CURRENT LITERATURE ON
DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

An annotated bibliography submitted to
The U.S. Army Drug and Alcohol Operations Agency

September 1992

Prepared by: Federal Research Division
Library of Congress
Washington, DC 20540

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Current Literature on Drug and Alcohol Abuse: An Annotated Bibliography

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Prepared under an Interagency Agreement

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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 1989, 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.

The author provides information on recent national developments in the prevention of harm from addictive substances. It is the first book to describe in detail the recently developed coordinated strategies and programs on which the federal government and prevention-oriented nonprofit organizations are cooperating to reduce the level of health and economic problems caused by alcohol, illicit drugs, and tobacco.

Keyword(s): alcohol; drugs; tobacco; prevention


The aim of the article was to assess the value of those variables already reported to correlate with outcome in alcoholic populations, such as demographic and drinking histories and cognitive functioning in a sample of patients representative of the highly disadvantaged population. An association strongly approaching significance was found between length of hospital stay and aftercare completion.

Keyword(s): detoxification; alcoholics; treatment


The book contains the results of several survey studies of alcohol use and related matters among members of the adult general population of the United States.

Keyword(s): alcohol; United States; survey; methodology

The study identifies basic MMPI subtypes with a large sample of cocaine abusers.

Keyword(s): methodology; cocaine; substance abusers

"Da droht mir Gefangnis [That's where I face prison]" Der Spiegel, (Hamburg) vol. 46, no. 32, August 3, 1992, 40-41, 43. [Call Number: AP30.S66]

The article is an interview with Dr. Golz, a medical doctor who supervises a methadone treatment center in Berlin. There are an estimated 120,000 drug addicts in Germany and in 1991 2,125 persons died of drug overdoses. It was only in 1988 that methadone treatment programs were permitted in Germany; in 1992 there were about 3,000 places available for addicts. Dr. Golz says that about half of the patients he treats with methadone manage to avoid returning to using hard drugs. Overall, however, methadone treatment is not usually this successful because some of those enrolled in the program are participating only after they had been given the choice of prison or treatment. German laws make providing methadone treatment difficult. Only addicts who are pregnant or have AIDS or another serious chronic illness are eligible. Those enrolled in the treatment program must come each day for their dose of methadone and a doctor may have no more than ten patients. Dr. Golz regards these regulations as foolish and believes they are a way of maintaining the old and failed doctrine of total abstinence with its failure rate of 75 percent. Dr. Golz maintains that physicians should have greater latitude in deciding themselves what addicts should be in the programs and how their treatment should be conducted. He also recommends that medical schools establish programs to teach physicians how to treat drug addiction.

Keyword(s): drug treatment programs; Germany

Studies of youths entering the juvenile justice system have documented a relationship between juvenile detainee drug use and crime, and an association between detainees' physical abuse and sexual victimization experiences and use of illicit drugs. It was also found that over time drug use and delinquency persisted and in some cases increased.

Keyword(s): crime; drug abuse; methodology; treatment


In this report the author describes the development of an interval measure of cocaine treatment efficacy: the Halikas-Crosby Drug Impairment Rating Scale for Cocaine (HAL DIRS-C). The Scale addresses a broad range of treatment outcome issues specific to cocaine dependence. The Scale is a 25-item clinical rating scale, administered in a format of a semi-structured interview. The Scale measures the impact of cocaine use and its effects upon daily functioning, relationships with other people, other alcohol and drug use, cocaine withdrawal symptoms, adverse effects associated with cocaine use, optimism about the future, and self-esteem. In treatment programs, the Scale can be used to assess drug impact across weekly visits and to focus counseling.

Keyword(s): methodology; cocaine abuse; treatment

The release of an important study of ways to deal with the consumption of illegal drugs was the cause of a debate in the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France. The report was issued after a preparation time of one year and was regarded as an important contribution to solving Europe's worsening drug problem. At the present time, there are an estimated 100,000 addicts who consume illegal drugs intravenously in the European Community's four largest countries: Germany, France, Italy, and Britain. Authorities also estimate that about 10 percent of those between fifteen and thirty-nine years of age in the community's large cities consume illegal drugs. Amsterdam is the city with the highest rate of drug consumption among young people—20 percent. The report recommended that addicts be supplied with some drugs in the hope that this would reduce criminality and deaths from overdoses and reduce the financial gains of professional drug dealers. Many members of the European Parliament opposed this suggested policy. There was nearly universal agreement that a European Drugs Intelligence Unit, consisting of police and customs officials and liaison personnel from countries such as the United States, be established to combat the narcotics trade. It was also recommended that schools add another subject to their curriculum that would educate their pupils about the dangers of illegal drugs. Also recommended was a greater uniformity in European laws dealing with illegal drugs. Officials also believed that because there will no longer be border controls between the member states of the European Community after January 1, 1993, stricter controls at the community's outer borders will have to be established. The American market for illegal drugs is saturated, so international drug dealers are directing more of their energy to penetrating the European market for illegal drugs.

Keyword(s): changes in drug laws; antidrug campaign; consumption of illegal drugs


The article is an interview with Alain Labrousse, a Frenchman who has been publishing a periodical dealing
with the international drug trade since October 1990. The monthly magazine is entitled "Lettre Internationale" and appears in French, Spanish, and English. Labrousse regarded the international drug summit held in the late winter in San Antonio, Texas as a "show" of no importance. Labrousse sees the drug trade as being driven by pressing needs for money so acute that no "war on drugs" can stop it from growing. The collapse of the Soviet Union has meant that countries or groups that earlier had gotten financial support from this source now must find new ways to procure cash. The drug trade has therefore become attractive to armed groups in Afghanistan. It is also for this reason that the cultivation of the poppy plant is spreading in in Ukraine and Tadzhikistan. According to Labrousse, Hungary is the most threatened country in Central Europe because of its large pharmaceutical industry that has traditionally grown poppies. Hungary’s new banking system has also been used by drug lords. The collapse of the market for minerals has meant that a number of African nations have turned to the drug trade for survival. Fighting between the army and rebels in Senegal is over control of marihuana fields, as is the invasion of parts of Guinea by armed forces from Liberia. Even new democratic groups in Africa resort to the drug trade because they do not receive funds from central governments.

Keyword(s): international drug dealers


The author examines the United States’ efforts to stop the flow of drugs into the country, and suggests that this effort has been as ineffective as the War on Drugs within our borders. Further, she identifies many of the drug war’s social costs to Latin American countries, including human rights violations by military, the police efforts funded by the United States, the corruption of local officials, secondary criminal activities, and the many health problems caused by the aerial spraying of toxic chemicals used in eradication efforts. In other chapters the author focuses on domestic social control. Four major arguments are presented as to why the U.S. government
continues to pursue a policy of criminalization and enforcement: to divert attention from the dangers of legal drugs, which are well integrated into our society and controlled by powerful interests; to divert attention from fundamental social problems of our society, such as homelessness, the need for national health care, and the gross inequities among the population; to legitimize our abandonment of the lower class and minorities by focusing the drug war on those segments of our society and making them appear as an enemy class; and, to legitimize a massive expansion of domestic state power and control. The author concludes that the policy of criminalization and enforcement will continue, for the expansion of state power, both here and abroad, is clearly in the government’s interests. Finally, the author warns proponents of drug legalization that their arguments must not be presented as a panacea to fundamental societal problems here and in the Third World and that they must carefully consider the possibility of a greater erosion of civil and constitutional guarantees that could result from legalization.

Keyword(s): narcotics; control; Latin America; drug legalization; United States


The author discusses and explains alcoholism from a medical viewpoint, describing the natural course of the disease, its varied symptoms, its treatment, and what is known about its causation, in a manner that is comprehensible to all. Complex data is presented in a easily readable form. The work is highly recommended to anyone who may be affected by alcoholism, either personally or in the family, and by anyone who should know what to look for in recognizing the disease in oneself or others, and what one should do and should not do.

Keyword(s): alcoholism; treatment; prevention

Lowinson, Joyce H., Ruiz, Pedro, Millman, Robert B., and Langrod, John G. Substance Abuse. A Comprehensive

A comprehensive study of current thinking and new developments in the areas of both basic science and clinical practice. The authors of each chapter provide not only current knowledge and practices in their respective fields, but also attempt to present their material with a view to future trends and developments. The book consists of 11 parts, with 80 chapters and 1,110 pages. This edition also examines the determinants of drug and alcohol abuse and dependence, including chapters on genetic factors, the psychology of craving, conditioning factors, brain reward systems, and the economic, social, and political bases of current drug-taking practices. The authors attempted to provide specific information on the most current scientific developments and on practical guides to the evaluation and treatment of patients representing the abuse and dependency patterns. The book is intended as a reference guide for those interested in specific research, clinical, or policy questions. Each chapter has an extensive bibliography.

Keyword(s): substances of abuse; treatment; social aspects


The Institute of Medicine has found that there is no single treatment approach that is effective for all persons with alcohol problems. This article distinguishes three models for interactions between patient characteristics and interventions in terms of their clinical implications. Supporting empirical evidence for matching is also summarized. The pros and cons of implementing patient treatment matching in the clinical setting are discussed.

Keyword(s): methodology; alcoholics; treatment

This bibliography consists of more than 600 references, covering over the course of a century. Source publications, all of which are annotated, include books, articles, conference proceedings, dissertations, and government publications. The book consists of four chapters and three appendices: Chapter One, "Definitions, Identifications, Diagnosis;" Chapter Two, "Treatment;" Chapter Three, "Specific Occupations;" Chapter Four, "Women and Children;" Appendix A: "Common Names for Cocaine;" Appendix B: "Videocassettes about Cocaine;" and Appendix C: "A Cocaine Time-Line." There also are separate author and subject indexes and a list of acronyms.

Keyword(s): cocaine; treatment; bibliography


In spite of some reduction, the morbidity and mortality rates from nicotine dependence continue to be widespread and significant. Various modalities of pharmacological and nonpharmacological treatments have been developed in recent years. Although some success has been claimed with each form of treatment, more studies are needed to confirm their full potentiality.

Keyword(s): nicotine; addiction; methodology; pharmacology


The inhabitants of Guadeloupe are ranked among the world’s foremost consumers of alcohol. Fifty-seven percent of the men and 23 percent of the women consume alcoholic drinks on a daily basis. Thirty percent of the men and 10 percent
of the women are excessive drinkers. Males who are heavy-drinkers tend to be elderly, rural, and predominantly Creole speaking. Consumption is mainly of local sometimes homemade, rum. Excessive mortality is due to the high prevalence of central neurological complications such as 'alcoholism/alcoholic psychosis.' The diagnostic efficiency of the CAGE questionnaire was utilized to identify patients with excessive consumption of alcohol before irreversible functional damage had occurred.

Keyword(s): alcohol; detection; West Indians


Heroin retains its popularity in Europe, unlike some other drugs like LSD or Ecstasy which enjoy brief waves of favor among addicts. Deaths from heroin are on the increase. In France, for example, the numbers of deaths from drug overdoses amounted to 350 in 1990 and 411 in 1991, 90 percent of which, 368, were caused by heroin. Almost all the heroin consumed in Western Europe comes from Afghanistan, its neighbors, and the Near East. Only 11 percent comes from the Far East, according to official estimates. Police estimate that 70 percent of the heroin coming to Western Europe comes via the Balkans. Authorities have noted that ever more radical political groups in the Middle East are resorting to the narcotics trade to finance their activities. The article cites the Workers' Party of Kurdistan (PKK) and the Turkish Communist Party-Marxist/Leninist (TKP-ML) and lists numerous examples of members of these two groups who have been arrested for selling large amounts of narcotics.

Keyword(s): heroin smuggling; heroin-related deaths

A number of psychological approaches have been developed for the treatment of cocaine dependence. One of these approaches, the neurobehavioral model of cocaine dependency treatment establishes a clear timetable for cocaine recovery and focuses attention on four discreet areas of functioning. These strategies include relapse prevention methods as well as individual therapy procedures, family systems materials, educational information, 12-step involvement, and urine testing.

Keyword(s): cocaine; treatment; neurobehavioral approach


The author believes that American drug policy should be realigned according to the potential harms of drug abuse and the economic development needs of American cities. As long as drug policy ignores the demand side of the drug-use equation, little headway will ever be made in the battle to reduce drug addiction and abuse. Drugs should be regulated on the basis of "harm reduction"—drugs that have been shown to have few dangerous side effects should be lightly regulated. Drugs known to cause death or injury should be more heavily regulated. A policy of harm reduction would include allowing public health professionals to give drugs to addicts as part of an overall treatment program. Drugs should be decriminalized. The author further believes that we should adopt the policy already used successfully in the Netherlands. The essential components of that policy are to provide a network of medical and social services, ensuring accessibility to those programs for drug abusers, promoting social rehabilitation of addicts, and implementing a comprehensive program of health education.

Keyword(s): drug policy; United States; decriminalization

In Spain alcohol consumption involves approximately 10 percent of the population. Epidemiological studies have usually assessed the problem in large population groups, such as countries or cities. Studies dealing with the problem in small isolated population groups are more scarce. The aim of the study was therefore to determine the levels of alcohol consumption and the prevalence of risk drinking in a small, rural community. The study also analyzed the relationship between the level of alcohol consumption and the development of psychophysical dependence on the drug, and also the relationships which may exist between the amount of alcohol consumption and several socioeconomic parameters, such as sex, age, job, educational level, family status, economic level, and tobacco consumption. The results show that the majority of the heavy drinkers were elderly men. Smokers had low educational levels and were agricultural workers.

Keyword(s): alcohol; Spain; village


This analysis was part of a longitudinal study of adolescent lifestyles conducted in the lower Hunter Valley region of New South Wales, Australia. For this study, only data relating to fathers of adolescent boys was utilized. Fathers were classified into two groups representing high and low alcohol consumption, with high alcohol consumption being a daily average of 40 grams or more. The Short Michigan Alcoholism Screening Test was part of a self-administered questionnaire administered covering many aspects of drinking behavior, lifestyles, and personality. The study showed that accurate identification of adult male high alcohol consumers was possible using a range of biochemical, haematological, and other health related measures.

Keyword(s): screening test; alcohol consumption; biochemistry; Australia

The major thrust of the paper is to facilitate the modification and/or design of crack treatment models that emulate certain key elements of state of the art treatment models proven to be effective through formal outcome evaluation research. A further goal is to provide a rationale for implementing as quickly as possible model treatments that are within the reach of inner-city minority populations in desperate need of quality treatment for crack addiction. This paper presents a standard against which treatment models should be measured. A summary description of "state of the art" treatments or the kind of interventions that seem to work is provided.

Keyword(s): cocaine; treatment; addiction