

Drug Use

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Big Picture

What is a Drug?



Changing Contexts



Taking Action

What is a Drug?

- Any chemical substance, besides food or water, that affects your mind and body (Macionis)

Brainstorm

- Based on that definition
 - What can be considered a drug?

Blurred Lines: Japanese Magic Mushrooms

- 1990 banned
 - Hallucinogens
 - Not "magic mushroom"
- Result
 - Legal selling
 - Magic mushroom loophole
- Loophole closed 2008



Brainstorm

- Based on that definition
 - What can be considered a drug?
 - Which of these drugs emerged in your lifetime?

New Drug Spotlight

- ["Butt Hash"](#)
- Satire



Take Home Point

- What is a drug varies...
 - By place
 - Overtime

Alcohol: Social Perception

- Popular with colonists
- Irish & German immigration
 - Negative perception
 - Prohibition 1920
- Current perception?



Alcohol: Learning to Drink

- How did you learn about alcohol?

Alcohol: Learning to Drink

- Low problem drinking
 - Regular part of life
 - View neutrally
 - Not rite of passage
 - No tolerance alcoholism
 - Light drinking home model
 - Groups
 - Italians
 - Jewish
 - Chinese
 - Lebanese



*From Preventing Alcohol Abuse (1995) David Hanson

Alcohol: Learning to Drink

- High problem drinking
 - Drinking special
 - Strong response
 - Sinful
 - Magical substance
 - Rite of passage
 - Drunkenness favorable
 - Learn alcohol outside home



*From Preventing Alcohol Abuse (1995) David Hanson

Alcohol: Learning to Drink

- How did you learn about alcohol?
- What effects did your learning process have on you?
 - Did you follow the process outlined?

Cigarettes: Image

- Sex
- Romance
- Fun
- Attractive
- Masculinity



Cigarettes: Image

- Sex
- Romance
- Fun
- Attractive
- Masculinity
- Changing?



Cigarettes: Changing Views

- Public perception
 - Health menace
 - Unsophisticated
- Results
 - Restricted areas
 - Advertising restrictions



*From "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes: Cigarette Smoking as Deviant Behavior" (1979) Gerald Markle & Ronal Troyer

Cigarettes: New California Laws

- Illegal to smoke
 - Inside workplace 1994
 - Inside restaurants 1998
 - While driving a minor 2008
- Trends
 - Smoke free campuses
 - No smoking near buildings
- Why do you think this is happening now?

Marijuana: Historically

- Used throughout history
- Past uses
 - Medicinal
 - Relaxation
 - Hemp products
- 1937 Marijuana Tax Act
 - Tax stamps?
 - Illegal



Marijuana: Propaganda



Marijuana: Current Standing

- Local: Medicinal legal
 - Los Angeles
 - Vending machine
- Federal: Illegal
- Do you think it will soon be legal? Why or why not?



Changing Contexts: Cocaine

- As tonic (until 1929)
 - Hysteria
 - Depression
 - Headaches
- Now
 - Illegal
 - Crack vs. Cocaine
 - Old Laws
 - New Law: Crack-Cocaine Equitable Sentencing Act of 2009 (not passed yet)



Advertising

- ▣ Restrictions
 - Smoking ads
 - Illegal drugs
- ▣ Anti-drug campaigns
 - Are they effective?

Drug Education

- ▣ D.A.R.E program
- ▣ Two-sided
 - Reduces abuse
 - Stimulates interest



Decriminalization: Netherlands' Success

- ▣ Drug perception
 - Immoral
 - Fact of society
 - Limit associated harm
- ▣ "Coffee shops"
 - No advertising
 - No hard drugs
 - No minors
 - Small quantity sales



Decriminalization: Netherlands' Success

- Advantages
 - Experimenters not criminalized
 - No drug crime circles
- Results of policy
 - Age start drugs decreased
 - Low rate hard drug users
 - Marijuana not gateway
 - Hard drug users stable
 - Limited health damage
 - Low HIV infection
 - Integrated into society



Decriminalization: Switzerland's Failure

- Problem
 - Zurich's "Needle Park"
 - HIV spreading
- Government solution
 - Crackdown counterproductive
 - Provide clean needles
- Results
 - Draw more drug users
 - Park overrun
 - Public scared



Decriminalization: Switzerland's Failure

- Reform
 - 1992 park closed
 - Heroin offered in clinics



- Why do you think the program worked in the Netherlands, but not Zurich?

Putting it All Together

What is a Drug?



Changing Contexts



Taking Action
