supposed to protect us from harm, not subject us to harm," Block says. "And when law enforcement intentionally expose untrained civilians into these highly dangerous operations, they're not protecting them from harm ... It's one thing to get information from people secretly and confidentially. It's another thing to throw them to the wolves, like they did with Rachel."

Kiederlen says no student has been hurt while serving as an informant at UW-Whitewater. Each operation involves at least two detectives, who live-monitor the buy, he says. As the deal happens, three to four officers patrol the surrounding area.

Officers check the background of dealers to ensure students buy from those without violent pasts, he says. They also train informants.

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Police Chief

Matt Kiederlen calls the use of informants on campus an opportunity because it helps students avoid felony convictions. "To me it's a positive all the way around," he says.

Craig Schreiner/ University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Police Chief

Matt Kiederlen calls the use of informants on campus an opportunity because it helps students avoid felony convictions. "To me it's a positive all the way around," he says.

"They are set up in such a way that if something is bad, they know what they can do to make themselves as safe as possible," Kiederlen says. "We're dealing with the drug world. It is unpredictable. We try with everything we have to predict putting them in the safest position we can, but there are always those unknowns."

Kiederlen says his department works to protect the identity of confidential informants, taking precautions including using numbers rather than names in internal reports. State law prohibits police departments from releasing information that could identify an informant.

Still, Rick Coad, a Madison-based criminal defense attorney who has represented UW-Whitewater students facing drug charges, says criminal complaints describe when the buy happened. Those charged usually know who they sold to on that day, and informants may have to testify during trial.

Stephen Richards, a UW-Oshkosh criminal justice professor, says student informants often turn in their own friends. He warns informants might be "looking over their shoulder for the rest of their lives."

"It's a small world, and they've made lifelong enemies when they do that," says Richards, who stresses that becoming an informant is a moral choice. He knows from experience.

After being arrested for conspiracy to distribute marijuana in 1982, Richards was asked to become an informant. He refused, was sentenced to nine years in prison and served three.

Practice common at UW-Whitewater

Almost all police departments use confidential informants, Kiederlen says, and his department's policies are modeled on the best practices. Students who become informants are evaluated based on their suitability to become an informant, with a county prosecutor giving final approval.

Students who become informants to beat felony charges for selling marijuana typically have dealing supplies, such as scales and plastic bags, and "something else" such as a harder drug, Kiederlen says.

Students pass in front of Goodhue Hall, which includes the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater police department. The campus is one of three UW System four-year campuses that acknowledge using students to buy drugs from others in controlled buys. Photo shot Sept. 5, 2014.

Sean Kirkby / Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism

Students pass in front of Goodhue Hall, which includes the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater police department. The campus is one of three UW System four-year campuses that acknowledge using students to buy drugs from others in controlled buys. Photo shot Sept. 5, 2014.

Potential informants are asked what types of drugs they are comfortable purchasing from dealers. Consequently, students sometimes buy harder drugs than they were arrested for, such as heroin, ecstasy or prescription medications, Kiederlen says.

One UW-Whitewater student used as a confidential informant, speaking on condition of anonymity, says he was arrested for selling marijuana and ended up buying ecstasy. Within three hours of his arrest, he says a campus detective searched his phone, identified potential targets and had him sign an agreement.

The student, facing felony charges, says he made multiple controlled buys on campus. He wore a recording device and a wrist watch with a camera. He usually purchased a few ounces of marijuana at a time and used marked bills that could be used for further evidence.

Hyer Hall houses the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater's administration and student financial aid office. A first conviction for selling drugs can result in a two-year period of ineligibility for federal aid, and subsequent convictions result in an indefinite period of ineligibility. Photo shot Sept. 5, 2014.

Sean Kirkby/ Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism

Hyer Hall houses the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater's administration and student financial aid office. A first conviction for selling drugs can result in a two-year period of ineligibility for federal aid, and subsequent convictions result in an indefinite period of ineligibility. Photo shot Sept. 5, 2014.

He says he was not suspended and the administration does not know he sold drugs on campus. He asked for anonymity to avoid hurting future job prospects. Kiederlen says speaking about their contract with others could void confidential informants' contracts and result in them receiving the original charges.

In all, the Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism communicated with 10 current and former UW-Whitewater students who were arrested by either the UW-Whitewater police or the Walworth County Drug Unit for selling drugs to confidential informants or possessing marijuana.

Nine were asked to become an informant. All but the unnamed student described earlier refused either because of safety concerns, not knowing other dealers or not wanting to turn in their friends.

Eight, including Butler, were charged with felonies; one young man paid a fine. Some said they plan to seek expungement of those cases once they complete their sentences, meaning the cases would be sealed from public view.

Andrew Walter, an Elkhorn attorney who has represented students who have signed confidential informant agreements with the Walworth County Drug Unit, says the deals allow students to avoid felony charges for selling marijuana.

He also notes the harsh penalties outside of the judicial system, including loss of financial aid, blocked access to graduate school and limited job opportunities. Walter characterizes the state's drug laws as "extremely harsh" and "ridiculous."

Students walk through the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater campus during the first week of classes

in early September. UW-Whitewater is one of three UW-System four-year campus that acknowledge using students to buy drugs from others in controlled drug buys. Photo shot Sept. 5, 2014.

Sean Kirkby/ Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism

Students walk through the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater campus during the first week of classes in early September. UW-Whitewater is one of three UW-System four-year campus that acknowledge using students to buy drugs from others in controlled drug buys. Photo shot Sept. 5, 2014.

Distribution of any amount of marijuana is a felony offense in Wisconsin, carrying a maximum sentence of three and a half years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. Those interviewed by the Center who were convicted did not receive the maximum penalties.

Butler, the city council member and student, returned to campus after his suspension and graduated last May, three years after his 2011 arrest. He says Walworth County prosecutes college students as if they were "drug kingpins" and criticizes the university for supporting the use of students as informants.

He describes Whitewater's decision to suspend students as a "money-making scheme." He was suspended late in a semester, losing thousands of dollars in tuition and fees without receiving any academic credit.

"I'm ashamed to have gone to Whitewater," Butler says.

Informants and campus crime

UW-Whitewater is about a 15-minute walk from downtown Whitewater, a city of about 15,000 surrounded by farmland. The fourth largest campus in the UW System, it began as a teachers college but now offers 49 majors to its 12,000 students.

Whitewater, a city of about 15,000, is home to the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, which made NCAA history last year by being the only campus ever to win men's football, basketball and baseball national championships in the same academic year. UW-Whitewater police use students as confidential informants to battle drug dealing on campus. Photo shot Sept. 5, 2014.

Sean Kirkby/ Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism

Whitewater, a city of about 15,000, is home to the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, which made NCAA history last year by being the only campus ever to win men's football, basketball and baseball national championships in the same academic year. UW-Whitewater police use students as confidential informants to battle drug dealing on campus. Photo shot Sept. 5, 2014.

The university made collegiate sport history earlier this year by being the first school in any NCAA division to win men's football, basketball and baseball national championships in the same academic year. The Warhawks' men's and women's wheelchair basketball teams both won national championships in 2014.

UW-Whitewater also has another reputation - for high drug arrests. A national study published in March by Rehabs.com, using 2012 numbers reported to the federal government, ranked the campus 11th in the nation in per capita in on-campus drug arrests. UW-Eau Claire was ranked No. 2, and UW-La Crosse, UW-Oshkosh and UW-Milwaukee were among the top 50.

The number of arrests for drug offenses at UW-Whitewater has risen sharply, from 45 in 2010 to 156 in 2012, according to the UW-Whitewater Police Department. That number includes those arrested on campus, in off-campus buildings such as fraternities and sororities and on surrounding public property.

Kiederlen attributes the increase to the development of the confidential informant program at UW-Whitewater in July 2012.

In 2013, however, arrests fell to 94, according to Kiederlen, a roughly 40 percent drop he partially attributes to dealers realizing the area is too risky for their operations.

Here's How College Kids Are Buying Drugs

September 7th 2015

By: [Kyle Jaeger@kylejaeger](mailto:Kyle.Jaeger@kylejaeger)

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Marijuana, Molly (MDMA), cocaine, and amphetamines are commonly sold and purchased at college campuses around the U.S., and though the kind of drugs that students use has not changed much in the past three decades, the way that drugs are exchanged has changed dramatically.

As a recent grad, I've witnessed firsthand the innovative methods that dealers have come to use in their illicit transactions. I've known people who sell drugs, and it has fascinated me, especially as far as the integration of technology is concerned. That is not to say that all college drug dealers have adapted sophisticated systems or that these systems are foolproof; it is still risky business, and getting caught selling or buying drugs can have serious consequences. But like it or not, drugs are in high demand, and universities offer a relatively safe environment to experiment.

Here are three ways that college students have changed the drug dealing game.

1. The app-driven college drug economy.

Venrno

Of course, drug deals still involve cash. The student sellers I talked to still say that they prefer to deal in cash, in fact, but there are alternatives now, and those alternatives are increasingly popular among buyers. Venrno, a free digital wallet that allows users to exchange electronic payments, has become a top app for drug deals.

Using a service that logs every detail about these exchanges is not advisable-as Michael Getzler, a Columbia University student, learned the hard way this year. Two days after an anonymously written op-ed about one person's experience selling illicit substances to "several hundred students" appeared in the university newspaper, Getzler was arrested for allegedly selling drugs.

Politico reported that "Getzler was widely rumored to be the anonymous author of the op-ed in comments on the [Columbia Spectator] website and on a private and anonymous digital message board at Columbia." He reportedly used Venrno to accept payments, too, which apparently worried students who had conducted business with the alleged dealer and feared that their personal information and transaction history would be intercepted by law enforcement.

2. The rise of pharmaceuticals.

Adderall

Though Molly, cocaine, and other "hard" drugs are still widely sold and used at American universities, prescription drug sales are increasingly common. The market tends to attract different kinds of sellers and buyers, generally speaking, with more students seeking "study aids" such as Adderall and Ritalin, pills containing amphetamines that allow them to stay focused for hours on end.

One Adderall pill can cost anywhere from \$3 to \$10, depending upon the milligrams, and because many students are prescribed these drugs by a doctor, they can take what they need (if they choose to use it at all) and sell the rest, pocketing the monthly profits without having to go through a high-level dealer for the supply.

Prescription pain medication is also regularly sold for recreational use, as is anti-anxiety medication such as Xanax. But amphetamines have really taken off at campuses around the country, as ATTN: has previously reported.

3. Frat house drug culture.

Frat house

It has been a defining feature of Greek life for quite some time, but frats have steadily risen as primary drug distributors on campus. Because they operate out of a central location-the frat house-these institutions provide a sense of protection, seemingly safer than doing deals on some designated street corner. As such, frats are where many students flock, especially when there's a big, upcoming event (e.g. a festival such as Coachella).

Well-connected frat brothers often buy in bulk, and since frat houses are famed for their party culture, it only makes sense that they have become major distribution centers for all sorts of drugs. Not all frats serve as drug centers, of course, but at least from what I've observed, many houses have been sources for students to score.

The Author[Kyle Jaeger](#)

I wanted to add one more part to my "DRUG" section. I'm going to include monetary figures of each major drug because I want to make sure we know the EXACT reason we're being fed drugs to begin with. If you look back at your childhood, drugs were not introduced into our communities by "us".

Yes, jerks were selling it in the community, but they had to get the drugs from someplace, and I found the places.

THE GOVERNMENT (Pagans we've put in power) OWNS EVERY LAST BRAGGING RIGHT! They are all up and through. They have had their slimy paws in this "set-up" for quite sometime! I'm talkin' like the B.C.'s! And they intend to ride this out until the wheels roll off! **IT'S NOT A GAME!**

Marijuana Industry Could Be Worth \$35 Billion In 2020, If All States And Feds Legalize It

10/23/2014 07:13 pm ET Updated Oct 28, 2014

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- Matt Ferner National Reporter, The Huffington Post

If all 50 states legalized marijuana and the federal government ended prohibition of the plant, the marijuana industry in the United States would be worth \$35 billion just six years from now.

That's according to a new report from GreenWave Advisors, a research and advisory firm that serves the emerging marijuana industry in the U.S., which found that if all 50 states and the federal government legalized cannabis, combined sales for both medical and retail marijuana could balloon to \$35 billion a year by 2020.

If the federal government doesn't end prohibition and the trajectory of state legalization continues on its current path, with more, but not all, states legalizing marijuana in some form, the industry in 2020 would still be worth \$21 billion, GreenWave projects.

In its \$21 billion 2020 model, GreenWave predicts 12 states plus the District of Columbia to have legalized recreational marijuana (besides Colorado and Washington, which legalized it in 2012). Those states are: Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oregon, Rhode Island and Vermont, according to data GreenWave provided to The Huffington Post from the full report. By that same year, the model assumes, 37 states will have legalized medical marijuana. To date, 23 states and the District of Columbia have legalized marijuana for medical use.

"Our road map for the progression of states to legalize is very detailed - our assumptions are largely predicated on whether a particular state has legislation in progress," Matt Karnes, founder and managing partner of GreenWave as well as author of the report, told HuffPost. "We assume that once legalization occurs, it will take a little over a year to implement a program and have product available for sale. So for example, for Florida, we expect the ballot measure to pass [this year] yet our sales forecast starts in year 2016. We think the time frame will lessen as new states to legalize will benefit from best practices."

As Karnes noted, some of these states are already considering legalization this November - voters in Oregon, Alaska and D.C. are considering measures to legalize recreational marijuana, while Florida voters will weigh in on medical marijuana legalization.

GreenWave isn't the first group to suggest the federal government may end its decadeslong prohibition of marijuana. One congressman has even predicted that before the end of the decade, the federal government will legalize weed. And as outlandish as it may sound, it's already possible to observe significant shifts in federal policy toward pot.

The federal government allowed Colorado's and Washington's historic marijuana laws to take effect last year. President Barack Obama signed the 2014 farm bill, which legalized industrial hemp production for research purposes in the states that permit it, and the first hemp crops in U.S. soil in decades are already growing. And in May, the U.S. House passed measures attempting to limit Drug Enforcement Administration crackdowns on medical marijuana shops when they're legal in a state.

The GreenWave report also projects a substantial shift in the marijuana marketplace -- the merging of the medical and recreational markets in states that have both.

"In the state of Colorado, we are beginning to see the sales impact -- i.e., cannibalization of medical marijuana sales by the adult-use market -- when the two markets co-exist," Karnes said. "We expect a similar dynamic to unfold in those states that will implement a dual marijuana market."

Beginning in July, recreational marijuana sales in Colorado began to outpace medical for the first time, according to state Department of Revenue data.

Karnes writes in the executive summary that just what the marijuana industry will look like in 2020 will largely depend on how the industry is regulated and how it is taxed by that time.

"Since 'chronic pain' is the most common ailment among medical marijuana users, it is likely that recreational users can already purchase marijuana without great difficulty in states where medicinal use is legal," the report reads. "Accordingly, it can be argued that a merged market already exists in medical marijuana states. Less currently popular, but arguably providing more economic stimulus, would be a regulatory regime providing for only adult recreational use."

Colorado pulls in \$76M in marijuana taxes and business fees for 2014

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Published: Feb 10, 2015, 5:02 pm

By Kristen Wyatt, Associated Press

DENVER - Colorado finally learned Tuesday how much tax revenue it collected from recreational marijuana in the first year of sales, and the haul was below estimates - about \$44 million.

The release of December sales taxes gave Colorado its first full calendar year of the taxes from recreational pot sales, which began Jan. 1, 2014.

Colorado was the first government anywhere in the world to regulate marijuana production and sale, so other governments are watching closely. In Washington, where legal pot sales began in July, the state had hauled in about \$16.4 million in marijuana excise taxes by the end of the year; through November, it brought in an additional \$6.3 million in state and local sales and business taxes.

\$700 million in marijuana sales: "There have been hundreds of millions of dollars in marijuana sales taking place in Colorado for a long time, and finally they're taking place in regulated businesses," an advocate says.

Colorado's total haul from marijuana for 2014 was about \$76 million. That includes fees on the industry, plus pre-existing sales taxes on medical marijuana products. The \$44 million represents only new taxes on recreational pot - a 10 percent special sales tax and a 15 percent excise tax on wholesale marijuana transfers.

Those new taxes were initially forecast to bring in about \$70 million.

"Everyone who thinks Colorado's rollin' in the dough because of marijuana? That's not true," said state Sen. Pat Steadman, a Denver Democrat and one of the Legislature's main budget-writers.

Black Farmers Shut Out Of \$10 Billion Medical Marijuana Business

States laws may prevent black farmers from growing medical marijuana

by [Carolyn M. Brown](#) Posted: November 10, 2015

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(Image: File)

(Image: File)

National support for legalizing marijuana has been growing rapidly.

Now legalized in 23 states and the District of Columbia for medical use and four states - Colorado, Washington, Oregon and Alaska- and DC for recreational use, cannabis is big business. Independent analysts have valued the legal industry at \$3 billion and rising to \$10 billion when including ancillary trades and services.

Cassandra Farrington, the co-founder and chief executive of Marijuana Business Media, puts the industry's workforce at 60,000.

Others states are expected to follow suit over the next couple of years, putting an end to cannabis prohibition. With the industry concentrating on making cannabis more of a mainstream and sellable product, a growing crop of businesses are expected to profit from the cultivation and distribution of marijuana.

Related: Eight More States Projected To Legalize Marijuana

There has been widespread concern that African American entrepreneurs would be left out America's big green rush. Now there is concern that black farmers will be kept out as well.

In many states that have legalized medical marijuana, people with drug-related felony convictions cannot open cannabis-related businesses. Additionally, application fees and licensing fees for medical marijuana dispensaries often total tens of thousands of dollars, further keeping opportunity at arm's length for many minority entrepreneurs.

What's more, many states like Florida are allowing nurseries to grow and distribute it, but under very tight constraints. A provision of a Florida medical marijuana law has caused much controversy among black farmers in the state who say it's shutting them out of the potentially lucrative industry, reports ThinkProgress.org. This group has now taken their fight to the Florida legislature in the hopes of passing an amendment that takes the regulation out of the bill.

Last year, Florida Governor Rick Scott (R) signed the Compassionate Medical Cannabis Act, which allows some nurseries in the state to grow and distribute low-THC marijuana to patients who suffer from cancer, seizures, and muscle spasms. But the law stipulates that those who qualify for licensing must have operated as a registered nursery in Florida for 30 consecutive years - a criterion that many, if not all, black farmers in the state can't meet. Farmers of color say they've been hampered by

the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s past discriminatory practices that have made it difficult for them to thrive in the industry.

"There weren't that many black farmers 30 years ago in the nursery business," Howard Gunn, Jr, the president of the Florida Black Farmers and Agriculturists Association, told FOX News. "Because of that, we weren't able to produce as much or be as profitable as [other] farmers. If we found one [black] farmer growing that many plants, it would be surprising."

Regardless of the outcome, the current case in Florida has reminded some farmers of color that their economic position didn't occur by happenstance, according to ThinkProgress.com. During the Reconstruction Era, for example, freed slaves couldn't receive farming loans without credit history.

The USDA later marginalized farmers of color by increasing tax sale, seizing of land through eminent domain, delaying loans until after the end of the planting season, and denying crop disaster relief funds. By the early 1990s, the black farmer population fell by nearly 100 percent, eventually prompting a class action lawsuit against the USDA that resulted in the allocation of more than \$2.3 billion to more than 13,000 farmers.

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Spending on illegal drugs this year:

retrieving data...

Sources and methods:

The value of the illicit drug market is extremely difficult to estimate. The few serious attempts which have been made have resulted in widely varying figures.

A United Nations publication of 1998, "Economic and Social Consequences of Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking," states that:

"With estimates of \$100 billion to \$110 billion for heroin, \$110 billion to \$130 billion for cocaine, \$75 billion for cannabis and \$60 billion for synthetic drugs, the probable global figure for the total illicit drug industry would be approximately \$360 billion. Given the conservative bias in some of the estimates for individual substances, a turnover of around \$400 billion per annum is considered realistic."

Illicit money: how much is out there?

Photo: UNODC25 October 2011 - Criminals, especially drug traffickers, may have laundered around \$1.6 trillion, or 2.7 per cent of global GDP, in 2009, according to a new report by UNODC. This figure is consistent with the 2 to 5 per cent range previously established by the International Monetary Fund to estimate the scale of money-laundering.

Less than 1 per cent of global illicit financial flows is currently being seized and frozen, according to the report Estimating illicit financial flows resulting from drug trafficking and other transnational organized crime. "Tracking the flows of illicit funds generated by drug trafficking and organized crime and analysing how they are laundered through the world's financial systems remain daunting tasks," acknowledged Yury Fedotov, Executive Director of UNODC.

Launching the report in Marrakech, Morocco, during the fourth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention on Corruption, Mr. Fedotov said that the Conference served as an apt reminder that corruption could play a major role in facilitating the entry of illicit funds into legitimate global financial flows, adding that investments of "dirty money" could distort the economy and hamper investment and economic growth. The aim of the study is to shed light on the total amounts probably laundered across the globe and to advance research on the topic. "But as with all such reports, we will continue to refine the figures to provide the truest possible estimates," said Mr. Fedotov.

The UNODC report estimates that the total amount of criminal proceeds generated in 2009, excluding those derived from tax evasion, may have been approximately \$2.1 trillion, or 3.6 per cent of GDP in that year (2.3 to 5.5 per cent). Of that total, the proceeds of transnational organized crime - such as drug trafficking, counterfeiting, human trafficking and small arms smuggling - may have amounted to 1.5 per cent of global GDP, and 70 per cent of those proceeds are likely to have been laundered through the financial system.

The illicit drug trade - accounting for half of all proceeds of transnational organized crime and a fifth of all crime proceeds - is the most profitable sector. The study paid particular attention to the market for cocaine, probably the most lucrative illicit drug trafficked across borders. Traffickers' gross profits from the cocaine trade stood at around \$84 billion in 2009. While Andean coca bush farmers earned about \$1 billion, the bulk of the income generated from cocaine was concentrated in North America (\$35 billion), followed by West and Central Europe (\$26 billion). Approximately two-thirds of that total may have been laundered in 2009. The findings suggest that most profits from the cocaine trade are laundered in North America and in Europe, whereas illicit income from other subregions is probably laundered in the Caribbean.

Once illegal money has entered the global and financial markets, it becomes much harder to trace its origins, and the laundering of ill-gotten gains may perpetuate a cycle of crime and drug trafficking. "UNODC's challenge is to work within the United Nations system and with Member States to help to build the capacity to track and prevent money-laundering, strengthen the rule of law and prevent these funds from creating further suffering," said Mr. Fedotov.

How the U.S. Wasted \$7.6 Billion to Stop Afghan Heroin Production

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By [Eric Pianin](#)

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October 21, 2014

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A new report by the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction provides another painful reminder that despite \$7.6 billion of counter-narcotics efforts over the past decade, illegal opium poppy cultivation is at an all-time high in Afghanistan-helping to fuel a heroin epidemic in the United States.

The U.S. government's efforts have been so dismally ineffective that John F. Sopko, the special inspector general, questioned the advisability of trying to do any more in a letter to federal agencies last week.

"In past years, surges in opium poppy cultivation have been met by a coordinated response from the U.S. government and coalition partners, which has led to a temporary decline in levels of opium production," he wrote last week. "However, the recent record-high level of poppy cultivation calls into question the long-term effectiveness and sustainability of those prior efforts."

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Afghanistan is the world's top cultivator of the poppy, which is used to produce opium and heroin. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Afghan farmers grew an unprecedented 209,000 hectares (or 516,000 acres) in 2013, up 36 percent from the previous year and substantially more than the previous peak in 2007.

Poppy cultivation has been on the rise since the U.S. occupation of Afghanistan began in 2001, following the 9/11 attacks against the United States. With deteriorating security in many parts of rural

Afghanistan and low levels of eradication of poppy fields, further increases in cultivation are likely in 2014, according to experts.

Source: BBC

The costly debacle in attempting to tamp down poppy production in Afghanistan is even more galling considering that the United States is in the throes of one of the worst heroin epidemics in its history, due largely to a flood of cheap doses of the drug from both Afghanistan and Mexico, according to media reports.

"In some regions, heroin is deemed "highly available" by local police in more than three times the number of communities as it was just seven years ago," according to a report by delawareonline. Police Chief Michael Schirling of Burlington, Vt., told the publication, "We've got soccer moms on heroin.... You walk down any street in any town in Vermont right now and chances are there is at least one house where someone is dealing with this. This is a completely underground, behind-closed-doors phenomenon."

Poppy cultivation in Afghanistan thus has proved to be a double edged sword, helping to fuel the surge in heroin use in this country while undercutting the Afghan government's largely feeble efforts at reform.

Related: With Eyes on ISIS, America's \$104B in Afghanistan Is Failing

"The narcotics trade poisons the Afghan financial sector and undermines the Afghan state's legitimacy by stoking corruption, sustaining criminal networks, and providing significant financial support to the Taliban and other insurgent groups," Sopko said in his letter last week to the heads of the Departments of Defense, State and Justice, which have all played major roles in the failed drug intervention effort. "Despite spending over \$7 billion to combat opium poppy cultivation and to develop the Afghan government's counter-narcotics capacity, opium poppy cultivation levels in Afghanistan hit an all-time high in 2013."

This failed drug intervention efforts constitute only a fraction of the enormous sums wasted by the U.S. since the start of the war in Afghanistan. In March of 2013, *The Fiscal Times* reported that the U.S. had spent nearly \$100 billion to rebuild Afghanistan in the last decade, but auditors could only account for 10 percent of that money.

Sopko's letter to agency heads follows his report to Congress in May that detailed scores of shortcomings in U.S. and Afghan government efforts to move farmers away from the lucrative drug trade. The U.S. government spent billions through the Pentagon's Afghan Security Forces and Drug Interdiction funds, the State Department's International Narcotics Control Fund, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and the U.S. Agency for International Development's Economic Support Fund - all for naught.

Related: Billions Spent in Afghanistan with No Game Plan

While opium-poppy cultivation was reaching record levels in recent years, seizures of opium and heroin in Afghanistan declined sharply from 2011 to 2013, according to the report. The amount seized by agents and authorities was the equivalent of about one percent of annual opium production.

"The United States' drug control policy has shifted in recent years from eradication to interdiction and agricultural development assistance that aims to provide farmers with alternative livelihoods," Sopko

said in his letter to lawmakers in May. "The drug trade undermines the Afghan government because it funds the insurgency, fuels corruption, and distorts the economy."

Because of the relatively high opium prices and the rise of an inexpensive, skilled, and mobile labor force, "much of this newly-arable land is dedicated to opium cultivation," Sopko says. Indeed, poppy-growing provinces that were once declared 'poppy free' have seen a resurgence in cultivation, he wrote.

For example, Nangarhar province in eastern Afghanistan, "considered a model for successful counterinsurgency and counter-narcotics efforts and deemed 'poppy free' by the UNODC in 2008," saw a fourfold increase in opium poppy cultivation between 2012 and 2013. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has estimated that the value of the opium and its derivative products produced in Afghanistan was nearly \$3 billion in 2013, up from \$2 billion in 2012 - a 50 percent increase.

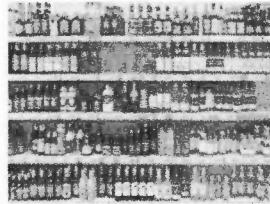
I NEED TO INCLUDE BEER/WINE AND SPIRITS AKA ALCOHOL, BEFORE I CLOSE OUT THIS SUBJECT. I WON'T GO INTO ALCOHOL TOO DEEPLY. I'LL SIMPLY POINT OUT, THAT IT 200 WAS AND IS, "USED", TO PULL GOD/ALLAH'S CHILDREN AWAY FROM HIM AND OFF OUR PATHS. NOONE HAS EVER THRIVED AND BECOME PRODUCTIVE FROM BEER/WINE OR ALCOHOL. CENT RV, AFTER CENTURY, OUR FAILURES WERE CONTRIBUTED TO DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND PLAYING IN THE DARK. THAT'S THE FORMULA, AND IT'S STILL BEING USED TO THIS DAY. I HAVE A FEW ARTICLES AND A BIT OF INFO SHOWING THAT, IN THIS CHAPTER. HOWEVER, ANY OF THE DOWNFALLS AND NEGATIVES YOU READ, THROUGHOUT THIS QUICK REFERENCE, ARE DIRECTLY RELATED TO DRUGS AND/OR ALCOHOL, WHICH ALWAYS EQUATES TO PLAYING IN THE DARK. FROM 5000 B.C. TO THE 2000 A.D.'s •••

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Why Do we Call Liquor "Spirits"? | DRINKING IN AMERICA

www.drinkinamerica.com/our-stories/why-do-we-call-liquor-spirits

May 24, 2011 - The most believable explanation is that imbibing liquor raises ones spirits.... (as with distillation of alcohol) was called spirit of the original material. 2.... The word ghoul is the origin of the English word "ghoul".

People also ask

Why do they call hard liquor spirits?

Why is it called a spirit?

Where did the word alcohol come from?

When alcohol was invented?

Liquor Types and Origins - Atlanta, GA | Wine, Liquor, Beer, Cigars ...

sherlocks.com/liquor-types-and-origins-atlanta-ga

Liquor Types and Origins - Atlanta, GA. Liquor is created through a distilling process that produces ethanol by a means of fermenting potatoes, grains, fruits, or vegetables. Liquor does not include other alcoholic beverages such as wine, beer, and cider which are not distilled and are lower in alcohol content.

Why is liquor called spirits | Robert Lego

www.robertlego.org/why-is-liquor-called-spirits

May 10, 2013 - The meaning and origins of words say about things. It is said ... Spirits usually have no added sugar and at least 20% alcohol by volume.

Spirit - Online Etymology Dictionary

www.etymonline.com/index.php?term=spirit

Online Etymology Dictionary -

Hence spirits "volatile substance," sense narrowed to "alcoholic liquor" by 1670s. This also is the sense in spirit level (1768). Also from mid-14th century.

Why do people call alcohol spirits? - Spirituality & Mysticism ...

<https://www.shroomery.org/forum/showflat.php?Number=12521669>

The Shroomery

"The precise origin of the name spirits which is commonly given to alcohol is unknown. However, the words "alembic" and "alcohol", as well as ...

[Similar](#)

Why liquor is called Spirits - Informing Ape

informingape.com/stories-and-topics/liquor-called-spirits/

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So the theory goes that calling these drinks spirits is tied to the origins of the word alcohol itself.
I've had a few stiff drinks that seem to eat my flesh so I call this .

Why is alcohol sometimes called "Spirits"? |Yahoo Answers

<https://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20090331065240AAJxT9r>

Mar 31, 2009 - Unsweetened, distilled, alcoholic beverages that have an alcohol ... The ... The
precise origin of the name spirits which is commonly given to Similar

Alcohol, Its Origins - Word Information

<wordinfo.info/uni/12979/tp:5>

Girl with alcohol makeup illustrateshaau-igin of the word alcohol ... In 1753, liquid spirits which
were derived by vaporization and cful!Mlisation were also known

Of Arabic Origin - Alcohol |The Food Blog

<thefoodblog.com.au/2009/07/of-arabic-origin-alcohol.html>

Jul 14, 2009 - The reason why alcohol is so dear to me is becauseM!llation is one of the ... process
of distillation to produce spirits such as vodka, gin or arak. Similar

Searches related to ALCOHOL SPIRITS ORIGIN

spirits alcohol	alcohol distillation process
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what is liquor	liquor names
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The Demon Drink: Alcohol and Spiritualism / Mysterious Universe
<https://mysteriousuniverse.org/2013/10/the-demon-drink-alcohol-and-spiritualism/>
 Apr 24, 2013 - The consumption of alcohol has been a common past-time for ... Alcohol has had a long - and somewhat strenuous - history with religion, spiritualism and the occult.... Want to drive out an evil spirit or domineering boss?

Occult properties of alcohol : occult - Reddit

https://www.reddit.com/r/occult/comments/3dl8il/occult_properties_of_a/coholl/
 Jul 17, 2015 - In Santeria, when a person channels a spirit (bringing down a ghost), everyone go in a room and the person will end up drinking nearly an

The Alchemic Origins of Alcohol? (xpost from Ir/alchemy) : occult - Reddit

https://www.reddit.com/r/occult/.lthe_alchemic_origins_of_a/coh0l_xpost_from/
 Feb 25, 2013 - Ir/Occult .s a community centered around discussion of the occult, To further clarify my question: When we talk about alcoholic spirits- that .

DEMONOLOGY - Jesus is Savior

<http://www.jesus-is-savior.com/Believer's%20Comer/Doctrines/demonology.htm>
 Alcohol and drugs are popular mediums through which demons (evil **spirits**) are able ... A common denominator between the occult, witchcraft (whether Celtic or ..

Territorial Spirits and Spiritual Warfare: A Biblical Perspective ...

<https://www.equip.org/.lterritorial-spirits-and-spiritual-warfare-a-biblical-perspective/>
 Territorial Spirits and Spiritual Warfare: A Biblical Perspective ... rituals came from Islam's founder's occult experience with a powerful demon.... Is there a specific demon of adultery in womanizers or a spirit of alcohol (demonic, not distilled!) .

Alcohol in the Church - Abiding Place Ministries

<http://www1.abidingplace.org/features/alcohol-in-the-church.html>
 Being Filled With The Spirit. II. Intoxication, IX. Intoxication Is The Cup of Judgment, XVI. Medical Value of Wine. III. Wine and the Occult, X. Intoxication Is the Cup .

Occult Effects of Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco. - Theosophy.Net

<http://theosophy.net/forum/topics/occult-effects-of-a/coh0l>
 Aug 29, 2009 - 13 posts - 9 authors
 All this applies not only to indulgence in intoxicating liquor, but also to the For occult progress a man needs to have his vehicles as finely ..

The occult spirits which influence our actions j Integral Yoga of Sri ...

<https://luuromere.wordpress.com/2010/.lthe-occult-spirits-which-influence-our-action..>
 Mar 6, 2010. There are many occult worlds peopled by conscious beings which exert ... One thing that nobody seems to mention is the work of alcohol in all

Robin Williams Acknowledged He Channeled Demonic Spirits For ...

<http://www.nowtheendbegins.com/robin-williams-acknowledged-channeled-demonic-spirits.>
 You think demon possession and the occult are but a silly joke? Tom. You know that Why do you think they call alcohol spirits. Brenda Murphy. Exactly!

Home - The Watcher Files

http://www1w.thewatcherfiles.com/articles/satans_kingdom.html
 {Note: We warn everyone who is communicating with a 'Guiding Spirit' in their Alcohol, drugs, and wild, raunchy sex all serve the same purpose: to sever the ... to become depressed, so you go to Rege, the demon of the occult and drugs,

The Signs Of Alcoholism

<http://www1w.interventiontreatmentrecovery.org/>
 How The Signs Of Alcohol Effect Human Lives. Read More Here
 Mental Health Experts · Experts On Addiction · Professional Therapists
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Signs of Drinking Problem

<http://www.phoenixhouse.org/>
 Learn About the Signs & Symptoms of Alcohol Abuse.

Searches related to ALCOHOL SPIRITS AND THE OCCULT

demon of alcohol

alcohol demon supernatural

alcohol demon name	drunk demonic possession
alcohol demon possession	i become possessed when drunk
spirit behind alcoholism	demon alcohol ozzy

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Liquor in the 19th century: History of Distilled Spirits Timeline

<https://www.alcoholproblemsandsolutions.org/liquor-in-the-19th-century-history-distill>

But the temperance movement was victim to a myth that continues to this day. Its supporters fl!!!!ml!!!! understand that a standard drink of spirits, wine or beer.

Missing: GGG#

History of Liquor: Distilled Spirits Timelines from Early Beginnings to ...

<https://www.alcoholproblemsandsolutions.org/history-of-liquor-distilled-spirits/>

History of Liquor timelines for distilled spirits from early beginnings to today. Discover the surprising changes in the use of distilled liquors over time.

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Liquor in the 20th Century: History of Distilled Spirits Timeline

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Liquor in the 20th century underwent major challenges. The biggest was prohibition. During the early 20th century some countries established, and later .

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Hollywood's History - Amazing Discoveries

https://amazingdiscoveries.org/S-deception-media_Hollywood_occult

We've all heard of ancient sorcery-witches and spirits, spells and devils>meqlossession. But could it be true that ... A Brief Timeline of the Occult in Hollywood. Similar

Timeline Photos - Facebook

<https://m.facebook.com/fionofthetribeofjudah777/photos/a.11114742748550082>

ALCOHOL IS THE SPIRIT OF LEVIATHAN WHICH CHOKES OUT THE BREATH Oaths and vows can be made unconsciously just by dabbling with the occult

Cult of Occult - Timeline | Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/cultofocu/t/posts/940489139331122>

Genre: OCCULT DOOM / BLACKENED SLUDGE ... The Sinister Spirit (faStuitge: CULT OF OCCULT 'Five Degrees Of Insanity' Review-. Enter into a ... ALCOHOLIC FOR ETERNITY, I WILL DROWN IN AN OCEAN OF LIQUOR. TRUDGING IN ...

When Evil Reigns: The Timeline of the Antichrist's Imminent Rise to ...

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1616636610>

John Ford. Katherine Ford - 2011 - Religion

The Timeline of the Antichrist's Imminent Rise to Power John Ford, Katherine Ford. MARCIA'S. STORY. There is a woman who knows firsthand about New Age and the occult. She can tell you. Marcia grew up in an alcoholic home and moved around a lot. As a child ... Marcia had frightening encounters with the spirit world.

The Occult University Library - Timeline | Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/OccultUniversityLibrary/photos/a.1652254561604932!/?>

<https://www.etsy.com/shop/OccultUniversity> ... "Every form of addiction is bad, no matter what it is. The narcotic be alcohol, ... Until philosophers are kings, or the kings and princes of this world have the spirit and power of philosophy, and political

The Satanic Temple - Detroit Chapter - Timeline | Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/TheSatanicTempleDetroit/posts/394958754046449>

We are Legion I break the spirit of clairvoyance off my life and command it to leave. and break all self-enlightenment, occult enlightenment and occult revelation.... ADDICTIONS, DRUGS AND ALCOHOL SPIRITS, FEAR AND PARANOIA, SERVANTS OF CORRUPTION. BONDAGE TO SIN, COMPULSIVE ...

John Constantine timeline | Hellblazer Wiki | Fandom powered by Wikia

https://bazer.wikia.com/wiki/John_Constantine_time/int

This is a timeline covering the life of John Constantine... He initially dislikes John's interest in the occult, becomes increasingly The last scene shows Constantine in the Long Journey's End bar, holding a glass of liquor with a vacant look.

www.artintheage.com/category/press-post/page/23/

Feb 26, 2015 - Big Spring Spirits distills a variety of vodka, rum, gin and whiskey.... Big Spring vodka is topped with Crabbies Ginger Beer (which is alcoholic, by the way, unlike ... Wines also are available by the glass or bottle, including white, red, Spice up this timeline with the knowledge that she has also been a ..

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Spirits And Spirituality: Alcohol In Caribbean Slave Societies, by ...

www.kislakfoundation.org/prize/200102.html

Spirits And Spirituality: Alcohol In Caribbean Slave Societies. By Frederick H. Smith. Alcohol was familiar to newly arrived African slaves in the Caribbean and ...

Alcohol under the Context of the Atlantic Slave Trade - Cairn.info

<https://www.cairn.info/revue-cahiers-d-etudes-africaines-2011-1-page-51.htm>

by JC Curto - 2011 - Related articles

"[T]he use of liquor to attract followers from one's immediate group may have fed into the existing slave trade.? The acknowledged economic connection

What the Slaves Ate: Recollections of African American Foods and ...

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=031337497X>

Herbert C. Covey, Dwight Eisinger - 2009 - History

Recollections of African American Foods and Foodways from the Slave .. Spirits For thousands of years and in nearly every civilization, alcohol has been ...

People also ask

Who invented the alcohol?

When was alcohol first mentioned in ancient writings?

Where does the alcohol come from?

Where does the word whiskey come from?

RUM AND THE AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE - THE CURRENCY OF...

www.academ1a.edu/..//RUM_AND_THE_AFRICAN_SLAVE_TRADE_... Academia.edu

It was this spirit that fueled the slave trade because of its profitability, ... that they were transforming molasses and making it into a potent alcoholic drink called

Alcohol and Slavery | HamptonRoads.com | PilotOnline.com

hamptonroads.com/2006/10/alcohol-and-slavery

Oct 3, 2006 - During slavery, Blacks were prohibited from consuming alcohol under the Slave Codes. These codes governed all aspects of slave life, ...

ALCOHOL - In Depth Tutorials and Information

what-when-how.com/western-colonialism/alcohol/

Alcohol has a long history predating European colonialism in sub-Saharan Africa. . . After the abolition of **slavery**, tots of **spirits** and, later, wine were used as a ...

No Liquor! No Slaves! No Lawyers! No Catholics! | For 91 Days in ...

savannah.for91days.com/no-liquor-no-slaves-no-lawyers-no-catho/ics/

Nov 23, 2010 - Planning a trip to Savannah, Georgia? Read all about the three months we spent in this city on our travel blog and in our Savannah travel guide ...

History of alcoholic drinks - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_alcoholic_drinks Wikipedia

Purposeful production of alcoholic drinks is common and often reflects their cultural and The Roman belief that wine was a daily necessity made the drink "democratic" and ubiquitous: wine was available to slaves, peasants, women and

six glasses spirits Flashcards | Quizlet

<https://quizlet.com/90368474/six-glasses-spirits-flash-cards/> Quizlet

explain the connection between spirits, slaves and sugar ... traders with spirits because the Africans preferred the spirits over other forms of alcohol because they

History of Spirits in America | DISCUS

www.discrim.org/Heritage Distilled Spirits Council of the United States

Beer was probably the first kind of beverage alcohol produced in the early . . . since the suppression of the slave trade, in which this liquor was employed." Then .

The Signs Of Alcoholism

[.Id www.interventiontreatmentrecovery.org/](https://www.interventiontreatmentrecovery.org/)

How The Signs Of Alcohol Effect Human Lives. Read More Here
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Searches related to ALCOHOL SPIRITS AND SLAVES

voodoo alcohol drink

how is rum made

triangle trade

libation

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Arab slave trade - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/WikArab_slave_trade Wikiped,a

Arab slave trade was the practice of slavery in the Are:b.-ict, mainly in Western Asia, North . Central Africa Republic Timeline - Part 1: From Prehistl!1j&!> Independence (13 August 1960), A Chronology of Key Events in Central Africa Missing: aIGGlel spim&

Arab Slave Trade

<arabslavetrade.com>

Arab trade primarily harvest<mitllewomen of East Africa to serve as domestic slaves, wet ... The study of the Arab slave trade, like the Atlantic slave trade and the to the Islamic world of jinns whom like African **spirits** could be friend or foe. Missing: aIGGlel

10Facts About The Arab Enslavement Of Black People Not Taught In ...

<atlantab/acks/ar.com> : History

Jun 2, 2014 - The number of people <61lta by Muslims has been a hotly debated topic, especially when the millions of Africans forced fR!milweir ... Missing: aIGGlel Sfjm&

A History of the World in 6 Glasses Timeline by Curtis White on Prezi

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World History Through 6 Glasses Timeline by Sasha Hart on Prezi

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Aug 23, 2014 -World History Through 6 Glasses BEER Made around 10,000 B.CCfllohed. Originated from Arabic cultures. Spirits are created through the ... Fueled the slave trade in Africa because it was so popular between the tribes there.

Timeline Beer and Spirits - Timelines of History

wlv.timelines.ws/subjects/Beer_Spirits.HTML

Beer, Liquor.... TIMELINES OF HISTORY .. 815 Abu Arab poet. died..... 1660s The British began to dominate the trade in port wine from Portugal affllilf political spat with the French . .The Washingtons at this time had 317 slaves.

AP World Timeline ITimetoast timelines

<https://www.timetoast.com/time-lines/ap-world-timeline-d069863-3ad4-489e-bee-1-4f>

AP World Timeline made with Timetoast's free interactive timeline making software.... Beer is Cached shown as a valid way of paying taxes. and also as a valid way to pay a ... Muhammad, an Arabian man who felt called from Allah (God) to share his ... One of the most highly sought after currencies in the slave trade were spirits, ...

Dutch involvement in the transatlantic slave trade and abolition ...

<WwL.Yasleiden.nl> ... , Web dossiers Afrika--Studiecentrum, Leiden

Jun 24, 2013- Dutch involvement in the Atlafllici\$11Jve trade covers the 17th-19th centuries.... In: Islamic Africa: (2010). vol. Enslaving splPi(lil the Portuguese-Brazilian alcohol trade at Luanda and its hinterland. c..... of slaves at the Cape, a timeline of slavery at the Cape. a bibliography, scholars of slave history, etc.

A Brief History Of Slavery – New Internationalist

<https://newint.org/features/2001/08/05/history.yl> New Internationalist -

Aug 5, 2001 - Get app · About us · Timeline ... West ascia'ery goes back 10,000 years to Mesopotamia, today's Iraq, ... Vikings raided Britain from 800 AD and sold their captives lo markets in Istanbul and Islamic Spain.... European colonists flocked to West Africa trading liquor, tobacco, arms and trinkets for live cargo.

!POJThe Transatlantic Slave Trade, 1450-1870'- New Jersey Center For...

<civiced.rutgers.edu/files/africa/unit3.pdf>

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Slavery existed in Africa from at least the 11th Century, as Arab traders sought salt. ... Timelines will be studied to follow the growth of the slave trade. spirituous liquor in a wine glass: but being afraid of him, I would not take it out of his hand.

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Timeline of Atlantic Slave Trade - ABC News

abcnews.go.com/US/story?id=96659

At least 10 million Africans were enslaved and transported to Europe and the Americas between the 15th and 19th centuries as part of the Atlantic slave trade.
Missing: alcohol spirits

[PDF] The Transatlantic Slave Trade, 1450-1870 - New Jersey Center For ...

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Spirits And Spirituality: Alcohol In Caribbean Slave Societies, by ...

www.hizlakfoundation.org/prize/200102.html

Alcohol in the Atlantic Slave Trade. Rum and other alcohol beverages played a crucial role in the African slave trade. English slave trader John Atkins (1650-1715) in ...

Dutch involvement in the transatlantic slave trade and abolition ...

www.eschleiden.nl/.../Web_dossiers/.../Afrika/Studiecentrum,_Leiden...

Jun 24, 2013 - Dutch involvement in the Atlantic slave trade covers the 17th-19th centuries. Enslaving spirits : the Portuguese-Brazilian slave trade at Luanda of slaves at the Cape, a timeline of slavery at the Cape, a bibliography, ...

Timeline Beer and Spirits - Timelines of History

www.timelines.ws/subjects/Beer_Spirits.HTML

Beer, Liquor, ... 1660s The British began to dominate the market in port wine from Portugal after a political spat ... Brandy was added to the Portuguese wine to fortify them for the Atlantic voyage. The Washingtons at this time had 317 slaves.

Atlantic slave trade - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic_slave_trade Wikipedia

The Atlantic slave trade or transatlantic slave trade took place across the Atlantic Ocean from ... Timeline · Abolitionism the coast and sold at European trading ports in exchange for muskets and manufactured goods such as cloth or alcohol.
Missing: spirits

The Atlantic Slave Trade & The Columbian Exchange by Travis ... - Prezi

<https://prezi.com/1zt710acunjl/the-atlantic-slave-trade-the-columbian-exchange/> Prezi

The Atlantic Slave Trade & The Columbian Exchange Setting European owners had planned to use Native Americans as a source of cheap labor but millions of ...

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The Story of Rum - Part 2 - Drinking Cup

www.drinkingscup.net/1657-story-rum-part-2/

Timeline of Drink · Book Worm · About DC ... While rum was widely consumed by colonists of all nations, it was more respected for its ... The Atlantic crossing, while at times challenging, relied on the natural trade winds first ... With such large profits made through the triangle slave trade, it comes as no surprise that ...

Africa Timeline - Timeline of Africa - World Atlas

www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countries/afetime.htm

Sep 10, 2018 - Africa timeline of events and more - by worldatlas.com. ... (1860s) End of Atlantic slave trade; (1867) Diamonds discovered at Hope Creek ...

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An Infographic illustrating the African slave trade in American history ...

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/335972630536760236/> Pinterest

Read more on the GenealogyBank blog: "African American Slave Trade: Ships ... Civil Rights Timeline infographic Based on: <http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2010/05/the-net-worth-...> A beer-goggled look at the Homestead Act of ... with a whole variety of knowledge about one of man's most loved drinks: beer.

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Liquor in the 17th Century: History of Distilled Spirits Timeline

<https://www.alcoholproblemsandsolutions.org/liquor-in-the-17th-century-history-distilled-spirits-timeline/>

Liquor in the 17th Century: History of Distilled Spirits Timeline. Over the course of ... ²; In the Cached 'Triangle Trade,' rum was traded for West African slaves. They were ...
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The History of Spirits timeline | Timetoast timelines

<https://www.timetoast.com/timelines/the-history-of-spirits>

The History of Spirits , a timeline made with Timetoast's free interactive timeline making software. ... Exploration expands beginning/increasing the slave trade ... Distilled drinks had less chance of spoiling and higher alcohol content than wine.
Missing: occult

A History of the World in 6 Glasses Timeline by Curtis White on Prezi

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A Timeline of Scurvy

<https://dash.harvard.edu/bitstream/handle/1/9852139/Mayberry.html?sequence=2>

by J Mayberry - 2004 Cited by 1 - Related articles Cached The third section gives a brief timeline of scurvy throughout human history. TomatoesServed Rice, bread, grains. 0. Meat. 0. Malt. 0. Sugar. 0. Alcohol. 0 This disease is likewise usually attended with a strange dejection of spirits; and with men among them, as least—were 'made slaves' in order to keep them free.

Illuminati History thru -1900

http://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/sociopolitica/esp_sociedad_illuminati_11a.htm

This timeline will constantly be updated. ... In various occult dictionaries Saturn is associated with evil. ... 1590's, operating according to the vision provided him by his Guiding Spirit. Known to promote interest in the treatment of prisoners of war, the abolition of slavery, international arbitration, disarmament, and a Jewish ...

The Rise of Pentecostalism: Christian History Timeline | Christian History

www.christianitytoday.com/.../rise-of-pentecostalism-christian-history... Christianity Today Charles Parham calls tongues the "Bible evidence" for baptism in the Spirit ... Holiness Church has their own beautifully designed (and inclusive) timeline. ... In addition to banning traditional vices like alcohol, tobacco, and the movies, they have Nat Turner's rebellion, the bloodiest in slave history, was driven by his ...

Killuminati Soldiers of Truth - Timeline | Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/NewWorldOutlawzKilluminati/.../1141676198913867/?...>

<https://www.facebook.com/returnoftheking777> ... the Occult. I am already dead because I was addited in the Third Servile War and slave Revolt. ... All secret societies are to be targeted that are apart of the devils occult Spine. Most rich We can use the spirits of the past to fight the demonic bodies of the present with Ease.

Fr Kinyua's online Congregation. - Timeline | Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/FrKinyuaOnline/posts/855609904569589?comment...>

A page for the winners who live and celebrate Gods Favor. ... Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, enlighten our minds to perceive the mysteries of The slave of Philemon, Onesimus, has become a Christian and Paul sends him back I renounce any form of the occult or idolatry – known and unknown – in my life or in ...

Full text of "Satanic Illuminati Bloodlines" - Internet Archive

<https://archive.org/.../SatanicIlluminatiBloodlines/SatanicIlluminatiBlo...> Internet Archive

THE SATANIC ILLUMINATI BLOODLINES STUDYING THE ELITE FAMILIES OF TIMELINE OF POPULATION CONTROL THE VEIL OF MATERIALISM WHAT ... the Brethren of the Free Spirit. and in the 15th century was assumed by other a New World Order, with them on top to rule the world into slavery and fascism.

Cthulhu Mythos Timeline - CthulhuWiki - Yog-Sothoth.com

www.yog-sothoth.com/wiki/index.php/Cthulhu_Mythos_Timeline

Mar 2, 2016 - ("At the Mountains of Madness," Lovecraft: ("Timeline of ~~Cthulhu~~ Cthulhu Mythos," Appeal) Thurian continent, the Lemurians free themselves from slavery... in the Inn of Bonne Jouissance in Averoigne, after drinking a draught of red wine. Out of the Soul circulates through the Salem occult community.

Liquor in the 17th Century: History of Distilled Spirits Timeline

Over the course of the 1600s, distilling expanded as did the demand for spirit beverages. Thus, liquor in the 17th century expanded significantly.

Liquor History Timeline

- [Past](#)
- [Future](#)

See Also

- [World History of Alcohol & Drinking Timeline](#)
- [World History of Beer Timeline](#)
- [World History of Wine Timeline](#)
- [Alcohol and Drinking History in America Timeline](#)
- [Beer Trivia](#)
- [Wine Trivia](#)
- [Liquor Trivia](#)
- ‘From the end of the sixteenth century, distilled drinks were to be found throughout the West.’¹
- ‘While distilling industries were slow to develop, they expanded in the mid-to-late seventeenth century. The rise in distilling industries was driven in part by the expansion of sugar production in the Caribbean, which provided an enormous base material (molasses) for local Caribbean distillers as well as distillers in Europe and North America.’²
- In the ‘Triangle Trade,’ rum was traded for West African slaves. They were then traded to the West Indians for more molasses. That was used to produce more rum. This three point trading arrangement became a part of colonial commercial life and prosperity.³
- Almost every important town from Massachusetts to the Carolinas had a rum distillery to meet the local demand, which had increased dramatically. Rum was often enjoyed in mixed drinks, including flip. This was a popular winter beverage made of rum and beer sweetened with sugar and warmed by plunging a red-hot fireplace poker into the serving mug.⁴
- The Dutch discovered that fortifying wine with distilled spirit prevented it from spoiling.⁵

Liquor in the 17th Century by Date

liquor in the 17th century

Old Bushmills Distillery

1608

The [Old Bushmills Distillery](#) was licensed in Ireland. It’s the oldest licensed whiskey distillery in the world.⁶

within four years the annual production of distilled spirits, most of which was gin, reached nearly one million gallons.¹⁸

1619

France imposed state control over distilling.⁷

1634

Ireland began licensing the retailers of alcoholic beverages.⁸

1644

First duty on whisky was imposed by the Scottish Parliament.

1650

The importation of rum into New England from the West Indies began. The beverage became especially popular among poor people because of its low price.⁹

1651

‘The first mention of [rum] is contained in a description of Barbados, dating to 1651’.¹⁰ 10

1652

The first distillery was established in the North American colonies on what is now Staten Island in New York State.¹¹

1657

A rum distillery was operating in Boston. It was highly successful and within a generation the production of rum became colonial New England’s largest and most prosperous industry.¹²

1662

Maryland passed a law to promote the establishment of inns with a monopoly on alcohol sales within a specific geographic area. It was intended to promote innkeeping, brewing, distilling, travel and commerce.¹³

1663

Amsterdam had over 400 small distilleries.¹⁴

1672

A Massachusetts law prohibiting payment of wages in the form of alcohol resulted in a labor strike.¹⁵

1673

An ineffective petition was made to Parliament for legislation to prohibit brandy, coffee, rum, tea and chocolate. It was ‘for these greatly hinder the consumption of Barley, Malt, and Wheat, the product of our land.’¹⁶

1678

In Portugal, it was discovered that if enough brandy is added to wine before the end of fermentation, the fermentation stops, leaving some of the natural sugar in the wine.¹⁷

1688

The first duty on alcoholic strength of whisky based on its proof (alcoholic strength) was imposed in Scotland.

1690

England passed ‘An Act for the Encouraging of the Distillation of Brandy and Spirits from Corn’ and

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History of alcoholic drinks - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=History_of_alcoholic_drinks&oldid=69032025 Wikipedia
Total recorded alcohol per capita consumption (15+), in liters of pure alcohol. Purposeful production of alcoholic drinks is common and often reflects their cultural and ... Evidence of alcoholic beverages has also been found dating from 3150 BC in As a beverage, it was drunk in many ways: warm and chilled, pure and ...

Historical and cultural aspects of man's relationship with addictive drugs

[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/.../PMC32025...](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC32025/) National Center for Biotechnology Information
by MA Crocq - 2007 - Cited by 34 - Related articles
Historically, psychoactive substances have been used by (i) priests in ... Surprisingly, however, alcohol was largely unknown throughout much of North America ... of previous genetic selection operating on vulnerable subjects over millennia. ... and travelers recorded its use as late as the 18th century in Northeastern Siberia.

Historical evolution of alcohol consumption in society - Oxford ...

[www.oxfordscholarship.com/view/10.1093/.../acprof:9780199656780-chapter-01](https://www.oxfordscholarship.com/view/10.1093/acprof:9780199656780-chapter-01)
Alcoholic drinks have been produced and consumed by humans for thousands of ... of worldwide prohibitions of alcohol in many countries over the past century.

Similar

History of Alcohol Use - Loyola Marymount University

academics.lmu.edu/headsup/.../historyofalcoholuse/ Loyola Marymount University
Mead. Here is an old recipe for mead, from an eighteenth century recipe book: ... *Though this may offend many beer drinkers, the addition of hops to alcohol has been claimed that hops were introduced to Britain by the Romans. ... (modern day Iraq) with recipes for over twenty varieties of beer recorded on clay tablets.

[PDF] Global status report on alcohol and health - World Health Organization

www.who.int/substance_abuse/alcohol/msbgsruprofiles.pdf World Health Organization
All reasonable precautions have been taken by the World Health Organization to verify the ... 1.2 Changes in alcohol consumption over time. 8 the consumption of wine as a percentage of total recorded alcohol is globally quite low ... at the end of the last century in the Western Pacific Region, but recorded consumption.

A Brief History of Alcohol & Alcoholic Beverages - Drug-Free World

www.drugfreeworld.org/.../alcohol/a-short-history... Foundation for a Drug-Free World
Fermented grain, fruit juice and honey have been used to make alcohol (ethyl alcohol) or ... In the sixteenth century, alcohol (called "spirits") was used largely ...

Social and Cultural Aspects of Drinking - The origins of alcoholic ...

www.sirc.org/publications/drinking_origins.html Social Issues Research Centre
Alcoholic beverages have been used by virtually all cultures through most of their ... In this extract the rather hung-over philosophers assemble in Singleton's ... alcoholic beverage in much of Europe from the first century AD has been ... recorded recipe – not for bread or other 'staples' of life – but for an alcoholic beverage.

The Revolution of American Drinking - US History Scene

ushistoryscene.com/article/american-drinking/
Alcohol, coffee and chocolate would also play critical roles in the American Revolution. ... believed to have been written by Ben Franklin, recorded dozens of claims ... Visitors to America often took notice of how much colonists drank, and were ... In 1770, there were over 140 rum distilleries in the colonies cranking out 4.8 ...

Twentieth Century Practice - Volume 3 - Page 74 - Google Books Result

<https://books.google.com/books?id=LOs0AQAAQAAJ>
Thomas Lathrop Stedman - 1895 - Medicine
The functional derangements of alcohol and opium (and morphine) are ... But even in Eastern countries opiate transmission has not been scientifically recorded as ... Over many Eastern areas, also, opium has long been resorted to, to stay ...

Twentieth century practice - Volume 3 - Page 74 - Google Books Result

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1895

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One Hundred Years of Alcoholism: The Twentieth Century.

[alco](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3577710/) [oxfordjournals.org/content/3577710](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3577710/) [Alcohol and Alcoholism](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3577710/)

by K Mann - 2000 - Cited by 50 - Related articles [Similar](#)

THE HERITAGE OF THE 19TH CENTURY — A CONCEPT OF ADDICTION, TEMPERANCE AND DEGENERATION ... A low serotonin turnover rate is a potential marker of early-onset alcoholism (Fins Aime et al. ... Search across all sources ...

The time when Americans drank all day long - BBC News - BBC.com

www.bbc.com/news/magazine-31741615 [BBC](#)

Mar 9, 2015 - ... over from England to Massachusetts Bay actually carried more beer than water, " ... Alcoholism - also known as dipsomania - was stilling to have a ... people accused of bootlegging, and enjoyed a 95% conviction rate. ... By the late 19th Century, dipsomania, or alcoholism, was being treated as a disease.

Historical evolution of alcohol consumption in society - Oxford ...

www.oxfordscholarship.com/view/10.1093/0199655783/chapter-9

Chapter 4 Cultural aspects: illustrations of alcohol use in literature ... Chapter 6 Sociocultural aspects of alcohol consumption. ... This chapter traces the history of alcohol consumption from ancient times to the present.

Module 1: Epidemiology of Alcohol Problems in the United States

pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/.../209-218.htm [National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism](#)

While per capita consumption trends illustrate historical trends over the past 150 ... However, high rates of alcohol abuse symptoms have been found among ...

The Epidemiology of Alcoholic Liver Disease - Publications & Multimedia

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by RE Mann - Cited by 277 - Related articles [Similar](#)

Sep 29, 2004 - About 20 percent of alcoholics and heavy drinkers develop fatty liver, or steatosis. ... alcohol consumption in a year are distributed over the next several years. ... Early in the 20th century, these rates were at their highest point.

Secular Trends in Alcohol Consumption over 50 Years - NCBI

[https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/.../PMID25.../](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/.../PMID25...) [National Center for Biotechnology Information](#)
by Y Zhang - 2003 - Cited by 40 - Related articles

We found a decrease in average intake and more wine consumption over the ... of the 20th century, although there have been recent increases in the prevalence of ... alcohol use disorders included ICD-9 codes of 305.0 (alcohol abuse), 303.9 ... Women consumed a higher percentage of alcohol from wine and, as in men, ...

Alcohol consumption in Russia - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Alcohol_consumption_in_Russia [Wikipedia](#)

Alcohol consumption in Russia stays among the highest in the world. According to the WHO ... Russia currently implements a variety of anti-alcoholism measures. ... and wine and beer taking over spirits as the main source of consumed alcohol. ... It has also been a major source of government revenue for centuries.

Alcoholism in Russia

<http://www.ies.in/about-alcoholism.com/alcoholism-in-russia.htm>

Alcoholism in Russia continues to be an escalating problem. ... Current statistics show that over 70% of girls and 76% of boys use alcohol at ... Alcohol has been a very important part of Russia's social history since around the 10th century AD.

alcoholism | Britannica.com

<https://www.britannica.com/science/alcoholism> [Encyclopædia Britannica](#)

Apr 21, 2016 - Excessive and repetitive drinking of alcoholic beverages to the extent that the ... and limited societal control over sales suffer high rates of alcoholism. ... not even recognize alcoholism as a problem until the late 20th century.

Alcohol Prohibition Was A Failure - Cato Institute

www.cato.org/pubs/aus/pa/157.htm [Cato Institute](#)

by M Thornton - Cited by 83 - Related articles [Similar](#)

Jul 17, 1981 - The death rate from alcoholism and cirrhosis also declined rather ... in the rate of serious crimes over much of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Searches related to STATISTICS OF ALCOHOLICS OVER CENTURIES

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PASSAGES REHAB (08-16-2010)

MALIBU, CALIFORNIA - PASSAGES IS SAID TO BE CONNECTED TO SCIENTOLOGY. CHARGES IN 2008 WERE \$67, 550 AND UP TO STAY AT THEIR REHAB FOR A MONTH. THERE ARE NO "STEPS", JUST GURU TYPES OR NEW AGE B.S.

OWNERS: CHRIS AND PAX PRENTISS

LUXURY ELITIST REHABS

CALI - SOBER LIVING BY THE SEA - \$25,000 FOR 3 MONTHS

AUSTRALIA - SANCTUARY - \$18,500 PER WEEK

UTAH - CIRQUE LODGE - "RATES VARY"

**ARIZONA - COTTONWOOD DR
TUCSON - \$988-\$1430 PER DAY**

ANTIGUA - CROSSROADS CENTER ERIC CLAPTON FINANCED - \$19,508 PER MONTH

EUROPE - THE PRIORY - \$4,700 A WEEK

ARIZONA - THE MEADOWS - \$1,000 PER DAY

CALIFORNIA - \$33,000 MONTHLY

CALI - HOPE BY THE SEA - \$9,500 43 MONTHS

**CLIFFSIDE MALIBU -\$53,000 FOR SHARED
BEDROOM - \$80,000 FOR PRIVATE**

**APPROXIMATELY 20 MILLION ADDICTS IN THE
U.S.**

INFO ABOUT REHABS (CON'T)

NARNACON/SCIENTOLOGY II

BALDWIN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

ST. JUDE RETREAT HOUSE

**HAZELDEN - \$8,500-\$26,000 - FLORIDA,
OREGON, ILLINOIS**

BETTY FORD CLINIC - \$33,000-\$66,750

PARADISE RECOVERY - \$10,000-20,000

**SOLUTIONS/RECOVERY (?) - NOT CLEAR IF THIS
IS THE RIGHT DRUG CENTER (DIDN'T GIVE AN
AMOUNT , NOT A GOOD SIGN)**

BEACHWAY THERAPY CENTER - (FL)

**DIDN'T GIVE AN AMOUNT, BUT OFFERED A
SCHOLARSHIP**

**THE CARON FOUNDATION - \$21,000 PER
MONTH - TEXAS, FLORIDA, PENNSYLVANIA**

FREEWILL - STEVEN PINKER

**SIERRA TUCSON, ARIZONA - \$36,400 -
140, 2, 12 STEPS**

DUFFY'S NAPA VALLEY - CALI (NO PRICE GIVEN)

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OF PALM BEACHES -

\$12,000-\$30,000 +

**ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS - WORLD
SERVICES/FREE**

**(IN 1956 A.A. "BY DISEASE", WAS THROWN IN
AND THAT EXCUSE WAS USED)**

**THEY ARE ALLEGEDLY RETOOLING THESE
FOLKS (ADDICTS) AS THEY PUMP THEM FULL
OF "OTHER" DRUGS AND BLEED THEIR BANK
ACCOUNTS DRY. JUST AS THE CONSPIRACY
THEORISTS HAVE POINTED OUT IN
HOLLYWOOD, WHETHER YOU UNKNOWINGLY
KNOW THE AGENDA AND CAN'T DEAL WITH IT
(STARS/ENTERTAINERS) OR YOU LIVE THE
AGENDA EVERY DAY AND CAN'T LIVE WITH IT,
THEY ARE BUSY TRYING TO INVENT NEW WAYS
AND CONTINUE OLD TRADITIONS OF KEEPING
ALL OF OUR LOST AZZES IN THE DARK. THEIR
FAMILY CAN GET IT TOO! AS WE SEE EVERY
HOUR ON THE HOUR!**

ONLY GOD CAN SAVE US.

Occult! Christians continue to insist that *Alcoholics Anonymous* is compatible with Christianity because of its so-called Christian roots. That is because of its early connection with the Oxford Group, which is now called Moral Re-Armament (MRA). The founders of AA were involved in the Oxford Group movement during the early days, but there is no record of either Bill Wilson or Bob Smith professing Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord or as the only way to the Father. Neither is there a record of them believing or teaching that the only way of salvation is by grace through faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross.

Frank Buchman, a Lutheran minister, began a movement which he originally called "A First Century Christian Fellowship." In 1928 the name of the movement changed to the "Oxford Group." The other leader of the movement, who was influential in the development of AA, was Samuel Shoemaker, rector of an Episcopal church. The thrust of the movement was experience rather than clear biblical doctrine.

Buchman explained that "*he never touched any doctrine in any of his meetings, as he did not want to upset or offend anyone.*"¹ (Emphasis in original.) By keeping his doctrinal beliefs to himself, Buchman was able to appeal to people of all religious persuasions.

The following is Wilson's description of the Oxford Group:

The Oxford Group was a nondenominational evangelical movement, streamlined for the modern world and then at the height of its very considerable success. . . . They would deal in simple common denominators of all religions which would be potent enough to change the lives of men and women.² (Emphasis added.)

However, there is some evidence that the founders of AA did have opportunity to hear the Gospel,³ but instead of receiving Christ as Lord and Savior and experiencing freedom in Christ and victory over sin through faith in Christ alone, Wilson and Smith took only what they wanted from the Oxford Group. Here we will examine three aspects of what AA borrowed: guidance, surrender, and moral principles.

Occult Guidance

Members of the Oxford Group practiced what they called guidance by praying and then quieting their minds in order to hear from God. Then they would write down whatever came to them.⁴ Examples of such "guidance" are in the book *God Calling*, edited by A. J. Russell of the Oxford Group.⁵ The book was written anonymously by two women who thought they were hearing from God, but who passively received messages in the same way spiritists obtain guidance from demons.

Members of the Oxford Group primarily found their guidance from within rather than from a creed or the Bible. Buchman, for instance, was known to spend "an hour or more in complete silence of soul and body while he gets guidance for that day."⁶

J. C. Brown in his book *The Oxford Group Movement* says of Buchman:

He teaches his votaries to wait upon God with paper and pencil in hand each morning in this relaxed and inert condition, and to write down whatever guidance they get. This, however, is just *the very condition* required by Spiritist mediums to enable them to receive *impressions* from evil spirits. . . and it is a path which, by abandoning the Scripture-instructed judgment (which God always demands) for the purely occult and the psychic, has again and again led over the precipice. The soul that reduces itself to an automaton may at any moment be set spinning by a *Demon*.⁷ (Emphasis his.)

Dr. Rowland V. Bingham, Editor of *The Evangelical Christian* says:

We do not object to their taking a pad and pencil to write down any thoughts of guidance which come to them. But to take the thoughts especially *generated in a mental vacuum* as Divine guidance would throw open to all the suggestions of *another* who knows how to come as an angel of light and whose illumination would lead to *disaster*.⁸ (Emphasis his.)

In a very real sense their personal journals became their personal scriptures. Wilson practiced this passive form of guidance, which he originally learned through the Oxford Group. He and Smith were also heavily involved in contacting and conversing with so-called departed spirits from 1935 on. This is necromancy, which the Bible forbids. During the same period of time, Wilson was practicing spiritism in a manner similar to channeling.⁹ Thus, Wilson combined the Oxford Group practice of guidance with spiritism or channeling, and this appears to be the process he used when writing the Twelve Steps:

As he started to write, he asked for guidance. And he relaxed. The words began tumbling out with astonishing speed.¹⁰

Wilson was accustomed to asking for guidance and then stilling his mind to be open to the spiritual world, which for him involved various so-called departed spirits. Wilson does not identify any specific entity related to the original writing of the Twelve Steps, but he does give credit to the spirit of a departed bishop when he was writing the manuscript for *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, which constitutes Wilson's commentary on how all of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions are to be understood, interpreted, and practiced.

When he wrote the essays on each of the twelve steps, he sent some to Ed Dowling, a Roman Catholic priest, to evaluate. In his accompanying letter of July 17, 1952, Wilson says, "But I have good help – of that I am certain. Both

over here and over there."¹¹ Then he explains that one spirit from "over there" that helped him called himself Boniface. Wilson says:

One turned up the other day calling himself Boniface. Said he was a Benedictine missionary and English. Had been a man of learning, knew missionary work and a lot about structures. I think he said this all the more modestly but that was the gist of it. I'd never heard of this gentleman but he checked out pretty well in the Encyclopedia. If this one is who he says he is—and of course there is no certain way of knowing—would this be licit contact in your book?¹²

Dowling responds in his letter of July 24, 1952:

Boniface sounds like the Apostle of Germany. I still feel, like Macbeth, that these folks tell us truth in small matters in order to fool us in larger. I suppose that is my lazy orthodoxy.¹³

One can see the stretch of years during which Wilson received messages from disembodied spirits. The official biography of Bill Wilson says, "One of Bill's persistent fascinations and involvements was with psychic phenomena." It speaks of his "belief in clairvoyance and other extrasensory manifestations" and in his own psychic ability.¹⁴ This was not a mere past-time. It was a passion directly related to AA.¹⁵ The manner in which Wilson would receive messages not of his own making was definitely channeling.¹⁶ The records of these sessions, referred to as "Spook Files," have been closed to public inspection.¹⁷

Satan can appear as an angel of light and give guidance that may sound right because it may be close to the truth or contain elements of truth. A discerning Christian would avoid any guidance that comes through occult methods. Therefore, this aspect of the Oxford Group, further contaminated by spiritism, cannot constitute any "Christian root" condoning Christians using and promoting AA.

Surrender

Step Three of AA is "Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood him*." While many in the Oxford Group placed their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, there was much leeway given. Shoemaker, a leader of the Oxford Group, says that "the true meaning of faith is self-surrender to God." He further explains:

Surrender to whatever you know about Him, or believe must be the truth about Him. Surrender to Him, if necessary, in total ignorance of Him. Far more important that you touch Him than that you understand Him at first. Put yourself in His hands. Whatever He is, as William James said, He is more ideal than we are. Make the leap. Give yourself to Him.¹⁸

Aside from capitalizing the "H," which Christians do to refer to the God of the Bible, "Him" could refer to any god of one's own making. The reference to the psychologist William James emphasizes Shoemaker's faith in the power experience over the truth of God.¹⁹

Shoemaker believed that people would come to know God by experiencing Him through surrender and through following certain moral principles. He says, "The new life begins by utter self-dedication to the will of God. All of us can do that, and must."²⁰

One can see how surrender to a god of one's own creation found its way into the Twelve Steps of AA. When a person is not clear about the Gospel, who Jesus is and what He did to save sinners, he is not presenting a Christian message. AA picked up the idea of surrender, but without Christ and without the whole counsel of God.

Surrendering to anyone but the God of the Bible constitutes idolatry. AA is another religion with its own forms of piety, including surrender to a nebulous higher power. This pious surrender does not constitute a "Christian root" that can justify Christians using and promoting AA.

Moral Principles and Their Source

In describing itself as an organization, this is what MRA (formerly called the Oxford Group) says about itself:

MRA is a world wide network of women and men who have started with themselves to bring the changes they want to see around them.²¹

Here's how they start with themselves:

To start with yourself, you measure how you are now living by absolute moral standards of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love. (For Christians these are in the Sermon on the Mount; they are also found in other major religions.)²² (Parenthesis in original.)

People are told to make a list and then "give all you know of yourself to all you understand of God, and ask God's help to put right those things beyond your own power to change." So far there is no information about which god one is to choose, since one can follow any religion or no religion.

While some in MRA may read the Bible, as they did in its early Oxford Group days, the primary source of knowledge is the "inner voice." Here are the instructions given in the MRA brochure:

Take time to listen every day to the inner voice, write down your thoughts, and obey those that conform to these standards.²³

Even though a follower of MRA attempts to follow moral standards from the Bible or the moral teachings of any other religion, his primary light is that inner voice and his primary goal is self-improvement. No cross is necessary; no shed blood is required. Like AA, MRA is a religion of works. Here is what MRA says about its "religious affiliation":

It has always been a Christian based, interfaith work. It brings together people of all backgrounds and cultures in a program of effective change using principles that are accepted by every major faith.²⁴

Aside from the words "Christian based," that definition sounds like a description of AA. But how can it be truly "Christian based" when it is without the cross and without a Lord Jesus Christ, who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6)? Rather than faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and Him crucified, MRA is a religion of self-improvement and subjective mysticism.

One can indeed see the similarity between the Oxford Group (MRA) and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). Both allow Christians to participate as long as they do not preach Christ and Him crucified or dare to say that He is the only way to the Father. Both appeal to an unidentified god, both rely on mysticism, and both aim for self-improvement. What AA got from the Oxford Group was clearly not Christianity. There are no "Christian roots." Because the central core doctrines of Christianity are absent, AA constitutes a counterfeit religion, not a neutral organization with "Christian roots."

(For more information about AA, see *12 Steps to Destruction* by Martin and Deidre Bobgan.)

1. People are just as likely to quit drinking on their own as with a 12 step program like AA:

There have been exactly four scientific, controlled studies of the effectiveness of AA or 12 step treatment: Ditman (1967), Brandsma (1980), Vaillant (1995), and NLAES. The Ditman (1967) study compared drunk drivers who were court ordered to attend AA with a control group of drunk drivers who were given no treatment at all. There were no significant differences between the two groups in terms of re-arrest rate or any other variable studied. Brandsma (1980) compared the effect of 12 step inpatient treatment with psychotherapeutic treatments and an untreated control group. Because two thirds of the patients in the 12 step group dropped out of treatment it was impossible to compare this group in a meaningful fashion with the other groups. Only one third of the other groups dropped out. Vaillant (1995) did an 8 year follow up study of 12-step-treated and untreated alcoholics and found no significant difference between the two groups--both the treated and the untreated groups had improved just as much. And the NLAES (The National Longitudinal Alcoholism Epidemiological Survey)--a giant study conducted by the US government--actually found better outcomes among alcoholics who had never been treated than those who had undergone 12 step treatment (Peele, 2000).

2. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy is about twice as successful as 12 step programs at helping people to quit drinking:

As mentioned above, two thirds of patients assigned to 12 step therapy dropped out of the Brandsma (1980) study. Only one third of those assigned to Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Psychodynamic Therapy, or the control group dropped out. Those treated with Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and those treated with Psychodynamic Therapy both did significantly better than the control group at improving their drinking--and the retention rate was twice as good as the 12 step group.

3. Calling yourself an "alcoholic" is harmful to your mental health: David Burns MD, a pioneer of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, tells us that labeling ourselves is bad for our mental health. An example of this sort of labeling is when you identify with your shortcomings. Instead of saying "I made a mistake" you tell yourself "I'm a nerd" or "a loser". AA asks you to label yourself an "alcoholic" in order to disempower you as an individual and to empower the AA group instead. This is a classic tactic used by religious cults. Rather than label yourself an "alcoholic" it is much healthier to say that you are a strong and empowered person who does not need to drink.

4. AA is a religion by definition: AA often claims that it is "spiritual, not religious", however, AA has a divinely inspired holy book (the Big Book), a congregation (AA members), and inviolable dogmas based on divine revelation but not supported by scientific evidence. AA meets all the criteria for defining a religion. Moreover, 3 federal district courts have ruled that coerced participation in AA is a violation of the first amendment of the constitution because AA is a religion. These are: The Ninth Federal District Court (MT, ID, WA, OR, NV, CA, AZ, HI, AK, Inouye v. Kemna, No. 06-15474; Docket No. CV-04-00026-DAE), The Second Federal District Court (NY, VT, CT, Warner v. Orange County Department of Probation, Docket No. 95-7055), and The Seventh Federal District Court (WI, IN, IL, Kerr v. Farrey, No. 95-1843).

In point of fact AA is a Calvinistic religion which teaches predestination. This is evident from the following AA slogans: "there are no coincidences in God's perfect world" and "no one walks into an AA meeting by accident". Moreover, AA believes in a God that created the 100% fatal disease of alcoholism and let everyone die from it until He decided to give the cure to Bill W in 1935. This is not sort of a God for me.

5. Over ten billion dollars per year is spent promoting AA: 12 step treatment programs were invented by AA members for the purpose of promoting AA to a captive audience. The world's first 12 step treatment program was created in Ohio in 1940 through the collaboration of AA co-founder Dr. Bob Smith and a Catholic nun named Sister Ignatia at St Thomas Hospital (Darrah, 2001). Shortly thereafter several AA members got together in Minnesota to found Hazelden treatment center in Minnesota (McElrath, 1987). Ninety-five percent of hospitals and treatment centers in the US use the 12 steps not because the 12 steps are effective at treating drinking problems, but rather because AA has been highly effective at doing PR to promote AA. AA member Marty Mann founded the National Council on Alcoholism in 1944 for the sole purpose of doing PR for AA; she was eventually fronted millions of dollars by AA member Brinkley Smithers for this purpose (Peele 1997). According to Stanton Peele (1989) over ten billion dollars a year alone is spent on 12 step treatment programs in the US. Twelve step treatment programs don't cure drunks but they do promote AA. This is not to mention the money spent by the National Council on Alcoholism and the fact that every TV show you see these days has an AA character in it. This is clearly a program of "promotion, not attraction."

6. Project MATCH did not study AA: Although the US government spent 35 million dollars on Project MATCH in an attempt to prove the effectiveness of AA, neither AA nor typical 12 step treatment programs were studied. Project MATCH invented something called Twelve Step Facilitation Therapy which involved one-on-one sessions with a professionally trained counselor and studied this instead of the AA or typically available forms of 12 step group therapy which had already been proved ineffective by the studies of Brandsma (1980) and Ditman (1967). Twelve Step Facilitation Therapy proved about as effective as Cognitive Behavioral Group Therapy--it is just far more expensive and unavailable at any treatment center that I am aware of. All twelve step treatment centers that I am aware of use ineffective 12 step group therapy. Since treatment centers have no accountability if their clients die of drugs or alcohol after discharge, there is no financial motivation to use an effective form of therapy. 12 step treatment centers use the cheapest and least effective therapies possible in order to maximize the profit per client.

7. Many "alcoholics" eventually become moderate drinkers: According to Vaillant's (1995) study, about one third of untreated alcoholics become moderate drinkers; about one sixth of treated alcoholics become moderate drinkers:

8. There is no meaningful definition of the word "alcoholic": Science has abandoned the word "alcoholism" today the correct terms are Alcohol Dependence and Alcohol Abuse--which are two distinct and separate psychological conditions.

9. AA has not been updated since its inception in 1935: Science has discovered a million facts about alcohol problems since 1935, but AA's Big Book and its program

remain unchanged. Would you wanted be treated by a doctor who used a 1935 textbook?

10. AA founder Bill W demanded whiskey on his deathbed: According to Susan Cheever's biography, Bill W demanded whiskey on his deathbed and threatened to punch his nurse in the nose if she did not bring not to him.

11. AA claims that it is God: AA slogans like "Make AA your higher power" and "G O D stands for Group Of Drunks" are frightening. They are even more frightening when you look at step three "Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him" and step eleven "Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out ". This is all about disempowering the individual in order to empower the group--the hallmark of a cult. Stop and ask yourself, "Did AA create the heavens and the earth?" AA is not God no matter what it claims.

12. You can't "take what you like and leave the rest" in AA: When you go to your first meeting you will hear that the steps are "merely suggestions" and that you can "take what you like and leave the rest". But once you have been sucked in by declaring that you are powerless and decided to rely on AA as your higher power and the rest--you will soon hear that "This is like suggesting that you put on a parachute before you jump out of a plane". You will also hear what Bill W wrote in the 12 by 12, "Unless each A.A. member follows to the best of his ability our suggested Twelve Steps to recovery, he almost certainly signs his own death warrant." Nothing in AA is optional

If you like AA and find that it helps you, then fine, more power to you, keep on going. But if you don't find AA helpful, or if you find it to be harmful, then don't let anyone try to coerce you into going. There are better ways to deal with alcohol problems that have a better proven success rate. Hook up with a cognitive program like SMART if you want to quit, or use a harm reduction program like HAMS if quitting is not your goal.

Alcoholics Anonymous: The Whole Truth

70%
of traditional addiction treatments fail.
We offer a better way.

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Alcoholics Anonymous.
Sure, you know that A.A. is a recovery program for alcoholics. But do you know the whole truth behind the

history of the program??

The early success of Alcoholics Anonymous can be summed up in four words: The Power of God. This is not opinion; this is fact.

It is estimated that an amazing 75-93% of the early A.A. members fully recovered from alcoholism. There were no relapses, no returning to the old life. They never drank again, and they moved on with healthy, happy, productive lives. That was in the 1940's and 1950's, before the program of Alcoholics Anonymous began to change. Ever so slowly, over time a watered down version of the original program began to emerge. A.A.'s success rate is not nearly as great today.

One of our members, a special man named Dick B., has made it his passion to bring out the truth about the nature of the program of Alcoholics Anonymous as it was originally designed.



I was thrilled to receive a note from Dick B. about New-Life-in-Recovery.com! It read:

"A beautiful and valuable resource site. God Bless you."

Not only that, he has graciously allowed me to re-print his story here. It's a great read. Enjoy!

Dick B.'s Story

I was born in Stockton, California in 1925. I was the only child of two loving parents. My dad was a successful securities salesman. My mother was a concert pianist and a daily student of the Bible. My dad had quit smoking before I was born, and neither parent gave evidence of any problem with alcohol. I saw no reason to smoke, and I didn't. I saw no reason to drink, and I did not drink until I returned from the Army at age 21.

In school, I excelled. Top of my class in high school and valedictorian at my graduation. At the University of California in Berkeley, I was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in my Junior Year and was president of the Inter Fraternity Scholastic Honor Society. At Stanford University, I was elected to the board of Stanford Law Review, on the basis of grades, and became Case Editor of the Stanford Law Review in my second year on the board.

I married a Stanford girl, and we had two sons. Neither she nor the sons were or became alcoholics. And, after a successful ten-year career as an attorney in a San Francisco law firm, I opened my own law office in Corte Madera, California. I had suffered from sleeping problems in law school and ever since. A psychiatrist had been the first of many physicians who enabled me, step by step, to become dependent upon and to abuse high powered sedatives and such mind-altering palliatives as valium, thorazine, and quide. Worse, I began mixing them with drinks during the night; and soon I was passing out on the kitchen floor each morning with an almost unbearable body discomfort I called the "heebie jeebies", not a shaking without, but certainly an unbelievable trembling within. None of this had the slightest impact in deterring my continued excessive drinking.

As success in my law practice progressed, the time spent practicing law regressed. The money poured in. The drinking accelerated to an almost daily drunken state by day's end.. I drank at service club meetings, at chamber of commerce functions, at church meetings, at social events, at the business quarters of a regular drinking buddy next door to my office, and finally alone at home in the evenings. My wife wouldn't even leave the kitchen to join me despite appeals for her company. If someone had told me I had a problem with alcohol and prescription drugs, and they did, my response was that the problem was my wife, my sleep disorders, and occasionally the number of "minor" auto accidents which occurred when I drank "just a little too much." Friends, colleagues, physicians, my minister, and other erring commentators, including even some bartenders, began to tell me and others that I was drinking too much. But that did not deter me at all. I had reached the point where I didn't care what they thought.

I quit drinking for almost two years, however, when my doctor suggested I go on the Pritikin Diet to lose an inordinate amount of weight and also to eliminate liquor "for a while." In this endeavor, I also excelled, losing some 80 pounds, swimming daily, drinking soda water, and following the Pritikin formula. Then I left my wife—cold turkey. The kids had graduated from college and made new lives, and the joy had long since left. Or so I thought.

Armed with this new-found fighting trim, I seemed of the belief that I deserved to renew drinking. But alcohol and drugs had taken a toll I did not recognize. They had unleashed inhibitions and restraints that had previously been solid moral standards in my life. I began engaging in unethical and irresponsible behavior with a "let them eat cake" attitude. And then I got caught. A resentful relative of a client called the newspapers and the State Bar. My name appeared repeatedly in the news, along with

my picture. I became severely depressed; my clients vanished; and I drank with a vengeance I hadn't imagined possible. Nothing changed. In fact, everything seemed to get increasingly worse and unbearable—the depression, the drinking, the sleeping pills, the troubles, and the terror. Finally, I consulted a psychiatrist who recommended different sleeping pills and anti-depressants. But I couldn't wait. I went home, poured a four ounce glass of cheap gin, and went into an entire week's blackout—a period I can't recall or describe even these 22 years later. And that incident, plus a return to the psychiatrist, and the suggestion of my ex-wife, brought me to the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous two days sober and ready to conquer the world without booze. But nobody in A.A. had told me about detoxing, seizures, brain damaged thinking, and bodily withdrawal misery.

What did happen was a series of events that has left me with a continuing appreciation of the unique value of Alcoholics Anonymous to new and still suffering alcoholics. At early meetings, I had feared the opinions of those who had seen my picture in the newspapers, who might discover some of the things I had done, and who were not as crazy as I was becoming. But those items were definitely unimportant to the mass of drunks I met. At every meeting I attended, I was hugged, welcomed, given phone numbers to call, invited to join other alcoholics after the meetings, given meeting schedules for later meetings, told to "stick with the winners," and "keep coming back" because "it works." I used the phone numbers repeatedly, followed other recovered alcoholics around, and went to meetings without ceasing. I began to participate in A.A. service where given the opportunity. What these things did for me inspired me to go and do likewise. And I still do. I never see a newcomer at a meeting or a conference or even in a personal encounter without a focus on that person's story and needs and a possible opportunity to help.

Within the first nine days of sobriety, however, things changed. I had three grand-mal seizures, the first at an A.A. meeting, the second in the ambulance on the way, and the third in the Emergency Room. And these, in turn, took me to a 28 day treatment program—in all cases, with no significant mention of the importance of turning to God for help. Hence I didn't. I put abstinence and A.A. first—just as they seemed to be urging.

In no time at all, I faced the wreckage of the past—sober, but stuck as well with a relentless District Attorney, State Bar investigations, a series of ponderous tax audits and levies, divorce outcroppings, loss of my Law License, lack of means of support other than that remaining from my own earlier investments, and a terror and depression and despair that far exceeded that in my drinking period. Without booze or sleeping pills, I went sleepless for months and months. I felt like a zombie. I shook for five years. They called me "Shaky Dick." And my mind was seemingly only a shadow of its former self—producing mostly forgetfulness, confusion, bewilderment, incessant and irrelevant chatter, and tangential talk patterns. Add to that the unpleasant fact that I was wetting my pants regularly in A.A. meetings.

I couldn't handle any of this in the second month of my sobriety—the period just after I was discharged from the treatment program; so I checked into a VA psychiatric ward in San Francisco and there remained for two months. I wasn't as looney as some, but twice as jittery, anxious, and talkative than most. I was diagnosed as having some form of "hypomania." I now believe it was "fear" mania!

But I had definitely caught the A.A. bug. I didn't drink. I didn't take sleeping pills. I suffered miserably from fear and insomnia. I went to A.A.

meetings devotedly, called my sponsor regularly, and followed the crowd. Very important—I was made to feel wanted. I sought A.A. companionship in meetings and retreats and conferences and studies. I chased newcomers and tried to help them—even dragging alcoholics from the VA psych ward to A.A. meetings with me all over the San Francisco Area. But terror and despair still plagued me at every turn.

I faced prison, financial ruin, a lost reputation, unbearable physical consequences of delayed withdrawal, incredible mental incapacity, insomnia, depression, uncontrolled anxiety, loneliness, and a seemingly hopeless state of fear. I briefly wanted to take my life—in sobriety! Neither abstinence nor A.A. nor the psych ward were cutting it for me.

But two factors dramatically changed both the circumstances and my entire life at about eight months of sobriety. These came into play while I was in the psychiatric ward in San Francisco. One of my sons kept insisting that I needed to study the Bible and get back into what I had learned about the availability of my Heavenly Father and the accomplishments of His son Jesus Christ. He sent me tapes to which I began listening. And then, almost every day, an elderly friend from our Bible fellowship kept calling me long distance and listening to me wail. Finally, he asked why I didn't stop trying to program my life and let God guide it. He cited the story of Peter's walking on the water. When Peter believed, said this man, he walked. When he became afraid, he sank. And it took Jesus to pull him out of the water. I quickly saw that I had a choice—to learn and believe what God had to offer, or to yield my thinking to the seeming disasters the world was offering. I chose the former. I believed. Peace came. And without a doubt, I can say that my almost instantaneous response to these events was to believe that, no matter what might lie ahead, God had the answers to life; and that I had better seek Him first.

On weekend passes from the psych ward, I began attending my elderly friend's Bible fellowship. I stuck with A.A., and I stuck with the Bible fellowship also. And I got well. Quickly! Nurses noticed it. Family noticed it. And even my attorney announced that I was ready to bite the bullet—facing whatever the courts, the State Bar, and the newspapers had to throw at me.

The result? I was buttressed with solid sobriety, the A.A. program, and the Word of God. I had a Big Book and a Bible. And my sponsor jokingly observed: Dick is armed, but not dangerous. The fear vanished. I faced and dealt with court hearings, imprisonment, financial problems, divorce problems, tax problems, and reputation problems. I was released from the VA and began A.A. life in earnest. I studied and learned A.A.'s Big Book. I studied, practiced, "took," and learned how to take others through, the Twelve Steps. I sponsored newcomers. I served the fellowship as a speaker, chairperson, secretary, treasurer, General Service Representative, greeter, chair carrier, and floor sweeper. I went to A.A. meetings, gatherings, retreats, conferences, birthday parties, dances, and campouts. It was then time to grow in my relationship, understanding, and fellowship with my Heavenly Father and change my emphasis to serving and glorifying Him. But I hadn't fully grasped the fact.

Nonetheless, I began bringing newcomers to Christ, and into our Bible fellowship. Not in any way diminishing their participation in and service to Alcoholics Anonymous. Today some of these newcomers are more than eighteen years sober, married, with family and job, and blessed with strong believing. I thanked God daily for what He had done for me. I asked God daily for His directions as to how to serve Him. I studied the Bible daily and

read Bible-based literature daily. I prayed to God daily for myself and others. I affirmed the clear evidence that God could and would and did rescue me.

I began fellowshipping with like-minded believers—many of whom had been completely cured of alcoholism and addiction without even hearing of Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous though they had previously been crippled with addiction and alcoholism. But I stuck to them, to A.A., and to helping others in A.A. I still do.

I had done all this without any information about, or knowledge of, the fact that my behavior much resembled what early AAs and many recovery movements before them had done. And what was that?

Here is how I found out. I had been sober and very active in A.A. for about four years. One night, a young man named John—now dead of alcoholism—walked up to me in a Step Study meeting in San Rafael, California and asked if I knew that A.A. had come from the Bible. John was in our Bible fellowship and knew of my interest in Scripture. I responded that I had been to hundreds and hundreds of meetings and conferences and never heard such a thing. John suggested that I read the A.A. General Service Conference-approved book—DR. BOB and the Good Oldtimers. It had been published in 1980 by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., in New York. John said it would provide details about our Bible roots. He pointed out that the Book of James had been so popular in early A.A. that members had wanted to call their Society the James Club. I jumped at the suggestion and began reading as much A.A. historical material as I could find. There was actually relatively little. Yet, sure enough, the Bible was mentioned frequently. Also the James Club account. Also Dr. Bob's statements that the basic ideas of A.A. had come from their study of the Bible; that the oldtimers believed the answers to their problems were in the Good Book (the name they gave to the Bible); and that the Book of James, Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, and 1 Corinthians 13 were considered absolutely essential to the program's success. (See The Co-Founders of Alcoholics Anonymous: Biographical Sketches Their Last Major Talks (NY: Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., 1972, 1975, pages 11-14, 18-20). I was later to find that most of the material in Dr. Bob's talk was incorporated into the DR. BOB and the Good Oldtimers book I had previously read.

And success there had been for sure. The A.A. basic text stated that, of those alcoholics who really tried, 50% got sober and remained that way; and 25% sobered up after some relapses. (See Alcoholics Anonymous, 4th ed. (NY:Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., 2001), p xx.) It said their personal stories in the book described in their own language and from their own point of view the way each individual had established his relationship with God (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 29). And the DR. BOB and the Good Oldtimers book pointed out that records in the early Cleveland A.A. fellowship showed a 93% success rate using the same principles, as well as the Big Book, the Twelve Steps, and the Oxford Group Four Absolutes (honesty, purity, unselfishness, and love) as moral standards for testing behavior.

Wow!

Then came a further turning point—an event which was to change my life pursuits, my interests, and my service to the Creator and His son Jesus Christ. I had never heard anything significant about God, or Christ, or the Bible in the A.A. fellowship meetings. Yet A.A.'s own General Service Conference-approved literature contained much to suggest there was more

to the picture than most knew. I had read that early AAs in Akron had called themselves a Christian fellowship (See, for example, DR. BOB and the Good Oldtimers, p. 118.) I had read that they stressed Bible study and old fashioned prayer meetings. I had read that Christian literature was distributed to them by Dr. Bob for reading and study. And I had read that Dr. Bob always insisted that newcomers in the hospital profess a belief in God and surrender their lives to Christ. (See Dick B., The Akron Genesis of Alcoholics Anonymous, 2d ed. Kihei, HI: (Paradise Research Publications, Inc. 1998—pp. 177-78, 181-86, 187, 188-215); and DR. BOB, page 144, for the specifics of what I later found.)

But I still knew very very little about what they actually did, where they got their ideas, and why their program produced such a high percentage rate of successes.

In almost every meeting I attended there was incessant chatter about some "higher power." One man insisted his "higher power" was Ralph. Another that "it" was a rock. Another that "it" was a chair. Another that "it" was the Big Dipper. These remarks were made regularly in meetings I attended in Marin County, California. There was also bizarre talk about "spirituality" that was foreign to my ears. Where, I thought, did such nonsense come from? To make matters worse, my own friend and sponsor began telling me that people who read the Bible got drunk His sponsor convened a meeting where he and my own sponsor "warned" me that I was getting ready to drink because I had brought my sponsees to a Bible fellowship. But there was still more to be experienced and endured.

I myself have never been the slightest bit concerned about the fact that many of my A.A. friends are Roman Catholics and Jews and that they talk about their faith in meetings. But I began picking up at A.A. meetings some A.A. General Service Conference-approved literature which seemed to endorse, and even encourage, unbelief—the idea that you didn't need to believe in anything at all to get well. The following are but a few of many examples:

"A.A. is not a religious society, since it requires no definite religious belief as a condition of membership. . . . Included in its membership are Catholics, Protestants, Jews, members of other religious bodies, agnostics, and atheists. . . . A.A. suggests that to achieve and maintain sobriety, alcoholics need to accept and depend upon another Power recognized as greater than themselves. Some alcoholics choose to consider the A.A. group itself as the power greater than themselves; for many others, this power is God—as they individually understand Him; still others rely upon entirely different concepts of a Higher Power" (44 Questions, page 19).

"The majority of A.A. members believe that we have found the solution to our drinking problem not through individual willpower, but through a power greater than ourselves. However, everyone defines this power as he or she wishes. Many people call it God, others think it is the A.A. group, still others don't believe in it at all. There is room in A.A. for people of all shades of belief and nonbelief" (A Newcomer Asks)

"While some members prefer to call this Power "God," we were told that this was purely a matter of personal interpretation; we could conceive of the Power in any terms we thought fit" (This is AA: An Introduction to the A.A. Recovery Program, page 15).

"Many people in A.A. talk about "God" or a "Higher Power," but A.A. is not connected with any religion. A.A. is a spiritual program, not a religious one. Faith is a personal thing and it is not necessary to believe in God or in any form of religion to be a member of A.A. . . . Atheists, agnostics, and believers of all religions have a place in A.A.—provided they wish to stay away from the first drink." (AA and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic, page 16).

The foregoing statements were not consistent with A.A.'s Big Book text as I read it. A.A.'s steps said it was about "coming to believe." See Step Two. Nor were the statements consistent with Bill Wilson's message that the Lord had cured him of his terrible disease (Big Book, page 191). Nor with Dr. Bob's statement that he felt sorry for the atheist or agnostic because "Your Heavenly Father will never let you down" (Big Book, page 181). Nor with Dr. Bob's insistence that a newcomer profess a belief in God before they were released from Akron City Hospital (DR. BOB and the Good Oldtimers, page 144). Granted, such statements are not today considered mandatory, any more than opening the parachute is when you jump out of an airplane. But they represented to me the wisdom of the winners—our founders.

I didn't have a problem with the diversity and varieties of believers and unbelievers I met in the rooms of A.A. But I had a big problem with the ever-increasing vocalizing by a few "bleeding deacons" (as some call them) who said that you could not mention the Bible or God in a meeting; that the Bible and other religious literature were not "Conference-approved" and therefore could not be brought to a meeting; or that it was a violation of the Twelve Traditions of A.A. to share your own experience about how you established your relationship with God. And, the "official" General Service Conference-approved literature quoted above, plus the vociferous and irrepressible outbursts of some at meetings, seemed to me to be at great variance with the program I entered, the program I had learned from the Big Book, and the encouragement I had received from A.A. members and meetings when I needed it most—even when I talked much about looking to God for help in my life.

I wondered how one could reject God in a program which spoke so much about God. Thus an A.A. author Stewart C. published an analysis stating the word "God," with synonyms and pronouns referring to Him, can be found more than 400 times in A.A.'s Big Book. So I resolved to go to the Seattle International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1990 and try to find out what role, if any, the Bible had really played in the founding, development, program, and successes of Alcoholics Anonymous. There I met Frank Mauser, the General Service Archivist from New York. But I was able to discover little, if anything about Bible specifics. And upon my return, my older son and I had a discussion that preceded a real effort to discover the role and impact on A.A., if any there was, of God, Jesus Christ, and the Bible.

With encouragement from Frank Mauser, Dr. Bob's children—Sue Smith Windows and Robert R. Smith—as well as Ray G. (archivist at Dr. Bob's Home in Akron) and later, Bonnie and Ozzie, the managers of the Wilson House at Bill Wilson's birthplace in Vermont—I devoted the next nineteen years to learning details about A.A.'s use of the Bible. I investigated what its early program really did, where the reliance of members on God really fit in. what proofthere was of the early success rates, and what institutions, principles, practices, and Bible studies had impacted on early A.A., the Big Book and Twelve Steps, and the literature of today. I'll let those who are interested in the answers learn the details from my thirty-three published titles on the subject. See <http://www.dickb.com/titles.shtml>. But it goes without saying that there is far more to A.A., its roots, its successes, and its early reliance on the Creator for healing and help than virtually any in present-day treatment, therapy, professional groups, 12-Step and even religious fellowships know or, in some cases, are even have a significant desire to seek.

Today I believe there is **A New Way Out** of a wilderness. **A New Way Out** for children of the living Creator who are awash and adrift in the sea of change that has occurred in the recovery scene. What wilderness? It is a wilderness of self-made religion, absurd names for a deity, outright idolatrous thinking, and amateur psychological introspection. Let me personalize my reply with my own experiences as here related.

The Alcoholic:

The wilderness concerns the alcoholic's own plight—not about the nature or shortcomings of A.A., N.A., or some other anonymous fellowship. As I have told above, I had become a full-fledged drunk and sleeping pill addict by the time of my entry into A.A., smitten by a seemingly uncontrollable intention to drink too much regardless of the consequences and driven by a desire to return to the mire again and again despite the known and predictable self-destructive disasters. Bill Wilson wrote: "Many do not comprehend that the alcoholic is a very sick person" (Alcoholics Anonymous, 4th ed., xiii). I was! The Bible called the sickness a sin. It clearly commanded "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess" (Ephesians 5:18). But I did just that! Later, in sobriety, I came to see what I had actually been doing. I drank. I got drunk. I produced disaster. Yet I returned to that same pattern over and over—always seeing the disasters get worse. Many have called this "lunacy." Perhaps the Apostle Peter best described the behavior when he spoke of the proverb, "The dog is returned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire." (2 Peter 2:21). But I got tired of hearing in A.A. that I was "powerless" over alcohol, even over "people, places, and things." Such doleful "acceptance" didn't set right with what I knew was my own need for responsibility, control, and accountability. In fact, however, the writings of Dr. Bob's wife's writings made plain in her journal (Anne Smith's Journal, 1933-1939—<http://dickb.com/annesm.shtml>), that a stronger power than mine was needed to achieve victory. And when, as a child of the one true living God, I utilized that power and did what the Bible commanded, I neither drank again, nor wanted to. There remained, however, a very real and destructive condition and illness still to be dealt with—brain damage, withdrawal, fear, anxiety, guilt, shame, despair, legal troubles, imprisonment, hospitalization, confusion, forgetfulness, sleeplessness, bewilderment. I didn't want to drink. I just wanted it all to go away—immediately! I just wanted out. But I found for myself that God provided the power, the strength, the healing, the forgiveness, the



guidance, and the rescue. I could and did face the multiple problems believing the truths in Biblical promises like these:



"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go; I will guide thee with mine eye." **Psalm 32:8**

"I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears." **Psalm 34:4**

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." **Psalm 46:1**

"In God have I put my trust; I will not be afraid what man can do unto me." **Psalm 56:11**

"In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust; let me never be put to confusion." **Psalm 71:2**

"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits; Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies."

Psalm 103:2-4

"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." **Proverbs 3:5-6**

"The fear of man bringeth a snare; but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe." **Proverbs 29:25**

To me, these were not simply quaint or catchy sayings. They were promises of God. And, true to His promises, God produced the results when I put the words in my mind and consistently repeated and believed them. That, I believe, is what the Bible assures us.

There were more pertinent verses. They were specifically addressed to the born again believer, and based on what Jesus Christ had come to do and make available. I learned, believed, and saw that his work and sacrifice had made me free. I had to claim that freedom. The following proclaimed:

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God **Romans 3:23-25**

"There is therefore no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit"
Romans 8:1

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? . . . Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."



Romans 8:35, 37

*"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." **Romans 10:9***

*"And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." **Romans 12:2***

*"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." **2 Corinthians 5:17***

*"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." **2 Corinthians 9:8***

*"Casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." **2 Corinthians 10:5***

*"Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of Christ in them that are saved, and in them that perish." **2 Corinthians 2:14***

*"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us." **Ephesians 3:20***

*"Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light. Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son." **Colossians 1:3***

*"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." **2 Timothy 1:7***

My experience, then, was that—by reading these and many other verses over and over and over; by putting them in my mind as frequently as possible and whenever negative claims were made over me; and by believing them—my release, my deliverance, and the peace of God came into my life. The accomplishments of God's own son had delivered me from

the wilderness, not merely of being an alcoholic (sick and sinful with excess), but from the status of a beaten-down child filled with guilt, shame, anxiety, despair, fear, bodily maladies, and a sense of hopelessness. And I know that, as one of God's kids, I still am and can be rescued.

When sober and instructed, the choice is mine. And I try to tell others that, through becoming a child of God and learning the truth about Him and His will and walking in fellowship, they too can be delivered from much more than a drinking problem, and from their drinking problem too. That is my testimony.

The Message:

There is a simple message that I carry today to those willing to listen and who want my help. It is this: God wants all men to be saved and to come unto the knowledge of the truth (**1 Timothy 2:4**). We can be saved—born again of the Spirit of God—by confessing Jesus as Lord and believing God raised Jesus from the dead (**Romans 10:9; John 3:1-16**). When God's kids then seek Him out by studying His Word and communicating with Him, they can walk from darkness to light as and when they walk in fellowship with Him and His son, and keep His word (**John 1:1-10; 2:1-6**).

Still A New Way Out Today:

For centuries, believers have pointed to the way out and rescue for those who wanted help. These laboring believers have included workers in the YMCA, Christian Endeavor Society, Salvation Army, Gospel Rescue Missions, and revivals. Even the Oxford Group with which Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob were briefly associated. Whatever their particular technique, their message was salvation and a new life in Christ. There was the additional stipulation that the message be carried to others. YMCA's founder took young men off the streets of London, into his basement, brought them to Christ, and held Bible studies—rescuing them from destruction. Evangelists in and out of the YMCA followed suit. Christian Endeavor Societies formed young people's groups in the churches themselves and taught them confession of Christ, Bible study, prayer, Quiet Hour, obedience, and the principles of love and service. Salvation Army workers dived into the slums of London and brought the wretched to Christ and into God's Army to help others. Gospel Rescue Missions furnished food, shelter, and brotherhood, but their unswerving objective was to bring men to the altar, a decision for Christ, and a changed Christian life. So too the old-time revivals and tent meetings. And so too the Oxford Group people who were focused on changing lives through surrender to God. This was the way alcoholics were helped in the early days of A.A. as well.

Once informed of God's way, suffering souls flocked to the rescue, confessed belief in God, accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, fellowshipped together, and grew through Bible study, prayer meetings, and Quiet Times. Love and service to others was the only demand made of them.

Today, when someone in an A.A. meeting tells a person, as they did me, that people get drunk if they read the Bible, I feel disappointed that they know so little about the real Way out. When someone tells a person in A.A. or some recovery fellowship that they can't mention or study the Bible in A.A., I feel equally disappointed that hurting souls may soon be deprived of what the early solution was. When someone says that the Bible and religious literature cannot be read because they are not "Conference-approved," I wonder how many newcomers are being driven away from a

relationship with and reliance upon God. When someone talks of some nonsense god that can be a tree, a radiator, a light bulb, or a group, I think of the clear-cut descriptive language in Psalm 115 about the impotence of false gods. And I regret that a newcomer is hearing that he can pray to a light bulb and get well. I've yet to see that happen.

For me, it is about telling my story, reporting the facts about the role our Creator has played in the YMCA, Christian Endeavor, Salvation Army, Rescue Missions, the Oxford Group, and in the early Akron A.A.'s Christian Fellowship. There are other ways, of course. But the one with unquestioned success is the Way (**John 14:6**). With increasing fervor, I try to tell people how God's liberation, power, and guidance worked in my life, how it worked in the lives of others, and what an appealing alternative it is to the way of idolatry, apathy, acceptance, and institutionalized meeting attendance. I point out that the abundant life and eternal life do not lie in meeting attendance. (See **John 3:16, 10:10**). They spring from a relationship with God and His son.

An Answer Today:

I believe there is a new way out—a way out of the wretchedness of alcoholism and addiction, out of the bondage of worldly wisdom and opinion and condemnation, out of the prisons of the mind that come from depression, fear, physical illness, anxiety, guilt, shame, anger, and resentment. There is a new way out for people—not just for people attending Alcoholics Anonymous and 12-Step fellowships—but for those who are homeless, imprisoned, physically disabled, mentally impaired, at risk, cowering in fear and self-loathing, drinking and drugging to excess, and encountering seemingly hopeless barriers and defeat at every turn. Those people need not be herded into centers for self-centeredness where they keep confessing how sick and hurting they are. The new way out is not a way out of A.A., or 12 Step fellowships, or therapy, or meetings, or groups, or churches, or psychiatric wards. It starts with a decision to stop.

The path starts with a determination to stay stopped, to change, to abstain. It starts with a discipline that guarantees change for those who go to any length to bring it about. For those in deep holes, as I was, it may take time. But the way out starts by looking up from the hole—not out or down. The way out begins by believing that "with God nothing shall be impossible" when God gives the revelation. (See **Luke 1:37**). The way out begins by recognizing that God wants children and enables people to become His children by acknowledging what Jesus Christ did to make that new birth possible. (See **1 Peter 1:23**). The way out—the path to deliverance and freedom—continues when a child of God sets his or her mind, thoughts, and outpouring words on what God reveals—not on what the world says. (See **1 Corinthians 2:1-16**). The way out—the path assuring deliverance and freedom—is followed by walking in the light of God's Word and the revelation He chooses to give His family members. The way out is assured by obeying God, talking with Him, and staying in fellowship with Him, His son, and other believers. And that way out is just as available today as it was when Peter urged, after the miracle at Pentecost: ". . . Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." (**Acts 2:38-39**)

This, and the messages from other messengers in the Book of Acts, changed the lives of millions and millions of those who believed throughout the following centuries.

I continue to find it a joy and a privilege to introduce myself to a newcomer, wherever he or she may be. Then to ask if that person would like to become a child of God. I invite the new person to invoke the simple process of confessing with his mouth that Jesus is Lord and believing in his heart that God raised Jesus from the dead. (See Romans 10:9). And I'm seldom turned down. Then, with them, as it did with me, the healing and growth can begin. Freedom is certain to follow for those who walk in fellowship with our Heavenly Father. It did for me. That's my story.

Gloria Deo

* (PLEASE READ ALL SCRIPTURES ..
They DO apply!)

(Always Pros and Cons)

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The 12 Biggest Lies of A.A. - Orange Papers

www.orange-papers.org/orange-aalies.html

Jul 4, 2014 - The twelve big **lies** of Alcoholics Anonymous. ... The **Twelve Steps** are an effective treatment program for alcoholism, one that rarely fails, ...

Twelve steps keep alcoholics in hell - SalmonRiver.com

salmonriver.com/articles/drug.html

... affected by the **lies** and manipulation that are the standard way of life for drug users. ... I thought that 12-step programs such as Alcoholics Anonymous gave ... ►

Twelve Steps - Overeaters Anonymous

www.oa.org/newcomers/twelve-steps/

Overeaters Anonymous

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cougarblogger.com/.../take-a-12-step-sponsors-advise-not-on-your-life/

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I am not Broken. Are you? Lies 12 step culture tells Youth 03 ...

leavingaa.com/i-am-not-broken-are-you-lies-12-step-culture-tells-youth-03/

Mar 26, 2012 - Lies 12 step culture tells Youth 03/27 by stop13stepinna | Blog Talk Radio | ... will talk about the lies she was told and made to believe from age 18 ...

Twelve Things That Alcoholics Anonymous Doesn't Want ...

porkchopze.hubpages.com/Health

People are just as likely to quit drinking on their own as with a **12 step** of the **12 steps**, and they complied (that puts the **lie** to your point #7 too, by the way, that ...

12 Steps - Addiction Recovery Program - The Church of ...

addictionrecovery.lds.org/

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

When we, as addicts, resorted to **lies** and secrecy, hoping to excuse ourselves or blame others, we weakened spiritually. With each act of dishonesty, we bound ...

McGowdoghouse: The 12 Lies of AA

mcgowdog.blogspot.com/2010/01/12-lies-of-aa.html

Jan 2, 2010 - The **Twelve Steps** are an effective treatment program for alcoholism, one **Lying** to people about methods and outcomes isn't spiritual, either, ...

Truth and Lies in 12 Step Programs - Spiritual River

www.spiritualriver.com/Drug-Addiction

Oct 8, 2013 - The modern day solution is to essentially point people towards AA and the **12 step** program. This has both good and bad points. Certainly it ...

[PDF] Twelve Step Sponsorship - Hazelden

www.hazelden.org/.../12_step_sponsorship_1577.p...

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by B Hamilton - Cited by 5 - Related articles

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Is it okay to attend another **Twelve Step** group as well? How do I pay my sponsor back ... What do I do when my sponsor **lies** to me? My sponsor calls too often.

MCGOWDOGHOUSE

ALCOHOL RECOVERY BLOG... OUR GOAL HERE IS TO DISCUSS RECOVERY FROM ALCOHOLISM, HOW WE GOT RECOVERED, OR HOW WE AIM TO DO SO. THIS BLOG WAS STARTED BY RECOVERED ALCOHOLICS WHO USE THE A.A. PROGRAM... NOW SOME OF WHICH DO NOT... BUT WE DO NOT REPRESENT NOR DO WE PREACH OUR BRAND OF RECOVERY. WE, BY OUR VERY TRADITIONS, CANNOT STAND FOR OR AGAINST A.A., MAINLY, BECAUSE THAT DOESN'T WORK. WE'D BE GLAD TO DISCUSS THE GOOD, THE BA.A.D, AND THE UGLY OF A.A. HERE.

Home

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 2010

The 12 Lies of AA

As a matter of request I have taken it upon myself to check out Oranges site once again and I stumbled upon "12 Lies of AA and it's high time to expose Orange for the fraud that he is. Therefore I decided to address them one at a time and at the frequency of about one a week.

Lie Number One

"RARELY have we seen a person fail, who has thoroughly followed our path..."

Oranges Retort,

The Twelve Steps are an effective treatment program for alcoholism, one that rarely fails, because faith healing is really good medicine, and God performs miracles on demand for us Twelve-Steppers every day. And when people don't quit drinking, it's their own fault.

The Truth

Pg. 68

We never apologize to anyone for depending upon our Creator. We can laugh at those who think spirituality the way of weakness. Paradoxically, it is the way of strength. The verdict of the ages is that faith means courage. All men of faith have courage. They trust their God. We never apologize for God. Instead we let Him demonstrate, through us, what He can do.

In a nutshell, millions upon millions turn to God asking for strength in all aspects of life. AA does not own the rights to God. If what Orange says is true, all the Church Doors should be nailed shut and the Congregation should be told that they're wasting their time in asking God for hope and strength.

In fact Step 11 says "Sought to improve our conscious contact with God praying only for the knowledge of his will for us and the power to carry that out. Not to "make us sober".

Now get your God fearing ass home and mow the lawn because the money you're dropping in the plate is just making The Pope rich.

More in Lie #1

In spite of all of its strange features, A.A. is still the best and most effective recovery program available, and the kindest thing you can do for an alcoholic is to force him into Alcoholics Anonymous.

It is probable that more contemporary alcoholics have found sobriety through the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous than through all other agencies combined.

Oranges Retort,

Alcoholics Anonymous, an interpretation, by Milton A. Maxwell, Ph.D., contained in Chapter 33 of Society, Culture, and Drinking Patterns, David J. Pittman and Charles R. Snyder, editors, page 577. Ignore the fact that Milton A. Maxwell was a member of the Board of Trustees of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc

The Truth,

Sure, Milton Maxwell was indeed a member of the Board of Trustees as well as the Chairman.

Unfortunatley for Orange the quote was reported to be made in 1956 and Maxwell never served on the board until 1971 and became Chairman in 1978

I guess in the world of Orange that invalidates anything I say should I ever become a member of the board.

[Link to Service Dates](#)

[Link to Quote Date in a 1962 Book](#)

More from Lie #1

Alcoholics Anonymous and other 12-Step spinoffs have proved to be highly effective treatment. 'Million Little Pieces' writer Frey has stirred debate in 12-Step programs, By Michael Granberry, The Dallas Morning News,
<http://www.fortwayne.com/mld/news sentinel/living/13820047.htm>

The Truth,

James Frey is a pathological liar and was exposed as such. Truth be told I believe Orange has more credibility than Frey does.

[Link to Frey admitting he's a liar](#)

[Another Frey Link](#)

I guess Orange is in compliance with Debating Technique #6 from a previous post.

Lesson #6: Purposely mislabel your points as "fact", so that it is harder for your opponent to question it.

POSTED BY KARL AT 10:30 PM

7 COMMENTS:



Tony J January 3, 2010 at 12:46 PM

Here is a snippet of a 'debate' with an infamous anti-AA cult leader.

We shall call him "Whiney Mike" to protect his anonymity.

Whiney Mike :

"I am neither anti-AA, nor an atheist. AA was designed by Bill and Hank to get rich by selling books. Prior to that, they were members of the drunk squad of the Oxford Group, an evangelical movement whose tenets and recruiting techniques they used to establish their own religion. Whether Bill got the boot, or found it in his best interests to leave the OG of his own accord is a matter of subjective interpretation, depending upon the source.

Your opinion of Orange's site, or anything, for that matter, is of no consequence to me."

Me :

"You say you aren't an atheist but , if it looks like a duck and quacks like a duck....I'm sure it's a duck.

The OG did not establish their own religion. They were a sect of Christianity.

AA is not a Christian Sect at all, although it's roots are obviously Christian it is a non-affiliated organization.

Members are encouraged to practice the faith of their choosing. AA does not evangelize unto itself. It serves as a fellowship where members can come to stop drinking and practice the 12 steps if they so choose.

Orange likes to call this a bait and switch, but as usual he has nothing to back up his ill formed opinion. The fact is AA's practice or don't practice whatever religions they want. AA has no opinion on it at all.

AA doesn't even have an opinion on a member practicing the 12 steps.

As far as Bill and Hank wanting to become rich. Maybe so. They certainly put the effort forth to start the movement and write and publish the book. If they made any money, then they deserved it.

I suspect Bill had mixed motives like all human beings. He wanted to be successful and make some money, but he also wanted to help suffering alcoholics. What's morally wrong with that ?

Orange can't make any money or help anyone else. How is he better than Bill

As we can see, he spouts off his master's rhetoric like a good litte inductee. There is not a trace of his own tought or personality in any of his dogma.

A new question on Yahoo Answers got me going tonight:

Here's my answer:

What you consider bashing is probably just people like me telling the truth about AA.

Only 5% of newcomers stay in AA for one year, the other 95% leave; that from AA's own Triennial Survey. Out of that 95%, at least some found the program harmful, I know I certain did.

I bounced in and out of the rooms for almost twenty years, never putting together more than a few months of sobriety. AA programmed me to fail. I'm an atheist and found it impossible to do the steps. People told me that even an atheist could manage it, but that's plain bs. I went through all sorts of mental gymnastics in those years and it just cannot be done. AA members don't want you to anyway, they want you to convert. Just read "We Agnostics" or the "12 & 12"...religious tripe. They can claim "spiritual, not religious" as much as they want, ever higher court that has heard the arguments have ultimately decided that AA is at least "religious in nature".

During my brief stints in the rooms, I picked up all sorts of damaging beliefs, powerlessness, that I had a disease, and that I couldn't make it without AA. Over 5 years ago, I took responsibility for my addiction and my recovery, and I'm still sober today.

And I'm not the only one. There are at least a dozen AA "bashing" groups on Yahoo alone, helping people heal from the abuses they found in the rooms.

I've been working with people who have substance abuse and mental health issues, almost every one of them has their own "twelve step horror stories". (BTW, did you know there's a book with that title? It can be read online at: <http://www.morerevealed.com/library.jsp>)

Many of these people fell victim to the anti-medication, anti-therapy faction of AA who, despite literature to the contrary, tell people they must give up all medication or else they aren't truly sober.

Have you ever looked at the studies done? How about the Brandsma study that showed that people who were exposed to AA were 4-5 times as likely to engage in binge drinking than those who attempted quitting on their own. Or the various studies that show AA's 5% success rate is the same as the 5% success rate achieved by people quitting on the own? Or the Harvard study that showed that most people more people get sober with no treatment than through AA?

But my all time favorite study was run by George Valliant, Harvard researcher and member of the AA Board of Trustees, in attempting to prove that AA worked, he came up with this conclusion:

"Not only had we failed to alter the natural history of alcoholism, but our death rate of three percent a year was appalling."

But he didn't let a little thing like facts stand in his way, he still promotes AA.

For those who want to read more about these studies and AA's efficiency, go to:

<http://www.orange-papers.org/orange-effectiveness.html>

Some people do credit AA for their sobriety, mainly because that's were they were when they made to decision to stop, but that's like something always being in the last place you look....you stop looking.

A comparison was done of 48 different methods of recovery, AA placed 38th in effectiveness:
<http://www.behaviortherapy.com/whatworks.htm>

Why should AA be immune to valid criticism? Where are the studies, the facts and figures that prove AA works? All you have are the testimonials of people who claim AA worked for them, what about the testimonials of those who say it didn't and those who say it harmed them?

Nick Naylor is a handsome, smooth-talking tobacco lobbyist and the vice-president of a tobacco lobby called the "Academy of Tobacco Studies", which for 15 years has been "researching" the link between tobacco smoking and lung cancer. They claim that their research—funded primarily by tobacco companies—has found no definitive evidence of any linkage. Naylor's job consists mainly of reporting the questionable research of the "Academy" to the public and defending Big Tobacco on television programs by questioning opposing health claims and advocating personal choice. Naylor and his friends, firearm lobbyist Bobby Jay Bliss and alcohol lobbyist Polly Bailey, meet every week and jokingly call themselves the "Merchants of Death" or "The MOD Squad".

As anti-tobacco campaigns mount and numbers of young smokers decline, Naylor suggests that product placement of cigarettes could once again boost cigarette sales. Naylor's boss, BR, sends Naylor to Los Angeles to bargain for cigarette placement in upcoming movies. Naylor takes along his young son Joey in hopes of bonding with him. Throughout their trip, Naylor teaches Joey about the beauty of argument. Naylor is also sent to bribe Lorne Lutch, the cancer-stricken man who once played the Marlboro Man in cigarette ads and is now campaigning against cigarettes. Naylor offers Lutch a suitcase of money for his silence. When Lutch refuses, Naylor suggests he should publicly announce the bribe and say that he's using the money to start a charity for cancer victims—but adds that in that case he can't use any of it to help his own family, because he will seem like a hypocrite. Naylor's argument convinces Lutch to take the hush money for his family.

Senator Finistirre, one of Naylor's most vehement critics, is the promoter of a bill to add a skull and crossbones POISON warning to cigarette packaging. During a televised debate with Finistirre, Naylor receives a death threat from a caller. Despite the threat, Naylor still plans to appear before a U.S. Senate committee to fight Finistirre's bill. Naylor is then kidnapped and covered in nicotine patches. Awakening in a hospital, he learns that the very high nicotine tolerance level resulting from his smoking has saved him from death by nicotine poisoning, but now he is hypersensitive to nicotine and can never smoke again.

Meanwhile, Naylor has been seduced by a young reporter named Heather Holloway. During their steamy fling, the besotted Naylor tells Holloway all about his life and career—information that she happily publishes in an exposé that appears just after the kidnapping. Her article relentlessly bashes Naylor and his work, exposing Lutch's bribe, the product-placement scheme, and the MOD squad as well. It accuses Naylor of training his son Joey to follow his amoral example. All public sympathy due to Naylor's kidnapping evaporates, and Naylor is fired by BR.

Naylor falls into depression until Joey helps him recall the integrity in his job of defending corporations that almost no one feels deserve a defense. Rejuvenated, Naylor tells the press about his affair with Holloway and promises to clear the names of everyone mentioned in her article. He also declares that he will still appear before the Senate committee. At the hearing, Naylor admits to the dangers of smoking but argues that public awareness is already high enough without extra warnings. He emphasizes consumer choice and responsibility and, to the dismay of Senator Finistirre, claims that if tobacco companies are guilty of tobacco-related deaths, then perhaps Finistirre's state of Vermont, as a major cheese producer, is likewise guilty of cholesterol-related deaths. At one point, Finistirre asks Naylor if he would condone his son smoking cigarettes after he turns 18. Naylor hesitates, then responds, "If he really wants a cigarette, I'll buy him his first pack."

After being impressed by Naylor's speech, which results in a vote against Finistirre's bill, BR offers Naylor his job back, but Naylor publicly refuses to work for his backstabbing boss. Holloway, publicly humiliated by Naylor's confession of their affair, is reduced to working as a local weather girl. Soon afterwards, Big Tobacco settles claims of liability for smoking-related deaths at a huge cost, the "Academy" is dismantled, and Senator Finistirre begins working to have cigarettes digitally removed from classic films. The MOD Squad still meets weekly, now with the addition of lobbyists for fast food, hazardous waste, and oil drilling. In the footsteps of his father, Joey wins a school debate using lessons his father taught him. Naylor opens a private lobbying firm, in which we see him continuing on the same path, guiding a trio from the cellphone industry concerned about claims that cellphones cause brain cancer.

The film ends with Nick's narration: "Michael Jordan plays ball. Charles Manson kills people. I talk. Everyone has a talent."

Criticism

The main contention most critics had with the film was its lack of continuity. Karina Longworth of Cinematical notes "*Thank You for Smoking* has a vague emotional arc, but narratively it plays out like a constellation of sitcom sketches, connected by the most tenuous threads of character evolution",^[14] while *Empire* observes "the problem's not so much with the movie's aim, as with the number of targets it's aiming at."^[15] Other reviewers criticized the film's overacting. Manhola Dargis of *The New York Times* notes "although he [Reitman] steers his cast through its paces with facility, he tends to oversell jokes that were already plenty loud in the book."^[16] Other comments come from *The Hollywood Reporter*: "While often entertaining, the film keeps hitting the same comic notes",^[17] and *Salon*: "The actors here are entertaining enough to watch, even if they sometimes seem to be taking their mission (whatever they think it is) a bit too seriously."^[18]

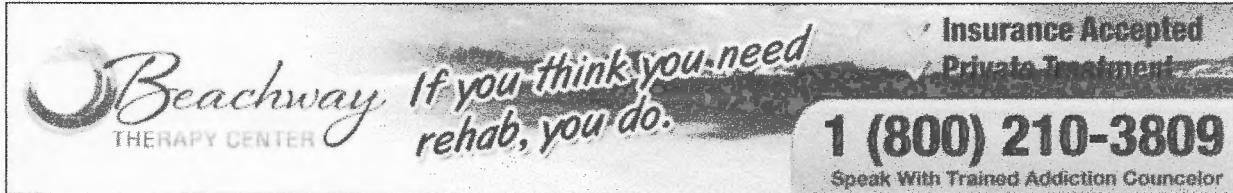
While *Thank You for Smoking* the book was praised as a sharp criticism of both anti-smoking lobbyists and the tobacco industry, the film has received more mixed reviews on its satirical content. Steve Palopoli of *Metro Silicon Valley* writes that "no matter" how much the hype machine might hard-sell the idea that the movie 'skewers both sides of the issue', "any child old enough to recognize Joe Camel can tell that underneath the sarcastic joking, this is a bitterly anti-smoking film."^[19] Palopoli goes on to say "the supposed case against the anti-smoking lobby has been reduced mostly to some limp jokes at the expense of William H. Macy's senator character, who is fervently against the tobacco lobby". Many felt the film's relatively sappy ending negated the slicker, darker tone of the book. *The Washington Post*'s Desson Thomson thought that "as written and directed by Jason Reitman, 'Smoking' is filtered too heavily with moral redemption."^[20]

Reitman has maintained his purpose was to match the tone and satirical message of the book as closely as possible. "What I wanted people to think about was political correctness. I wanted them to think about ideas of personal responsibility and personal choice. I think cigarettes are a wonderful location for that discussion because cigarettes are something we know all the answers to", he posits. "I wanted to look into this idea of why we feel the need to tell each other how to live and why we can't take personal responsibility for our own actions when we fall ill from things that we know are dangerous."^[21] Stephanie Zacharek of *Salon* agrees with Reitman: "Despite its title, the movie doesn't come packaged with a strong anti-smoking message, because it doesn't need to: Everyone knows that smoking is bad for you, including people who continue to do it."^[18]

There is no point during the film at which any of the characters smoke. Dargis of *The New York Times* unwittingly states, "*Thank You for Smoking* is rated R (Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian). It includes mild violence, discreet sex and, of course, countless cigarettes."^[16] In the film, even Robert Duvall's filtered cigarette maverick "The Captain" is shown repeatedly drinking mint juleps rather than smoking cigarettes. Some critics argue that Reitman's reluctance to show the characters smoking is further confirmation of the film's anti-smoking stance. Reitman has issued statements disagreeing with this view. He said in an interview that "While it's not anti-smoking, it's very important people don't think that this is a pro-smoking movie. It's about freedom of choice."^[22] Buckley said about the decision to omit smoking that "[I]t was very deliberate, and I think rather cool."^[23]

Industry reaction

The tobacco industry itself has been reluctant to take any sides or comment on the film. When *New York Times* reporter Michael Jankowsky contacted an Altria publicist about the tobacco giant's reaction, she "hesitated to respond, insisting that the film looks dated and poorly reflects the industry with depictions of tobacco executives as highly paid sleazeballs."^[24] Though *Thank You for Smoking* pokes fun at the industry, the novel it was adapted from is a much harsher critic of tobacco lobbyists, and the major tobacco companies have mostly kept quiet on the issue.



Summary

Drug treatment at a professional rehab facility is the only chance that some people have of getting their life back on the right track. With hundreds of reputable rehab centers located throughout the United States, finding and comparing several options is never an issue. However, there is one detail that always comes into play: **money**.

Whether or not you can afford drug treatment and how you plan on paying for professional help is a concern that needs addressed. It is essential to consider all payment options, including free drug treatment. With a rehab scholarship you are in position to have some or all of your treatment paid for by a third party.

Don't let a lack of money stop you from getting the professional help you need. Instead, consider all your options including free drug treatment through a rehab scholarship.

Drug Treatment for Patients with No Money

Are you in need of professional drug treatment but unable to receive help because of a lack of money? This is a common position that is shared by millions of people all over the United States as well as the rest of the world.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), there are roughly 20 million Americans currently suffering from behavioral or addictive disorders. Of these people, less than 10 percent are actively going through a treatment program. Approximately 40 percent are unable to access treatment because of the high cost.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), there are roughly 20 million Americans currently suffering from behavioral or addictive disorders...

If insufficient funds are holding you back from seeking treatment, there are several steps you can take to better your chance of receiving help in the near future:

- Contact several rehab facilities that offer the type of program you are interested in.
- Speak with the facility about the cost of treatment, including how much money you will pay upfront as well as the ongoing expense.
- Ask if there is any financial assistance available for somebody in your position.
- If you have insurance, determine if your treatment will be covered.

By taking these steps, as well as any others that are specific to your situation, it is simple to get a grip on your situation and whether or not you are in position to pay for treatment out of your own pocket and/or through the help of your insurance company.

What if I don't have Insurance?

In a perfect world, all drug treatment stints would be covered 100 percent by health insurance providers. Unfortunately, this is not how things work.

Some patients don't have medical insurance. Others have coverage but find out soon enough that rehab is not a covered service.

If you don't have health insurance you are not out of options. There are a number of methods that can help you pay for treatment ranging from nonprofit organizations to public rehab to scholarships and payment plans.

What does my Insurance Cover?

If you have medical insurance the first thing you should do is examine your policy. If you don't understand the details or need help, contact your insurance company or human resources representative.

There are drug and alcohol treatment provisions in most policies, so make sure you know what type of coverage you have and how much will be paid. Some insurance policies only cover the cost of treatment at an inpatient facility. Others offer outpatient coverage but only if there is a physical addiction. With so many details varying from one insurance company and policy to the next, it is important to check on this before doing anything else.

Deductibles and co-pays still apply in the case of drug rehab.

Tip: contact the drug treatment facility you are interested in attending and ask if there is anybody who can help with insurance related matters.

Most rehab scholarships are for people with no medical insurance and/or insufficient funds. However, you may still want to apply for such programs if you have insurance that does not cover rehab.

Hiding Rehab from your Insurance Company

Just because you have medical insurance does not mean you want to make a claim when it comes time to enter rehab. There are many reasons why you may want to leave your insurance company out of the equation – even if your policy does offer coverage.

1. Increased premium in the future. Many people fear that attending rehab will lead to an increase in their premium payment. Whether or not this is true is up for discussion, but it is definitely a concern. This is particularly worrisome if you pay for insurance out of your own pocket, as opposed to receiving coverage through your employer.

2. Coverage could be dropped. The only thing worse than having your premium increased is if your insurance company drops you altogether. Again, this is not something that *should* happen but it is another detail that needs to be considered.

There are many reasons why you may want to leave your insurance company out of the equation – even if your policy does offer coverage.

3. To keep your employer in the dark. Do you have health insurance through your employer? In this case, somebody at your company may eventually find out that you entered a rehab facility. This information will become public (to the person you speak with) if you contact the human resources department regarding concerns of whether rehab is covered by your policy.

Can your employer discriminate against you and terminate your employment due to your stint in rehab? As long as your job performance stays the same the answer is no. That being said, you may not want anybody who works with you to know about your personal problem.

The Solution

Rather than take the risk of reporting this to your insurance company, you can do one of two things:

- Pay for the cost of treatment out of your own pocket. Although this works for some people, most find that it is entirely too expensive.
- Apply for a rehab scholarship. This is the most cost efficient way to receive treatment when you are unable to pay.

Rehab Scholarships: Where does the Money come from?

There are many organizations, such as Second Chance, that help patients in need receive rehab scholarships.

Just like an education scholarship, money comes from a number of different sources. You don't have to worry so much about where the funding comes from. Instead, you just want to make sure you are getting the right treatment at the right price.

These organizations focus on three main groups: those who do not have medical insurance; those who do not have the money to pay privately; and those who are unable to qualify for a bank loan due to bad credit.

Just because a rehab facility has some patients does not mean they are at full capacity. With each empty bed, money is lost. For this reason, facilities are often times open to "selling" treatment episodes to a third party. In turn, those in need of rehab can receive treatment at a discounted price (or free of cost).

Just like an education scholarship, money comes from a number of different sources. You don't have to worry so much about where the funding comes from. Instead, you just want to make sure you are getting the right treatment at the right price.

Some of the sources of funding include: client contributions, guaranteed sponsorship financing, and discounted treatment fees.

With these types of funding it is possible to offer treatment to a larger group of people while guaranteeing facilities a particular percentage of the total fee – this is much better than an empty bed which would be written off as a total loss.

In addition to rehab scholarships from third parties, independent facilities also offer scholarships and hardship opportunities. Despite the fact that a drug center may be "for-profit" they are often times

able to offer financial assistance. This allows them to help more patients, keep their facility full, and in some cases receive a tax write off.

It is a little known fact that many drug rehab facility owners were once addicts themselves. Many of them are looking for a way to give back to the community while helping others get on the path to a better life.

Steps to Obtaining a Rehab Scholarship (?)

Are you interested in a rehab scholarship as a way of paying for treatment? This is a good way to have some or all of your treatment paid for by a third party. For those without medical insurance or in a difficult financial situation, this is one of the better options.

Rather than go down the path of many before you, that of ignoring treatment altogether, follow these steps to obtain a rehab scholarship.

1. Contact organizations that offer scholarships. They can give you more information on which facilities they work with, as well as the application process.
2. Contact one or more of the facilities that you are interested in attending. At this point, you can discuss your financial situation in depth. Additionally, each facility can point you towards outside organizations that may be able to offer financial assistance in the form of a scholarship.

As noted above, some facilities offer scholarships and other types of funding. The intake office can discuss your financial options, including eligibility requirements and application information.

3. Complete the application process. Just like any scholarship, regardless of the benefit and purpose, an application must be completed. This is used to determine your eligibility. Make sure you are 100 percent honest as you complete your application. The people, organizations, and facilities you are in contact with are trying to help you get the necessary treatment. They deserve accurate and honest information as they attempt to assist you with your finances.

Most rehab centers, at any point in time, have a number of people attending on scholarship. This means that they are receiving treatment at a discounted price or perhaps free of charge. In addition to assisting others in getting the necessary help, offering a scholarship often times results in a tax write off.

Contrary to popular belief, you will not find rehab scholarships advertised online or through other means. After all, these facilities would much rather have paying patients. If you want to receive free treatment you must be willing to put in the work. From contacting organizations that offer scholarships to speaking with several facilities, it may take a little bit of work before you find one that offers the type of financial assistance you are interested in. Every facility has an intake office that specializes in dealing with new patients. Ask them if they offer rehab scholarships. If so, request detailed information on eligibility qualifications as well as the application process.

If you or a loved one is suffering from an addiction but are unable to pay for professional treatment, consider applying for a rehab scholarship.