

A N N U A L   E D I T I O

# DRUGS, SOCIETY, AND BEHAVIOR

95/96





# DRUGS, SOCIETY, AND BEHAVIOR 95/96

Editor

**Erich Goode**

State University of New York at Stony Brook

Erich Goode received his undergraduate degree from Oberlin College and his Ph.D. in sociology from Columbia University. He is currently professor of sociology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook; he has also taught courses at Columbia, New York University, Florida Atlantic University, and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and, during the spring semester of 1993, Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He is the author of a number of books, articles, and chapters on drug use and abuse, including *The Marijuana Smokers* (Basic Books, 1970), *The Drug Phenomenon* (Bobbs-Merrill, 1973), and *Drugs in American Society* (4th edition, McGraw-Hill, 1993). Professor Goode has taught several courses on alcoholism and drug abuse.

Cover illustration by Mike Eagle

**Tenth Edition**

**Annual Editions**  
A Library of Information from the Public Press



**Dushkin Publishing Group/  
Brown & Benchmark Publishers  
Sluice Dock, Guilford, Connecticut 06437**

# The Annual Editions Series

Annual Editions is a series of over 65 volumes designed to provide the reader with convenient, low-cost access to a wide range of current, carefully selected articles from some of the most important magazines, newspapers, and journals published today. Annual Editions are updated on an annual basis through a continuous monitoring of over 300 periodical sources. All Annual Editions have a number of features designed to make them particularly useful, including topic guides, annotated tables of contents, unit overviews, and indexes. For the teacher using Annual Editions in the classroom, an Instructor's Resource Guide with test questions is available for each volume.



Printed on Recycled Paper



## VOLUMES AVAILABLE

<b>Africa</b>	<b>International Business</b>
<b>Aging</b>	<b>Japan and the Pacific Rim</b>
<b>American Foreign Policy</b>	<b>Latin America</b>
<b>American Government</b>	<b>Life Management</b>
<b>American History, Pre-Civil War</b>	<b>Macroeconomics</b>
<b>American History, Post-Civil War</b>	<b>Management</b>
<b>Anthropology</b>	<b>Marketing</b>
<b>Archaeology</b>	<b>Marriage and Family</b>
<b>Biology</b>	<b>Mass Media</b>
<b>Biopsychology</b>	<b>Microeconomics</b>
<b>Business Ethics</b>	<b>Middle East and the Islamic World</b>
<b>Canadian Politics</b>	<b>Money and Banking</b>
<b>Child Growth and Development</b>	<b>Multicultural Education</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>Nutrition</b>
<b>Comparative Politics</b>	<b>Personal Growth and Behavior</b>
<b>Computers in Education</b>	<b>Physical Anthropology</b>
<b>Computers in Business</b>	<b>Psychology</b>
<b>Computers in Society</b>	<b>Public Administration</b>
<b>Criminal Justice</b>	<b>Race and Ethnic Relations</b>
<b>Developing World</b>	<b>Russia, the Eurasian Republics, and Central/Eastern Europe</b>
<b>Drugs, Society, and Behavior</b>	<b>Social Problems</b>
<b>Dying, Death, and Bereavement</b>	<b>Sociology</b>
<b>Early Childhood Education</b>	<b>State and Local Government</b>
<b>Economics</b>	<b>Urban Society</b>
<b>Educating Exceptional Children</b>	<b>Violence and Terrorism</b>
<b>Education</b>	<b>Western Civilization, Pre-Reformation</b>
<b>Educational Psychology</b>	<b>Western Civilization, Post-Reformation</b>
<b>Environment</b>	<b>Western Europe</b>
<b>Geography</b>	<b>World History, Pre-Modern</b>
<b>Global Issues</b>	<b>World History, Modern</b>
<b>Health</b>	<b>World Politics</b>
<b>Human Development</b>	
<b>Human Resources</b>	
<b>Human Sexuality</b>	
<b>India and South Asia</b>	

### Cataloging in Publication Data

Main entry under title: Annual Editions: Drugs, Society, and Behavior. 1995/96.

1. Drugs—Periodicals. 2. Drug abuse—United States—Periodicals. 3. Alcohol—Periodicals.
  4. Drunk driving—Periodicals. I. Goode, Erich, comp. II. Title: Drugs, Society, and Behavior.
- ISBN 1-56134-350-1 362.2'92'0973'05 87-649280

© 1995 by Dushkin Publishing Group/Brown & Benchmark Publishers, Guilford, CT 06437

Copyright law prohibits the reproduction, storage, or transmission in any form by any means of any portion of this publication without the express written permission of the Dushkin Publishing Group/Brown & Benchmark Publishers, and of the copyright holder (if different) of the part of the publication to be reproduced. The Guidelines for Classroom Copying endorsed by Congress explicitly state that unauthorized copying may not be used to create, to replace, or to substitute for anthologies, compilations, or collective works.

Annual Editions® is a Registered Trademark of Dushkin Publishing Group/Brown & Benchmark Publishers, a division of Times Mirror Higher Education Group, Inc.

Tenth Edition

Printed in the United States of America

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Editors/ Advisory Board

## EDITOR

**Erich Goode**  
SUNY, Stony Brook

## ADVISORY BOARD

**William Bailey**  
Indiana University

**James W. Brown**  
Cornell College

**Tyrone R. Burkett**  
Pennsylvania State University

**William Chen**  
University of Florida

**Michael Davey**  
Western Illinois University

**Nancy T. Davis**  
Stockton State College

**Stuart W. Fors**  
University of Georgia

**Marc Gellman**  
University of Miami

**Raymond Goldberg**  
SUNY College  
Cortland

**Joseph Jones**  
Portland State University

**Lawrence Krupka**  
Michigan State University

**Mary Lefkarites**  
Hunter College

**William M. London**  
Kent State University

**Colin R. Mangham**  
Dalhousie University

**Kit O'Neill**  
North Dakota State University

**Stephen B. Thomas**  
Emory University

**Alex Waigandt**  
University of Missouri  
Columbia

**William Walker III**  
Ohio Wesleyan University

**Hugh Wilson**  
California State University  
Sacramento

Members of the Advisory Board are instrumental in the final selection of articles for each edition of Annual Editions. Their review of articles for content, level, currentness, and appropriateness provides critical direction to the editor and staff. We think you'll find their careful consideration well reflected in this volume.

## STAFF

**Ian A. Nielsen**, Publisher  
**Brenda S. Filley**, Production Manager

**Roberta Monaco**, Editor

**Addie Raucci**, Administrative Editor

**Cheryl Greenleaf**, Permissions Editor

**Deanna Herrschaft**, Permissions Assistant

**Diane Barker**, Proofreader

**Lisa Holmes-Doebrick**, Administrative Coordinator

**Charles Vitelli**, Designer

**Shawn Callahan**, Graphics

**Steve Shumaker**, Graphics

**Lara M. Johnson**, Graphics

**Laura Levine**, Graphics

**Libra A. Cusack**, Typesetting Supervisor

**Juliana Arbo**, Typesetter

# To the Reader

In publishing ANNUAL EDITIONS we recognize the enormous role played by the magazines, newspapers, and journals of the *public press* in providing current, first-rate educational information in a broad spectrum of interest areas. Within the articles, the best scientists, practitioners, researchers, and commentators draw issues into new perspective as accepted theories and viewpoints are called into account by new events, recent discoveries change old facts, and fresh debate breaks out over important controversies.

Many of the articles resulting from this enormous editorial effort are appropriate for students, researchers, and professionals seeking accurate, current material to help bridge the gap between principles and theories and the real world. These articles, however, become more useful for study when those of lasting value are carefully collected, organized, indexed, and reproduced in a low-cost format, which provides easy and permanent access when the material is needed. That is the role played by *Annual Editions*. Under the direction of each volume's Editor, who is an expert in the subject area, and with the guidance of an Advisory Board, we seek each year to provide in each ANNUAL EDITION a current, well-balanced, carefully selected collection of the best of the public press for your study and enjoyment. We think you'll find this volume useful, and we hope you'll take a moment to let us know what you think.

Interest in and concern about drug use comes in cycles. In certain decades, little concern is evidenced about the issue; people rarely talk about drugs, they are rarely news—few articles are written in newspapers and magazines about their use, and little drug activity is reported in the broadcast media—and hardly anyone considers drug abuse the most important social problem facing the country. In other decades, drug use emerges as a central social issue: it provides a major topic of conversation; the newspapers, magazines, and broadcast media are filled with news and commentary on the subject; and a substantial proportion of the population regards drug abuse as the number one problem the country faces.

In the mid- to late 1980s, public concern over drug abuse fairly exploded. While this concern declined as a result of, first, the Persian Gulf crisis and war, and then the economic recession, it remains, relative to many pressing issues, fairly high. In many quarters, our society is intensely concerned about the problem of drug use and abuse. For much of the public, the problem of drug abuse is inseparable from the problem of crime. Among some of the public, this concern borders on hysteria or panic. Is this panic justified? Are drugs as central a problem as much of the public believes? What are drugs in the first place? What short-term effects do they have? How do they affect the individual and the society over the long run? How should we deal with drugs and drug use? The articles included in *Annual Editions: Drugs, Society, and Behavior 95/96* represent a sampling of current thinking on the subject of drug use. The selections are intended to be thought-provoking and informative. I hope that reading them will help the student meet the challenge that drug use poses and permit him or her to reach reasonable, well-informed conclusions on this troubling issue.

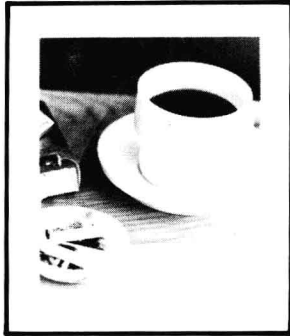
Unit 1 provides the student with a general framework toward drugs and makes four basic points. First, our society tolerates certain (legal) drugs, but is concerned about, and arrests, users of other (illegal) drugs. Second, drug use has a long history, both around the world generally and in this society specifically. Third, illegal drug use generates a worldwide structure or network of sellers that makes use extremely difficult to eradicate, but it is the consumer, ultimately, on which this enterprise is based. And fourth, all drug use is a sociological or anthropological phenomenon that has to be understood before the problem can be attacked. Unit 2 emphasizes the fact that drug use and abuse—or physical dependence—form a continuum. Too often, we assume that a user of a given (usually illegal) drug is chemically dependent, indeed high, nearly all the time. Unit 2 shows that users come in all degrees of involvement, from experimenters to heavy, chronic, dependent abusers. Unit 3 explores a variety of explanations for drug use: Why do people use and abuse drugs? Why do *some* people use certain drugs—while the rest of us do not? In short, *why drugs?* Unit 4 demonstrates that drug use is highly patterned and variable over time and according to social characteristics. Who uses? Who does not? What are some basic recent *trends* in drug use?

Unit 5 emphasizes the fact that drugs are not unitary phenomena but can be classified according to type. Too often we refer to drugs—illegal drugs, that is—in a generic fashion, as if they all had identical or extremely similar effects. This is false; in fact, certain drugs do certain things to us, others do very different things. Unit 6 looks at the long-term impact of drugs on society and individuals. Unit 7 focuses on a crucial aspect of drug use: buying and selling. Drug consumption is an economic enterprise, and that fact influences many features of the drug scene. Why? How? In what specific ways? Unit 8 looks at how this society is attacking the problem of drug abuse, what is wrong with what we are doing, and what should be done about it. Is legalization a viable option? Several observers support this option, while others do not. Unit 9 focuses on drugs as medicine—how drugs are used to heal, as treatment, as an adjunct to (or as a replacement for) medicine and psychotherapy. Unit 10 deals with two issues: First, how drug abusers, and the people they hurt, can be treated; and second, which educational programs are effective in convincing young people to avoid becoming involved in the first place.

We would like to have your comments and suggestions about the articles in this edition. Please complete and return the postpaid rating form at the end of the book.



Erich Goode  
Editor



## Unit 1

### Thinking about Drugs

Six articles in this section examine the history of drug usage, and how drugs are defined in the world today.



## Unit 2

### Use, Addiction, and Dependence

Four selections in this section discuss what is meant by drug addiction. Topics examined include physical dependency and drugs such as cocaine, alcohol, and nicotine.

#### To the Reader Topic Guide Overview

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. <b>Drugs 'R' Us</b> , Daniel Lazare, <i>In These Times</i> , October 18–24, 1989.   | iv |
| 2. <b>Opium, Cocaine, and Marijuana in American History</b> , David F. Musto, <i>Scientific American</i> , July 1991.              | 2  |
| 3. <b>Alcohol in America</b> , W. J. Rorabaugh, <i>OAH Magazine of History</i> , Fall 1991.  | 4  |
| 4. <b>A Most Complex Problem</b> , Theodore Vallance, <i>The World &amp; I</i> , January 1995.                                     | 6  |
| 5. <b>The British System of Narcotics Control</b> , Samuel D. Uretsky, <i>The World &amp; I</i> , January 1995.                    | 9  |
| 6. <b>Killer Cowboys: The Violent Saga of the City's Deadliest Drug Gang</b> , Michael Stone, <i>New York</i> , December 13, 1993. | 16 |
| 7. <b>Hooked/Not Hooked: Why Isn't Everyone an Addict?</b> Deborah Franklin, <i>In Health</i> , November/December 1990.            | 19 |
| 8. <b>Is Nicotine Addictive? It Depends on Whose Criteria You Use</b> , Philip J. Hilts, <i>New York Times</i> , August 2, 1994.   | 26 |
| 9. <b>Use, Addiction, and Dependence</b>   | 35 |
| 10. <b>Overview</b>  | 40 |
| 11. <b>Hooked/Not Hooked: Why Isn't Everyone an Addict?</b> Deborah Franklin, <i>In Health</i> , November/December 1990.           | 42 |
| 12. <b>Is Nicotine Addictive? It Depends on Whose Criteria You Use</b> , Philip J. Hilts, <i>New York Times</i> , August 2, 1994.  | 54 |

**What are drugs?** Most of us focus on illegal drugs in answering this question. In fact, legal drugs—alcohol and tobacco, for instance—have effects not unlike those of illegal drugs, and they cause a great deal more damage to society.

2. **Opium, Cocaine, and Marijuana in American History**, David F. Musto, *Scientific American*, July 1991.

Many people think that **drug use and abuse** arose quite recently; in fact, they have a long history in the United States. Though heavily abused in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, drugs did not have the devastating impact then that they have today.

3. **Alcohol in America**, W. J. Rorabaugh, *OAH Magazine of History*, Fall 1991.

In 1830, Americans drank three times the quantity of alcohol, mainly in the form of whiskey, as is the case today. First the temperance movement, then Prohibition, decreased alcohol consumption; Americans were slow to take up drinking once the sale of alcohol was relegalized in 1933. This article shows the importance of the historical dimension in looking at **drug and alcohol use and abuse**.

4. **A Most Complex Problem**, Theodore Vallance, *The World & I*, January 1995.

**The complexity of the drug problem** must be recognized before one can come to a workable idea of what can be done to reduce the harms that illicit drugs and their surrounding set of rules and policies impact on society.

5. **The British System of Narcotics Control**, Samuel D. Uretsky, *The World & I*, January 1995.

The United States and the United Kingdom began their **programs of narcotics control** at the same time. The United States has followed a penal system, while the British system was based on a therapeutic model that treated addiction as a curable disease and secondarily as a crime.

6. **Killer Cowboys: The Violent Saga of the City's Deadliest Drug Gang**, Michael Stone, *New York*, December 13, 1993.

Today, there is an intimate **connection between drug dealing and violence**. In some cities, half the murders that take place are drug related. The vast majority are the product of conflicts among rival drug gangs. Michael Stone describes what happened when one dealing gang tried to take over a neighborhood in New York City.

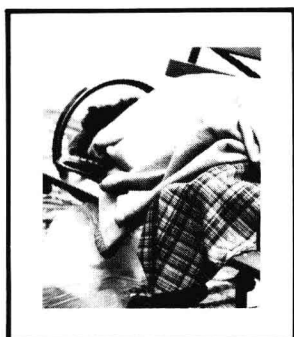
#### Overview

7. **Hooked/Not Hooked: Why Isn't Everyone an Addict?** Deborah Franklin, *In Health*, November/December 1990.

Many people have an extremely simplistic idea of **drug dependence**: A drug is addictive or it is not. This is inaccurate. In fact, researchers have found that dependence is a far more complex phenomenon.

8. **Is Nicotine Addictive? It Depends on Whose Criteria You Use**, Philip J. Hilts, *New York Times*, August 2, 1994.

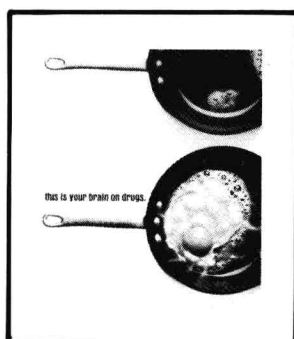
Is the nicotine found in tobacco cigarettes addictive? Experts believe that this question is too simplistic. The concept of "addiction" comprises several distinct components or dimensions; nicotine is ranked as highly addictive on some of them, but less so on others. Philip Hilts addresses nicotine's painful withdrawal symptoms and difficulty in giving it up to illustrate that addiction is a **multidimensional phenomenon**.



## Unit 3

### Why Drugs?

Five articles in this section discuss how and why individuals get "hooked" on drugs.



## Unit 4

### Patterns and Trends in Drug Use

Four articles in this section discuss the divergent patterns in the use of drugs as they lose and gain popularity.

9. **The How and Why of a Cocaine High**, William Booth, *Washington Post National Weekly Edition*, March 26–April 1, 1990. 56  
*What makes cocaine so dependency-producing?* And what methods of using it are most likely to produce a dependency? Cocaine's stimulation of pleasure centers in the brain provides a clue to its reinforcing and, therefore, its dependency-producing potential.
10. **Addictive Drugs: The Cigarette Experience**, Thomas C. Schelling, *Science*, January 24, 1992. 58  
Cigarettes kill more than 400,000 Americans a year. Given this death toll, we need to know more about *the addictive properties of cigarettes' principal ingredient, nicotine*. Most smokers have tried to quit; many manage to do so on the second, third, or fourth try, but the process can be slow and painful, and many have relapses. What is it about cigarettes that makes them so hard to stop using?

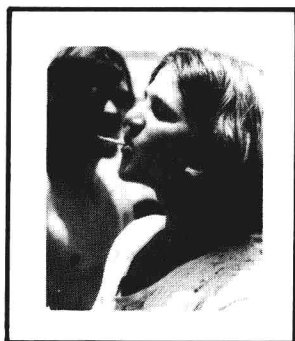
#### Overview

11. **Smoking: Is It a Habit or Is It Genetic?** Laura Mansnerus, *The Good Health Magazine*, October 4, 1992. 62  
How are we to explain *the phenomenon of dependence on cigarettes*? Clearly, the drugs in the tobacco—mainly nicotine—have something to do with this dependency. But not all of us become "hooked" on cigarettes. What separates those who do from those who do not? Are smokers born—that is, do they become "hooked" as a result of a genetic predisposition? Or are personality factors at work? 64
12. **The Lure of Drugs: They 'Organize' an Addict's Life**, Benjamin Stein, *Newsday*, December 4, 1988. 67  
*Alcoholics and other drug addicts* are attracted to their substances of choice because of who they are and what their personalities find attractive and comforting. Drugs offer the troubled abuser a temporary sanctuary, a way of organizing his or her life.
13. **Probing the Complex Genetics of Alcoholism**, Constance Holden, *Science*, January 11, 1991. 69  
In 1990 a team of scientists created a flurry of excitement in the world of drug research by announcing the discovery of a specific gene for alcoholism. But less than a year later, another study failed to confirm the original finding, casting doubt on the theory of the *genetic transmission of alcoholism*. Can alcoholism—and, by extension, drug addiction—be inherited?
14. **A Pleasurable Chemistry**, Janet L. Hopson, *Psychology Today*, July/August 1988. 71  
In looking at the roots of use, abuse, and addiction, it is important to stress the fact that the brain itself produces a set of chemicals, called *endorphins*—endogenous morphinelike substances—that produce a "natural high" in the body.
15. **Executive's Secret Struggle with Heroin's Powerful Grip**, Joseph B. Treaster, *New York Times*, July 22, 1992. 75  
Drug experts say perhaps as many as a third of the estimated 750,000 *heroin addicts in America* are juggling habitual use with jobs and even families with few outward signs of addiction. This article examines how some executives have played this dangerous game.

#### Overview

16. **Overview of Key Findings**, Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *U. S. Department of Health and Human Services*, 1994. 78  
In 1993 the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research conducted a survey of *drug use among the nation's student and young adult populations*. Since the 1970s, drug use in this group had been declining, but in 1991 an upswing began. Concurrently, the percentage who saw "great risk" in drug use followed the same pattern. 80
17. **Pot Surges Back, It's Like a Whole New World**, Melinda Henneberger, *New York Times*, February 6, 1994. 87  
Beginning in the early 1990s, *the use of marijuana* began to make a comeback. Users tend to be younger than was true in previous decades, and the substance they consume tends to be stronger. Drug treatment experts see special dangers in marijuana use in the current teenage generation.





# Unit 5

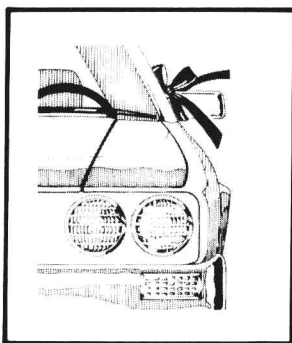
## The Major Drugs of Use and Abuse

Seven articles in this section examine some of the major drugs in use today. The drugs discussed include marijuana, alcohol, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine (speed, crank, or "ice").

18. **Smoking under Siege: Once Chic, Tobacco Now Is Defending Itself against a Revolution**, John Schwartz, *Washington Post National Weekly Edition*, June 27–July 3, 1994. 89  
One of the most remarkable changes that is taking place today in the world of drug use is less a matter of rates of use than a "revolution" attempting to restrict the use of the world's number one killer drug—tobacco. *The antitobacco revolution* has been successful in getting laws passed that have curtailed smoking in a number of public places; their goals are much broader and more ambitious.
19. **Are America's College Students Majoring in Booze?** Stephen Goode, *Insight*, August 8, 1994. 95  
Some research indicates high rates of *alcohol consumption among college students*. However, not all experts agree that this poses a problem that has not existed previously, nor do some believe that the problem has reached crisis proportions. Most college students consume alcohol moderately and safely, they say, and most college administrations are doing what they can to contain the problem.

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| Overview  | 98 |
| 20. <b>Selling Pot: The Pitfalls of Marijuana Reform</b> , Jacob Sullum, <i>Reason</i> , June 1993. 100<br>While marijuana was regarded in the late 1960s and the 1970s as a relatively innocuous drug, a backlash developed in the 1980s that branded it as considerably more harmful than it actually is. <i>How dangerous is marijuana?</i> While not one of the more harmful drugs in use, marijuana does have potential hazards.   |    |
| 21. <b>Alcohol in Perspective</b> , University of California at Berkeley <i>Wellness Letter</i> , February 1993. 107<br>People consume more alcohol than any other psychoactive (or mind-active) drug except coffee. But what are <i>the effects of this drug alcohol?</i> Is it safe? What is the human toll of uncontrolled and excessive drinking?   |    |
| 22. <b>Mail-Order Muscles</b> , Rick Telander, <i>Sports Illustrated</i> , November 22, 1993. 110<br>Steroids are being used by many teenagers and young adults in conjunction with bodybuilding; the drug helps users put on muscle mass. Unfortunately, it also has a number of dangerous side effects, such as inducing violence and paranoia and damaging internal organs. Still, many bodybuilders and athletes feel that the risk is worth it because of the edge it gives them in competition. In some serious gym circles, <i>the use of steroids</i> is so widespread that it is simply taken for granted. |    |
| 23. <b>Listening to Heroin: What Dope Says about Pleasure, Poison, and Keeping Score</b> , Ann M., <i>The Village Voice</i> , August 23, 1994. 113<br>During the early 1990s, heroin overdoses and arrests increased significantly. Who is taking it? What is its appeal? How do they become dependent on it? What impact does it have on users' lives? The author describes <i>heroin use</i> , not from the perspective of an outsider—in her word, a "tourist"—but from the point of view of an insider, a user.   |    |
| 24. <b>The New View from On High</b> , <i>Newsweek</i> , December 6, 1993. 117<br>Drug abuse is subject to the whims of fashion. As this article points out, <i>new drugs are constantly being designed</i> that fuel evolving trends.  |    |
| 25. <b>Choose Your Poison</b> , Jill Smolowe, <i>Time</i> , July 26, 1993. 119<br>While the government may say that drug use has fallen, <i>the range of intoxicants</i> has increased as a whole new generation of users has evolved.  |    |
| 26. <b>The Drug Scene's New "Ice" Age</b> , Dominick A. Labianca, <i>USA Today Magazine</i> ( <i>Society for the Advancement of Education</i> ), January 1992. 121<br><i>"Ice" is methamphetamine</i> , a powerful central nervous system stimulant. Once a popular prescription drug, pure methamphetamine has been outlawed. It was also a popular street drug in the late 1960s; manufactured in clandestine labs, the drug made a comeback in Hawaii and California in the late 1980s. Although not nearly as popular nationwide as cocaine, ice may eventually rival cocaine's popularity, some fear.          |    |

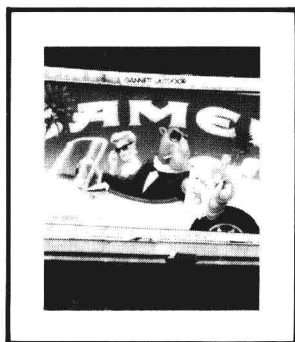




## Unit 6

### The Impact of Drug Use on Society

Four selections in this section discuss how drugs have devastated some portions of our society.



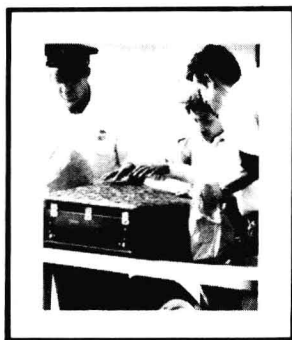
## Unit 7

### The Economy of Drug Use

Five selections in this section discuss the enormous driving economic force behind the marketing of both legal and illegal drugs.

- Overview** 124
27. **Dealing with Demons of a New Generation**, Tom Dunkel, 126  
*Insight*, September 13, 1993.  
**Alcohol abuse** harms not only heavy drinkers themselves, but also their families. Many children of alcoholics need a lifetime to recover from the psychological harm inflicted on them by one or both parents. The members of Adult Children of Alcoholics, a mutual support group, are being studied both for the harmful impact of growing up in an alcoholic home and for possible therapies.
28. **A Society of Suspects: The War on Drugs and Civil Liberties**, Steven Wisotsky, 129  
*USA Today Magazine (Society for the Advancement of Education)*, July 1993.  
The **War on Drugs** has become a war on the Bill of Rights. Since the War on Drugs was launched in 1982, the United States has seen city streets ruled by gangs, a prison population that has more than doubled, and a substantial erosion of constitutional protections.
29. **Alcohol and Kids: It's Time for Candor**, Antonia C. Novello, 135  
*Christian Science Monitor*, June 26, 1992.  
While the use of alcohol has been declining for a decade and a half, its use remains the **American adolescent's most serious drug problem**. Alcohol use is associated with automobile and other accidents, crime and violence—including sexual assault—suicide, and death by overdose. As with cigarette smoking, a major culprit in teenage alcohol consumption is industry advertising.
30. **Families vs. the Lure of the Streets**, Scott Shane, 137  
*The Sun*, September 12, 1993.  
**What does drug selling do to a neighborhood?** How do members of a community cope with the devastation of killings that often follow inner-city drug dealing? In one Baltimore community, "a drug corner casts its long shadow of death."

- Overview** 142
31. **Worldwide Drug Scourge: The Expanding Trade in Illicit Drugs**, Stephen Flynn, 144  
*The Brookings Review*, Winter 1993.  
**Where do the drugs sold on the street originate?** How do they get here? How has the collapse of the Soviet empire influenced their distribution? What changes in worldwide patterns of use have had an impact on the drug trade? How does the drug trade influence drug use?
32. **The Drug Money Maze**, David A. Andelman, 149  
*Foreign Affairs*, July/August 1994.  
With the enormous amount of small denomination cash generated by the sale of illicit drugs, the **drug cartels** are faced with **the problem of how to launder their illegal proceeds**. As this article points out, this process has become increasingly more difficult as banking regulations have been tightened worldwide.
33. **Pushing Drugs to Doctors**, *Consumer Reports*, February 1992. 155  
Selling pills by prescription is **one of the most profitable legal businesses** in the country. The pharmaceutical industry has to sell drugs to physicians, not to their ultimate consumer, the patient, who rarely decides which drug to use or whether to use drugs at all. The industry's aggressive marketing strategies often result in drug misuse or overuse.
34. **The Cocaine Money Market**, Douglas Farah and Steve Coll, 163  
*Washington Post National Weekly Edition*, November 8–14, 1993.  
Earning huge sums of money from drug dealing results in the accumulation of huge sums of illegally obtained cash. Thus, a major part of the enterprise of drug dealing is **laundering illegally earned money**, either by banking it in countries whose authorities do not care about its origin or by folding it into legal enterprises.
35. **The Cartels Would Like a Second Chance**, Robert Sabbag, 169  
*Rolling Stone*, May 5, 1994.  
The Colombian cartels have added heroin to their menu. With good reason, experts say: **Heroin is making a comeback**. The drug is abundant on the street, relatively inexpensive, and of extremely high quality. While the middle class may have shunned heroin because of the needle, the author contends new forms developed by the cartels may appeal to this broad market.



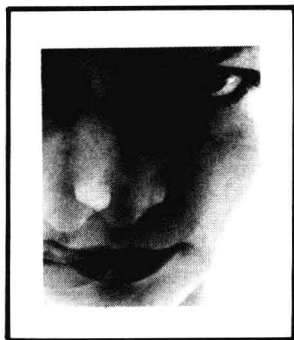
# Unit 8

## Fighting the Drug War

Seven articles in this section examine the current state of the war on drug usage. Topics include today's drug scene, new programs to combat drugs, and drug legalization.

### Overview

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
|  | 174 |
| 36. <b>Should Cigarettes Be Outlawed?</b> <i>U.S. News &amp; World Report</i> , April 18, 1994.  | 176 |
| It is one thing, critics of cigarette smoking say, for smokers to harm themselves. But what happens when smoking harms nonsmokers as a <b>result of "passive" or secondhand smoke</b> ? Shouldn't smokers be prevented from blowing smoke in the faces of innocent victims? The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that as many as 9,000 Americans die each year from secondhand smoke. Should steps be taken to prevent this death toll? What controls should be placed on the sale and consumption of cigarettes? |     |
| 37. <b>Why Drugs Keep Flowing: Too Little Emphasis on Treating Heavy Users</b> , David Rohde, <i>Christian Science Monitor</i> , July 20, 1994.  | 181 |
| A major study shows that, on a dollar-for-dollar spent basis, police and military action to seize cocaine shipments and arrest dealers, smugglers, and couriers is far less effective than spending money for treating hard-core users and abusers. Yet <b>current efforts to combat cocaine</b> remain fixated on law enforcement rather than treatment. Unfortunately, treatment is politically unpopular, whereas the current public mood is favorable to more punitive policies.                                       |     |
| 38. <b>Toward a Sane National Drug Policy</b> , Ethan Nadelmann and Jann S. Wenner, <i>Rolling Stone</i> , May 5, 1994.  | 184 |
| <b>Should illegal drugs be legalized</b> or decriminalized? Some experts believe that current punitive policies do more harm than good and are ineffective in achieving their principal goal—reducing drug abuse and the harm it causes. Under legalization, they say, the use of marijuana, heroin, and crack will not rise; drug-related violence, crime, and medical problems will decline; and law enforcement can be diverted to other criminal endeavors.  |     |
| 39. <b>Colombia's Drugs Business: The Wages of Prohibition</b> , <i>The Economist</i> , January 6, 1995.   | 187 |
| This article examines how interrelated the <b>illegal cocaine business</b> is in the government and society of Colombia. The drug trade has become such a key element in the economy of the country that any victory for the prohibitionists not only depresses Colombia, but affects inner cities of rich countries all over the world.   |     |
| 40. <b>Should We Legalize Drugs? History Answers Yes—No</b> , Ethan A. Nadelmann and David T. Courtwright, <i>American Heritage</i> , February/March 1993.   | 191 |
| <b>Should currently illegal drugs be legalized or decriminalized</b> ? Some experts think so. They believe that the use of these drugs—from marijuana to heroin and crack—would not increase, and that drug-related violence, crime, and medical problems would decline. Those who say no warn of black markets and increased drug abuse.  |     |
| 41. <b>Toward a Policy on Drugs</b> , Elliott Currie, <i>Dissent</i> , Winter 1993.  | 203 |
| Advocates of a crackdown on illegal drug possession and sale gloss over the problems this policy entails. Likewise, advocates of full drug legalization minimize the real dangers that deregulation poses. <b>Fighting the drug war</b> involves us in serious irreconcilable dilemmas. Elliott Currie suggests a "third way," which has already been adopted by some European countries.  |     |
| 42. <b>Worldwide Drug Scourge: The Response</b> , Stephen Flynn, <i>The Brookings Review</i> , Spring 1993.  | 210 |
| <b>Drug selling is a worldwide enterprise</b> ; consequently, to fight the drug menace, our response must be global in scope. The drug war cannot just be fought at home; to be effective, the United States must enlist the active cooperation of regimes abroad.   |     |



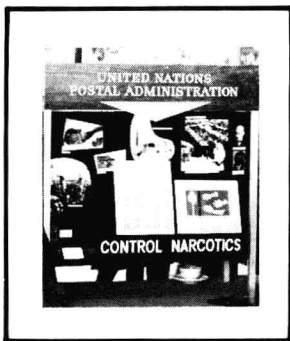
# Unit 9

## Drugs as Medicine

Seven articles in this section discuss how drugs can be effectively used in medicine.

- Overview 214
43. **One Pill Makes You Larger, and One Pill Makes You Small . . .**, Sharon Begley, *Newsweek*, February 7, 1994. 216  
One of *the most controversial drugs now being taken by prescription for psychiatric problems is Prozac*, an antidepressant. Patients say the drug transforms their personality from anxious, depressed, and suicidal to "calm, confident, cheerful, and somehow, better than well," in the words of one of its supporters. Should therapy be just a little pill away?
44. **Brain by Design**, Richard Restak, *The Sciences*, September/October 1993. 220  
Scientific insight into the brain is being advanced remarkably by *studies of the relation between neurotransmitters and their receptors*. "An era of molecular engineering, aimed at redefining and refocusing the effects of marijuana and other psychoactive drugs, may be at hand."
45. **The Culture of Prozac**, Geoffrey Cowley, *Newsweek*, February 7, 1994. 225  
*Prozac has become so successful* that a drug "culture" of supporters has sprung up, who sing its praises at every opportunity. And it is being used for more than just depression; some physicians are prescribing it for such diverse maladies as obesity, premenstrual syndrome (PMS), and fear of public speaking.
46. **Singing the Prozac Blues**, Susan Brink, *U.S. News & World Report*, November 8, 1993. 228  
Is there reason to be worried that a drug whose worldwide sales top \$1.2 billion is being overprescribed? *Introduced in 1988, Prozac was an "instant hit"*; its sales are twice that of its nearest competitor. But in early clinical tests on the drug, its *side effects* and dangerous *interactions with other drugs* were understated. Is it possible to treat depressed patients without the use of drugs? How should we feel about keeping many depressed patients on drugs for the rest of their lives?
47. **Should Marijuana Be Legalized as a Medicine? Yes, It's a Beneficial Drug**, Lester Grinspoon, *The World & I*, June 1994. 231  
*Marijuana has several properties that make it effective as a medical agent*. It can effectively treat glaucoma and relieve the extreme nausea caused by a variety of chemical therapies in the treatment of cancer and AIDS. Yet, the Drug Enforcement Administration refuses to classify marijuana as a prescription drug, claiming that it has no accepted medical utility. Lester Grinspoon argues that this prohibition is harmful and irrational.
48. **Should Marijuana Be Legalized as a Medicine? No, It's Dangerous and Addictive**, Eric A. Voth, *The World & I*, June 1994. 235  
Some *observers are skeptical of the claim that marijuana is useful as medicine*. Evidence supporting this claim is anecdotal rather than systematic, the drug has a number of dangerous psychological side effects, and it may be a "stepping stone" on the path to more dangerous drug use. Moreover, the author claims, marijuana is "addicting" and may be medically harmful.
49. **The Ethnobotanical Approach to Drug Discovery**, Paul Alan Cox and Michael J. Balick, *Scientific American*, June 1994. 239  
With reports of dangerous side effects from prescription drugs, some botanists have returned to a more traditional route of discovering *medicinal substances: wild plants*. Many of our most useful drugs are natural or were discovered as a result of "ethnobotanical leads": digitalis, reserpine, the opium poppy, quinine, scopolamine, and aspirin, among others. However, only a fraction of one percent of Earth's plants have been studied for medical value.



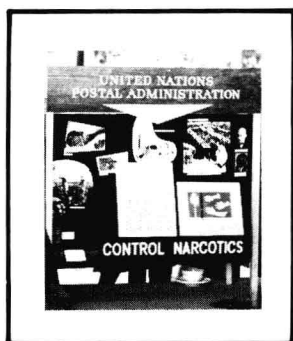


# Unit 10

## Drug Prevention and Treatment

Six selections in this section discuss drug dependence and treatment. Topics covered include educational programs, live-in therapeutic communities, and new methods for breaking addiction.

Overview	244
50. <b>For Addicts, Alternatives to Prison</b> , James Dao, <i>New York Times</i> , April 4, 1994.	246
Between 1970 and 1994, the number of prisoners in America increased from 200,000 to over a million; over the past generation, the likelihood that a narcotics arrestee will end up in prison has increased by over five times. Prison space is becoming extremely scarce, and most experts believe that <b><i>prison is an ineffective means of treating addiction.</i></b>	
51. <b>Is Drug Abuse Treatment Effective?</b> Robert Apsler, <i>The American Enterprise</i> , March/April 1994.	248
<b><i>How effective are drug treatment programs?</i></b> The author defines the key concepts and terms of this issue. Which programs are most often used? How is effectiveness measured? What happens to drug abusers who never seek treatment? How can addicts be induced to enter treatment programs?	
52. <b>Maintenance Isn't Cure, But It's Limiting HIV, Crime in Britain's Drug Picture</b> , Richard O'Mara, <i>The Sun</i> , September 19, 1993.	254
What is wrong with simple maintenance? It is true that maintenance is not aimed at getting addicts off drugs. But, unlike street junkies, they "all live more or less normal lives," they "aren't always in trouble" with the police, and "they don't die." Given these limited achievements, <b><i>simple maintenance may be the answer for some narcotic addicts.</i></b>	
53. <b>Back from the Drink</b> , Jill Neimark, Claire Conway, and Peter Daskoch, <i>Psychology Today</i> , September/October 1994.	256
Alcohol consumption causes the death of tens of thousands of Americans each year and costs the country some \$80 billion annually, yet experts have not settled on an <b><i>effective treatment program for alcoholics.</i></b> What do we know that can increase our odds? What works? What does not? Do different programs work for different drinkers? This article summarizes the latest research.	
54. <b>The Psychedelic Cure</b> , Alexis Jetter, <i>New York Times Magazine</i> , April 10, 1994.	263
<b><i>Can ingesting a hallucinogenic plant cure drug addiction?</i></b> <i>Ibogaine</i> is made from a shrub native to West Africa; taking an extract of its leaves, some observers believe, has made it possible for some addicts to abstain from narcotics. Most experts doubt its effectiveness, and it is banned in the United States. But since there are no truly effective treatment programs, some researchers are willing to try almost anything that holds out promise, however slim, of a cure.	
55. <b>Hard Sell in the Drug War</b> , Cynthia Cotts, <i>The Nation</i> , March 9, 1992.	266
In 1986 the Partnership for a Drug-Free America launched a full-scale antidrug educational campaign ("This is your brain on drugs . . . Any questions?"). Some observers believe that it has helped reduce drug abuse in America. Others are not so sure. They question its exaggerated "scare tactics." In addition, the Partnership does not attack <b><i>legal</i></b> drug use among young people: Its campaign ignores the use of cigarettes, alcohol, and prescription drugs.	
Glossary	269
Index	273
Article Review Form	276
Article Rating Form	277



# Unit 10

## Drug Prevention and Treatment

Six selections in this section discuss drug dependence and treatment. Topics covered include educational programs, live-in therapeutic communities, and new methods for breaking addiction.

### Overview

50. **For Addicts, Alternatives to Prison**, James Dao, *New York Times*, April 4, 1994. 244 246

Between 1970 and 1994, the number of prisoners in America increased from 200,000 to over a million; over the past generation, the likelihood that a narcotics arrestee will end up in prison has increased by over five times. Prison space is becoming extremely scarce, and most experts believe that ***prison is an ineffective means of treating addiction***.

51. **Is Drug Abuse Treatment Effective?** Robert Apsler, *The American Enterprise*, March/April 1994. 248

***How effective are drug treatment programs?*** The author defines the key concepts and terms of this issue. Which programs are most often used? How is effectiveness measured? What happens to drug abusers who never seek treatment? How can addicts be induced to enter treatment programs?

52. **Maintenance Isn't Cure, But It's Limiting HIV, Crime in Britain's Drug Picture**, Richard O'Mara, *The Sun*, September 19, 1993. 254

What is wrong with simple maintenance? It is true that maintenance is not aimed at getting addicts off drugs. But, unlike street junkies, they "all live more or less normal lives," they "aren't always in trouble" with the police, and "they don't die." Given these limited achievements, ***simple maintenance may be the answer for some narcotic addicts***.

53. **Back from the Drink**, Jill Neimark, Claire Conway, and Peter Doskoch, *Psychology Today*, September/October 1994. 256

Alcohol consumption causes the death of tens of thousands of Americans each year and costs the country some \$80 billion annually, yet experts have not settled on an ***effective treatment program for alcoholics***. What do we know that can increase our odds? What works? What does not? Do different programs work for different drinkers? This article summarizes the latest research.

54. **The Psychedelic Cure**, Alexis Jetter, *New York Times Magazine*, April 10, 1994. 263

***Can ingesting a hallucinogenic plant cure drug addiction?*** *Ibogaine* is made from a shrub native to West Africa; taking an extract of its leaves, some observers believe, has made it possible for some addicts to abstain from narcotics. Most experts doubt its effectiveness, and it is banned in the United States. But since there are no truly effective treatment programs, some researchers are willing to try almost anything that holds out promise, however slim, of a cure.

55. **Hard Sell in the Drug War**, Cynthia Cotts, *The Nation*, March 9, 1992. 266

In 1986 the Partnership for a Drug-Free America launched a full-scale antidrug educational campaign ("This is your brain on drugs . . . Any questions?"). Some observers believe that it has helped reduce drug abuse in America. Others are not so sure. They question its exaggerated "scare tactics." In addition, the Partnership does not attack ***legal*** drug use among young people: Its campaign ignores the use of cigarettes, alcohol, and prescription drugs.

### Glossary

### Index

### Article Review Form

### Article Rating Form

269

273

276

277

# Topic Guide

This topic guide suggests how the selections in this book relate to topics of traditional concern to students and professionals involved with the study of drugs, society, and behavior. It is useful for locating articles that relate to each other for reading and research. The guide is arranged alphabetically according to topic. Articles may, of course, treat topics that do not appear in the topic guide. In turn, entries in the topic guide do not necessarily constitute a comprehensive listing of all the contents of each selection.

TOPIC AREA	TREATED IN:	TOPIC AREA	TREATED IN:
<b>Addiction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Opium, Cocaine, and Marijuana</li> <li>7. Hooked/Not Hooked</li> <li>8. Is Nicotine Addictive?</li> <li>9. How and Why of a Cocaine High</li> <li>10. Addictive Drugs</li> <li>11. Smoking</li> <li>12. Lure of Drugs</li> <li>13. Probing the Complex Genetics of Alcoholism</li> <li>14. Pleasurable Chemistry</li> <li>15. Executive's Secret Struggle</li> <li>23. Listening to Heroin</li> <li>50. For Addicts, Alternatives to Prison</li> <li>51. Is Drug Abuse Treatment Effective?</li> <li>52. Maintenance Isn't Cure</li> <li>53. Back from the Drink</li> <li>54. Psychedelic Cure</li> </ul>	<b>Cocaine</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Opium, Cocaine, and Marijuana</li> <li>6. Killer Cowboys</li> <li>7. Hooked/Not Hooked</li> <li>9. How and Why of a Cocaine High</li> <li>16. Overview of Key Findings</li> <li>30. Families vs. the Lure of the Streets</li> <li>31. Worldwide Drug Scourge</li> <li>34. Cocaine Money Market</li> <li>35. Cartels Would Like a Second Chance</li> <li>37. Why Drugs Keep Flowing</li> <li>38. Toward a Sane National Drug Policy</li> <li>42. Worldwide Drug Scourge</li> </ul>
<b>Advertising</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18. Smoking under Siege</li> <li>20. Selling Pot</li> <li>29. Alcohol and Kids</li> <li>33. Pushing Drugs to Doctors</li> <li>36. Should Cigarettes Be Outlawed?</li> <li>43. One Pill Makes You Larger</li> <li>45. Culture of Prozac</li> <li>46. Singing the Prozac Blues</li> <li>55. Hard Sell in the Drug War</li> </ul>	<b>Drug Economy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Killer Cowboys</li> <li>18. Smoking under Siege</li> <li>22. Mail-Order Muscles</li> <li>30. Families vs. the Lure of the Streets</li> <li>31. Worldwide Drug Scourge</li> <li>32. Drug Money Maze</li> <li>33. Pushing Drugs to Doctors</li> <li>34. Cocaine Money Market</li> <li>35. Cartels Would Like a Second Chance</li> <li>36. Should Cigarettes Be Outlawed?</li> <li>37. Why Drugs Keep Flowing</li> <li>39. Colombia's Drugs Business</li> <li>42. Worldwide Drug Scourge</li> <li>43. One Pill Makes You Larger</li> <li>45. Culture of Prozac</li> <li>46. Singing the Prozac Blues</li> <li>55. Hard Sell in the Drug War</li> </ul>
<b>Alcohol</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Drugs 'R' Us</li> <li>3. Alcohol in America</li> <li>13. Probing the Complex Genetics of Alcoholism</li> <li>16. Overview of Key Findings</li> <li>19. America's College Students Majoring in Booze?</li> <li>21. Alcohol in Perspective</li> <li>27. Dealing with Demons</li> <li>29. Alcohol and Kids</li> <li>See also Alcoholism</li> </ul>	<b>Epidemiology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Opium, Cocaine, and Marijuana</li> <li>3. Alcohol in America</li> <li>6. Killer Cowboys</li> <li>10. Addictive Drugs</li> <li>11. Smoking</li> <li>15. Executive's Secret Struggle</li> <li>16. Overview of Key Findings</li> <li>17. Pot Surges Back</li> <li>19. America's College Students Majoring in Booze?</li> <li>22. Mail-Order Muscles</li> <li>23. Listening to Heroin</li> <li>24. New View from On High</li> <li>25. Choose Your Poison</li> <li>26. Drug Scene's New "Ice" Age</li> <li>29. Alcohol and Kids</li> <li>30. Families vs. the Lure of the Streets</li> </ul>
<b>Alcoholism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Alcohol in America</li> <li>7. Hooked/Not Hooked</li> <li>13. Probing the Complex Genetics of Alcoholism</li> <li>19. America's College Students Majoring in Booze?</li> <li>21. Alcohol in Perspective</li> <li>27. Dealing with Demons</li> <li>29. Alcohol and Kids</li> <li>53. Back from the Drink</li> </ul>	<b>Etiology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Hooked/Not Hooked</li> <li>8. Is Nicotine Addictive?</li> <li>9. How and Why of a Cocaine High</li> <li>10. Addictive Drugs</li> <li>12. Lure of Drugs</li> <li>13. Probing the Complex Genetics of Alcoholism</li> <li>14. Pleasurable Chemistry</li> <li>44. Brain by Design</li> </ul>
<b>Amphetamine</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Hooked/Not Hooked</li> <li>16. Overview of Key Findings</li> <li>26. Drug Scene's New "Ice" Age</li> </ul>	<b>Family</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27. Dealing with Demons</li> <li>29. Alcohol and Kids</li> <li>30. Families vs. the Lure of the Streets</li> </ul>
<b>Children/Teenagers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Killer Cowboys</li> <li>16. Overview of Key Findings</li> <li>17. Pot Surges Back</li> <li>19. America's College Students Majoring in Booze?</li> <li>20. Selling Pot</li> <li>22. Mail-Order Muscles</li> <li>27. Dealing with Demons</li> <li>29. Alcohol and Kids</li> <li>30. Families vs. the Lure of the Streets</li> <li>55. Hard Sell in the Drug War</li> </ul>		



TOPIC AREA	TREATED IN:	TOPIC AREA	TREATED IN:
Heroin	2. Opium, Cocaine, and Marijuana 7. Hooked/Not Hooked 8. Is Nicotine Addictive? 12. Lure of Drugs 15. Executive's Secret Struggle 16. Overview of Key Findings 23. Listening to Heroin 31. Worldwide Drug Scourge 35. Cartels Would Like a Second Chance 37. Why Drugs Keep Flowing 38. Toward a Sane National Drug Policy 40. Should We Legalize Drugs? 41. Toward a Policy on Drugs 42. Worldwide Drug Scourge 50. For Addicts, Alternatives to Prison 51. Is Drug Abuse Treatment Effective? 52. Maintenance Isn't Cure	Race, Drug Use and	2. Opium, Cocaine, and Marijuana 6. Killer Cowboys 16. Overview of Key Findings 30. Families vs. the Lure of the Streets
Law Enforcement	1. Drugs 'R' Us 2. Opium, Cocaine, and Marijuana 3. Alcohol in America 4. Most Complex Problem 5. British System of Narcotics Control 6. Killer Cowboys 28. Society of Suspects 31. Worldwide Drug Scourge 32. Drug Money Maze 34. Cocaine Money Market 35. Cartels Would Like a Second Chance 36. Should Cigarettes Be Outlawed? 37. Why Drugs Keep Flowing 38. Toward a Sane National Drug Policy 39. Colombia's Drugs Business 40. Should We Legalize Drugs? 41. Toward a Policy on Drugs 42. Worldwide Drug Scourge 47. Should Marijuana Be Legalized? Yes 48. Should Marijuana Be Legalized? No	Research, Drug	7. Hooked/Not Hooked 9. How and Why of a Cocaine High 10. Addictive Drugs 11. Smoking 13. Probing the Complex Genetics of Alcoholism 14. Pleasurable Chemistry 16. Overview of Key Findings 37. Why Drugs Keep Flowing 43. One Pill Makes You Larger 45. Culture of Prozac 46. Singing the Prozac Blues 47. Should Marijuana Be Legalized? Yes 48. Should Marijuana Be Legalized? No 49. Ethnobotanical Approach 51. Is Drug Abuse Treatment Effective? 53. Back from the Drink
Legalization	36. Should Cigarettes Be Outlawed? 37. Why Drugs Keep Flowing 38. Toward a Sane National Drug Policy 40. Should We Legalize Drugs? 41. Toward a Policy on Drugs 42. Worldwide Drug Scourge 47. Should Marijuana Be Legalized? Yes 48. Should Marijuana Be Legalized? No	Socioeconomic Issues	1. Opium, Cocaine, and Marijuana 4. Most Complex Problem 6. Killer Cowboys 7. Hooked/Not Hooked 15. Executive's Secret Struggle 16. Overview of Key Findings 19. America's College Students Majoring in Booze? 30. Families vs. the Lure of the Streets
Marijuana	1. Drugs 'R' Us 2. Opium, Cocaine, and Marijuana 7. Hooked/Not Hooked 8. Is Nicotine Addictive? 16. Overview of Key Findings 17. Pot Surges Back 44. Brain by Design 47. Should Marijuana Be Legalized? Yes 48. Should Marijuana Be Legalized? No	Treatment, Drug	5. British System of Narcotics Control 7. Hooked/Not Hooked 8. Is Nicotine Addictive? 9. How and Why of a Cocaine High 10. Addictive Drugs 11. Smoking 12. Lure of Drugs 27. Dealing with Demons 37. Why Drugs Keep Flowing 43. One Pill Makes You Larger 45. Culture of Prozac 46. Singing the Prozac Blues 47. Should Marijuana Be Legalized? Yes 48. Should Marijuana Be Legalized? No 49. Ethnobotanical Approach 50. For Addicts, Alternatives to Prison 51. Is Drug Abuse Treatment Effective? 52. Maintenance Isn't Cure 53. Back from the Drink 54. Psychedelic Cure
Nicotine	1. Drugs 'R' Us 7. Hooked/Not Hooked 8. Is Nicotine Addictive? 10. Addictive Drugs 11. Smoking 16. Overview of Key Findings 18. Smoking under Siege 36. Should Cigarettes Be Outlawed?		

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Thinking about Drugs

Everything that exists can be looked at or thought about in a variety of ways, through the lens of different perspectives. Although each perspective tells us something different about what we are looking at, some are more relevant, insightful, and powerful than others. The phenomena of drug use and abuse follow this rule. Some ways of looking at drugs and drug use tell us a great deal about their reality; others focus on marginal, less central issues, while still others tell us little beyond the biases of the observers.

How should we think about drug use? What perspectives tell us about the reality of drugs? The first thing we should know about drugs is that they encompass an extremely wide range of substances. Ask the man and woman in the street what “drugs” are and, in all likelihood, most of the answers you will get will include illegal substances—crack, cocaine, heroin, perhaps LSD, marijuana, and PCP or “angel dust.” Answers you will be less likely to receive will be the legal drugs—alcohol, tobacco, our morning cup of coffee, prescription drugs, and routinely available over-the-counter (OTC) medications. But in at least two respects, legal substances such as alcohol, tobacco, and tranquilizers are drugs in the same way as illegal substances such as LSD, heroin, and crack: First, drugs that are used to achieve a certain psychic state are *psychoactive*, that is, mind-active. They influence the workings of the human mind—how we think, feel, and even act; the way drugs work on the mind cuts across the legal-illegal boundary. A second parallel is that both legal and illegal drugs are often overused, misused, and abused, thereby causing a great deal of damage to human life and to society generally. In fact, legal drugs—cigarettes and alcohol specifically—kill 20 to 30 times as many people as illegal drugs. Clearly, the distinction between legal and illegal drugs is an artificial, humanly created one, not crucial in most respects to the student of drug use. “Drugs ‘R’ Us” emphasizes the fuzziness of the line between legal and illegal drugs and the damage the use and abuse of legal drugs cause to our society.

The second lesson is that there is a great deal of widely disseminated misinformation about drug use; much of what most of the public believes about the subject is wrong. We tend to exaggerate the dangers of illegal drug use and minimize the dangers of legal drug use.

Another important conclusion we must draw is that drug use and abuse are not confined to the twentieth century. Drug abuse is an ancient problem; humans have been ingesting psychoactive substances since the Stone Age—and possibly longer—over 10,000 or 12,000 years ago, when alcohol was first discovered. In the United States, alcohol was consumed in vastly greater quantities

in the late 1700s and early 1800s than it is today, and in the second half of the nineteenth century addiction to narcotics, such as morphine and opium, was far more common, on a per-population basis, than heroin addiction is today. Problems associated with drug use and abuse have always been with us and, in all likelihood, always will be. “Opium, Cocaine, and Marijuana in American History” and “Alcohol in America” discuss drug use in this country’s past, presenting quite a different picture than most of us carry in our heads.

The fourth lesson we learn is that illegal drug use generates an immense network of social relations that exert a powerful influence worldwide. The base on which this network rests is the purchase and use of illegal substances by the consumer. The drug problem will not go away until people stop using drugs; it is futile to denounce drug dealers when the demand—and the profits—are so huge.

The fifth lesson is that drug use is a sociological, psychological, and even anthropological phenomenon—generated and sustained by the people interacting in a specific setting and their customs and social networks. While drug use may be universal, or nearly so, the specific qualities exhibited in a particular community or society are dependent on the characteristics of the users themselves, that community, and that society. Too often, drug use and abuse are looked upon as a simple pathology—a sickness—in need of removal. Given this limited perspective, we will never be able to understand what sustains them, what they grow out of. When we begin asking who uses drugs and in what social situations and contexts, we begin to understand why drugs are so difficult to eradicate and what part they play for users and abusers.

## Looking Ahead: Challenge Questions

What is a drug? How are psychoactive drugs different from drugs that only influence the workings of the human body? From the viewpoint of a drug’s effects, is it meaningful to distinguish between legal and illegal drugs? Why are certain legal psychoactive substances not widely regarded as drugs?

Why is a study of drug use and law enforcement in the past important? What does it tell us about the current drug scene? Why have the lessons of history been lost on the present generation?

How would you go about studying drug use? What issues and questions are important to you?

Describe the relationship between illegal drugs, gangs, and violence.

