CURRENT LITERATURE ON
DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

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This series of bibliographic databases provides 618 entries consisting of worldwide coverage of research and statistics on drug and alcohol abuse from English- and foreign-language literature published between 1989 and 1993. Full bibliographic citations, analytical abstracts, and keywords are provided.

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PREFACE

This annotated bibliography, updated monthly, provides worldwide coverage of research and statistics on drug and alcohol abuse. English- and foreign-language literature, primarily books and journals published since January 1991 is screened. Research focuses on topics such as usage patterns, new theories on patterns of abuse, signs and symptoms of addiction, legal penalties, genetics and heredity, prevention strategies and techniques, and codependency. The entries are arranged alphabetically by author. Each entry contains keywords.

This book explains the organizational principles of the Soviet substance abuse services, describing the duration and methods of therapy provided. It also examines the clinical, social, and legal aspects of drug abuse, including alcoholism, and the abuse of substances legally defined as narcotics, as well as those not recognized as narcotics under the law. The aim of the study is to provide a reference source for medical students who are training to become assistant drug therapists and medical nurses at institutions with substance abuse programs.

Keyword(s): alcoholism; Soviet Union; drug abuse


The study examines the determinants of the continuation of marijuana use among youth who have already begun use. A key emerging issue concerns the relative importance of social context domain versus the direct effects of the drug in maintaining use. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the relative importance of measures from each of these two domains in predicting continued use of marijuana, while controlling for potentially relevant background characteristics. The results suggest that the perceived physical and psychological effects of the drugs are more important determinants of continued use than are social factors or benefits related to use.

Keyword(s): marijuana; adolescents; prevention


The book contains interviews with twenty young drug abusers who speak about their lives, about their fears and
hopes, families and friends, frustrations and dreams. They talk about drugs and violence and the terrors and lures of the street, and, perhaps most importantly, about how they came to be where they are. They are young men and women, white, black, and Hispanic--serious juvenile offenders who are representative of a much larger army of children and adolescents who flow through the child welfare and youth control systems. What they say tells us much about what is happening to many youths and families today--and our society's failure to deal seriously or humanely with this growing tragedy.

Keyword(s): substances of abuse; delinquency; treatment

"Das Boese aus der Buesche [Evil from the Can]." Der Spiegel, (Hamburg) vol. 46, no. 34, August 17, 1992, 102-05, 107, 109, 112, 114, 116, 118-19, 122. [Call Number: AP30.S55]

Many German experts and public officials now advocate an end to the criminalization of some drugs. After years of dealing with the drug problem in Germany, these advocates of complete or partial legalization of some drugs see the so-called "war on drugs" as a failure, citing the ever-increasing consumption of illegal drugs within Germany and the steadily mounting number of drug-related deaths. In 1991 there were 2,125 such deaths; as of mid-1992 there were 1,180 drug-related deaths. Despite notable police successes, the supply of illegal drugs also remains abundant. Those who recommend legalization say that crime will decrease if illegal drugs become readily available. German police estimate that every third burglary and every fifth robbery stems from the need for addicts to finance their habits. Only about one-fifth of German addicts are able to pay for their drugs from regular jobs. Some of those who advocate legalization, suggest that only addicts should be supplied with drugs by the state. This would quickly dry up the market for illegal drugs and allow many addicts to stabilize their lives. A program of this nature is in operation in Liverpool and 22 percent of its participants have given up drugs in the last nine months. Another benefit of such a program is that deaths from drug overdoses became rare because the strength of the drugs can be carefully measured. There are still many opponents of legalization
in Germany, but specialists believe the issue will be much discussed in the coming years.

Keyword(s): Germany; Western Europe; drug treatment programs


The purpose of this research was to examine how religious affiliation is associated with alcohol and drug use in Utah. Results showed a difference in frequency of alcohol use among LDS (Mormon), other religions, and no religious subgroups. However, there was no significant difference in the "quantity" of alcohol use among the subgroups.

Keyword(s): religion; drug use; prevention; alcohol; Utah


The major laws now in effect to prevent the abuse of narcotics and other dangerous drugs either have been written or rewritten during the past thirty years. This study provides summaries of enactments, treaties, and reorganization plans that were passed or approved in that period and have a clear relationship to attempts to prevent drug misuse by means of supply reduction. Demand reduction measures are not included.

Keyword(s): narcotics; federal laws; prevention; supply; control


The authors of this book had three aims. The first was to present an up-to-date account of treatment systems in as wide a sample of countries as possible. The second was to
trace the evolution of treatment systems over time in order to highlight the changes that have occurred since 1945, examining such issues as the shift from involuntary inpatient to voluntary outpatient treatment and the export of concepts and methods of treatment from one country to another. The third was to identify and highlight the relative impact of economic, political, legal, medical, and ideological factors on the evolution of treatment of alcohol problems in a range of countries. For example, what had given alcohol problems a high place on the political agenda in the USA and Sweden but a much lower place in Italy and France?

Keyword(s): alcoholism; treatment; control; foreign countries

"Kolossaler Flop [Colossal Flop]." Der Spiegel, (Hamburg) vol. 46, no. 34, August 17, 1992, 122-23, 126. [Call Number: AP30.S55]

An article in Germany’s only and very influential newsmagazine, Der Spiegel, indicts the efforts of United States authorities to stop the consumption of illegal drugs. As the title of the article indicates, the magazine could see no meaningful success in the national campaigns against drugs, starting with that of the Nixon administration. The article contends that the campaigns have actually caused an increase in drug addiction and done much social damage. Half of the one million Americans behind bars are there because of drug offenses, yet the price of a kilo of cocaine in New York cost $47,000 in 1982 and $12,000 in 1988. The article quotes Arnold Trebach of the Washington-based Drug Policy Foundation, Gary Becker of the University of Chicago, and Ethan Nadelmann of Princeton University.

Keyword(s): United States; Germany; law enforcement

"Mettiamoci un cerotto [Let’s put a patch on]." Panorama, (Milan) vol. 30, no. 1348, February 16, 1992, 125. [Call Number: AP37.P32]

An American product that helps smokers kick their habit is now for sale in Italy. The product, Nicotrans, is a patch
that, applied to the smoker's body, emits a small amount of nicotine and helps lessen the desire for tobacco. A new patch is applied by the smoker each day. Those who use the product also receive a booklet and an audiocassette that helps them to relax. About one-fourth of those who use Nicotrans eventually stop smoking.

Keyword(s): anti-smoking device; Italy


The book aims to provide both a more empirical and wider theoretical scope to questions regarding the relationships between drinking and aggression. Many researchers and journalists presume that alcohol and violence are inextricably linked and this presumption has become a truism in the minds of many people. The author's book is important as a counter to such glib—and inaccurate—generalizations. It should help readers understand some of the complexity of the interaction between alcohol and humans and the interaction in which psychological and social variables are as important as biochemical and neuropharmacological ones. It should also help in our understanding of the complexity of motivations and antecedents to violence. The study was carried out in a Canadian community between 1977 and 1981.

Keyword(s): alcohol; violence; prevention; Canada


A new severe law governing the consumption of drugs went into effect in Italy in June 1992. The Jervolino-Vassalli Law regards anyone with more than a half a gram of hashish as a drug dealer and liable for a stiff sentence. At present, there are an estimated 2 million casual users of hashish in Italy and many think that the new law is too severe. Recently, a well-known singer, Patty Pravo, was arrested and jailed for a time after she was found to possess nineteen grams of hashish. The persons interviewed for the article thought the new law was too harsh and that
hashish smoking was so common in Italy that the law made no sense. One man joked that probably the only person in Italy who had never smoked a joint was the Pope. All recommended that the law be modified or repealed.

Keyword(s): Italy; drug laws; drug consumption

Wright, Bob, and Deborah George Wright. Dare to Confront! How to Intervene When Someone You Care About Has an Alcohol or Drug Problem. New York: MasterMedia Limited, 1991. [Call Number: HV5296.W85]

This book is a handy, step-by-step reference source on how to effectively confront substance dependent persons and convince them to get help. The book is a manual for volunteers who are ready and willing to help end the drug crisis in their homes and neighborhoods. It describes the best techniques available to motivate those who are chemically dependent to get help.

Keyword(s): alcoholism; drug abuse; intervention; treatment