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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.
LITERATURE AND RESEARCH SUPPORT
ON DRUG ABUSE


In 1991 there were more deaths from drug overdose in Austria than ever before. There were 161 deaths, up 40 percent from 1990. Availability of drugs has increased; the author cites the relaxed borders in Europe as the primary cause. Drugs are known to be coming in through Hungary, Czechoslovakia, the former East Germany, and the Commonwealth of Unified States, as well as the typical Far East-Yugoslavia route. Due to increased availability, the market price of cocaine has decreased. The head of the Narcotic Criminal Division, Werner Keuth, is seeking to implement a "middle" program for addicts, combining both treatment and punishment. The authors compare drug programs from different countries. In Germany, where over 2,000 addicts die per year, a treatment program called "Immediate Therapy" is in effect. Patients in this program remain in treatment longer than average and younger, less-hardened addicts are preferred. The success rate is high. In Sweden, "Collective Education" is used as treatment for young addicts. In this three-year program, the patients live, go to school, and are trained for jobs in facilities. After five years, 90 percent of the patients are still drug-free. In Zurich, Switzerland, the state gives out clean heroin and other injections in controlled amounts. Amsterdam, Netherlands, and Hamburg, Germany will also implement this program, even though this type of program failed drastically in Sweden in the 1970s. There, within the first year of the program, the number of addicts had doubled.

Keyword(s): addicts; Austria; drugs; dealers


Patients who had been admitted to behaviorally-oriented residential treatment for their drinking problems were followed up for one year. Results indicated that those who had received previous hospital treatment for their problem, those who habitually drank in company, and those who had abnormal blood test results prior to entering treatment had poorer outcomes.
Keyword(s): problem drinkers; alcohol; treatment; goals

Brecht, Mary-Lynn, M. Douglas Anglin, and Jung-Chi Wang.  

Six hundred eighteen methadone maintenance clients admitted to programs in six southern California counties were categorized into high, moderate, and low legal coercion levels. Few differences within any measured domain were found among the three groups. All groups were similar in showing substantial improvement in levels of narcotics use, criminal activities, and most other behaviors during treatment with some regression in these behaviors posttreatment. Results support legal coercion as a valid motivation for treatment entry; those coerced into treatment respond in ways similar to voluntary admissions regardless of gender or ethnicity.

Keyword(s): treatment; methadone; coercion; voluntary admissions


Data from a sample of 338 alcoholics who were identified from medical record reviews and diagnosed as alcohol dependent according to DSM-III criteria by means of a structured psychiatric interview were analyzed to determine when in the course of alcohol disorder development the first discussion with a health professional about their drinking problems had occurred. The data support an image of alcoholics as experiencing many drinking problems before seeking professional help and, particularly, before attending AA. Data points to early identification as a possible fruitful strategy to alleviate some of the social costs of drinking problems.

Keyword(s): alcoholics; drinking; social costs

Consideration must be given to the role of work when examining the dynamics of alcoholic families. Work is often viewed as an organizer of daily life. Work contributes to one's sense of self and gives stability and continuity to that sense once it has been established. Work is a central element in achieving and maintaining a sense of personal identity. In this article, employment was examined as a source of stress as well as social support. The majority of the working wives reported minimal negative impact on their husbands' drinking on all areas of their work functioning, with a small subset indicating impairment attributable to drinking. These wives were very satisfied with their current positions and described work as a positive experience.

Keyword(s): work; wives; alcoholics


The drug abuse treatment field appears to have reached a consensus that methadone maintenance programs produce significant reductions in heroin use. This study differs from previous research in that it addresses the time that patients spent in methadone programs during the follow-up period in defining exposure patterns. Heroin use was lowest among patients who were continuously exposed to methadone programs. Retention was highest among patients who attended programs that informed them of their methadone dose levels, were easy to access, and provided them with high quality social services.

Keyword(s): heroin; methodology; methadone programs; treatment

French, Michael T., Robert L. Hubbard, and J. Valley Rachal. "The Effects of Time in Drug Abuse Treatment and Employment on Posttreatment Drug Use and Criminal Activity." The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse,
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(New York), vol. 19, no. 1, 1993, 19-33. [Call Number: HV5800.A43]

This paper examines data from the Treatment Outcome Prospective Study to estimate the simultaneous effects of time in treatment and employment outcomes--weeks worked and total earnings--on post-treatment drug use and criminal activity. Results show that time in treatment had a negative and statistically significant impact on outcome variables for every modality with residential clients experiencing the largest relative impact. The time-in-treatment effect was robust even when employment outcomes were modeled jointly with drug use and criminal activity outcomes. The findings highlight the importance of length of stay in treatment in the recovery and rehabilitation of drug abusers.

Keyword(s): drug abuse; treatment; criminal activity; methodology


Neuropsychological functioning in 90 male and female alcoholics and 65 peer controls was examined using both accuracy and time measures for four basic types of neuropsychological functioning: verbal skills, learning and memory, problem-solving and abstracting, and perceptual-motor skills. Alcoholics had significantly lower efficiency ratios than controls in each of the four areas and had significantly lower overall accuracy and time scores. There were no significant group or gender interactions for efficiency, speed, or accuracy scores, indicating that male and female alcoholics have similar deficits as a result of chronic alcoholism.

Keyword(s): alcoholics; neuropsychological efficiency; memory; learning

Greisenegger, Ingrid. "Weg vom Saufen [Away from Heavy Drinking]" Profil, (Vienna) no. 8, February 17, 1992, 67. [Call Number: HC261.E32]

The author describes a trend in Austria away from heavy drinking. Cited as causes are fitness and health concerns.
The sale of alcohol-free beer is increasing, with a 3 percent market share in the total Austrian beer market in 1991, up 24 percent from 1990. The author notes similar trends in Switzerland and Germany.

Keyword(s): alcohol; beer; Austria


Driving records of subjects arrested for driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUII), both recidivists and nonrecidivists, were compared with records of an age and sex-matched random sample of non-DUII drivers. Major differences were found between the two groups in the incidence of traffic violations but some differences also existed between nonrecidivist and recidivist DUII subjects. Rehabilitation programs for first-time DUII offenders did not effect recidivism rates in the study population.

Keyword(s): drivers; alcoholism; deterrence


Alcohol consumption patterns of samples of college students were examined before and after legislation to raise the minimum drinking age for "weak" beer. Sampling was completed just before and immediately after inception of the law, and then each semester for a total of four years. Quantity and frequency of consumption showed an increase in the sampling period just before the law changed and a decrease immediately following. Overall, the quantity-frequency remained constant, and reports of problem drinking changed very little. Some adjustments were found in drinking locations with students reporting less drinking in public places, such as bars or restaurants, and more drinking in private places, like residence halls or homes.
Keyword(s): drinking age; alcoholism; legislation; college students


This report examines the nature of the relationship between skills, intentions to use drugs, and drug use among a sample of adolescents released into the community following incarceration in a state correctional institution. Social, problem solving, self-control, and drug and alcohol avoidance skills were significantly related to marijuana use, variety and severity of drug use, and to the number of drug-free months for female subjects at a 12 month follow-up. These skills did not have a statistically significant direct effect on any measured drug outcomes for males. However, skills did lower male subjects' intentions to use drugs or alcohol.

Keyword(s): adolescents; drugs; treatment; alcohol; marijuana


The article discusses the Austrian Health Department's new tobacco regulations for 1993, "the year of movement" for the tobacco regulators. A price increase per cigarette package was scheduled. The proceeds will go to the Department of Education for preventative education in schools and to the Department of Science for tobacco/cigarette research.

Keyword(s): tobacco; nicotine; cigarettes; Austria


Sales of drugs in some areas in France have become so open and seemingly beyond the control of the police that
ordinary citizens are attacking drug dealers and attempting to drive them from their neighborhoods. Self-appointed vigilante groups have attacked dealers in Bagneux (Hauts-de-Seine department), in Biscottes (Nord), in Nanterre (Hauts-de-Seine), and in Sarcelles (Val-d'Oise). The vigilantes in these cases were Arab immigrants or their children who live in areas so lacking in law enforcement that their neighborhoods have been termed "gray zones," that is, zones more or less beyond the authority of the state. The attacks are not all they seem to be, however. Some observers who know these neighborhoods well claim that the some of the vigilante attacks were used by Islamic fundamentalists more to increase their influence among young people than to stop the sales of drugs. Other attacks were said to be the work of rival gangs of drug dealers out to hurt their competitors, or to keep out the increasing number of "free-lance" dealers drawn to these neighborhoods by their notoriety.

Keyword(s): France; drug trafficking


This article is an interview with a French specialist on child care and the family, Dr. Claude Olievenstein. He holds parents as the primary cause of drug use among young people, but says that these parents are not "guilty" of causing their children's drug consumption. Olievenstein puts most of the blame on the society at large for its lack of ideals that could inspire young people. As an example of youth's disaffection with traditional society, he cites the popularity of a figure of ambiguous sexuality such as Prince, a radical departure from the traditional image of masculinity. A stronger example of youths' disaffection is that many of the young people he treats have no stronger ideal than to be unlike their parents. Dr. Olievenstein sees no possibility of establishing a stricter social code to counteract the aimlessness of many young Frenchmen. Improving social conditions would also not solve the use of intoxicants. Although young people in France face widespread unemployment, he believes that drug and alcohol consumption is common both among young people from well-situated families where both parents are present, and among youths from poor and dysfunctional
families. Drug use by the middle-class is only less visible. What is needed, he believes, is a therapy which reverses the loss of identity afflicting many of France’s youth.

Keyword(s): France; narcotics


In popular conceptions, loss of control over drinking involves a double loss of control, over one’s life as well as over one’s drinking. The relationships between measures of control worries, loss of control over drinking, and heavy-drinking behavior were examined in samples both of alcohol treatment clients and of the general population in a California county. Alcohol treatment clients reported greater control worries and loss of control over drinking than members of the general population. Although control worries were only slightly correlated with drinking loss of control, this relationship tended to be conditional in the general population.

Keyword(s): alcoholics; self-control; demography


Social drinkers were administered either an alcoholic, placebo, or no-alcohol control beverage. Subjects were next informed that they were to give a self-disclosing speech about their body and physical appearance. Subjects’ heart rate and videotapes of their facial expression were recorded during this instruction. Facial reactions to the stressor were analyzed using a system based on the Maximally Discriminative Facial Coding System. Subjects who were intoxicated showed significantly less negative emotion, as measured by the facial expression analysis, than those subjects consuming either the control or the placebo beverage. Authors attribute this effect of alcohol
to its actions on subjects' appraisal of anxiety-inducing information.

Keyword(s): alcohol; emotions; social stressor

Schneider, Werner. ""Isolation durchbrochen" [Isolation broken through]" Der Spiegel, (Hamburg) vol. 47, no. 21, May 14, 1993, 51. [Call Number: AP30.S55]

The article is an interview with Werner Schneider, head of Frankfurt's drug-treatment center since 1989. In the first four months of 1993, 454 persons died of overdoses of illegal drugs, compared to 609 in the same period in 1992. Werner attributes much of this decline to an increased use of methadone in Germany. He also notes that in some cities where methadone is not used, the number of deaths from drug overdoses has also declined, but attributes this decline to imaginative treatment programs for drug addicts. The decline or stagnation in the number of deaths from overdoses is welcome because in the second half of the 1980s, deaths of this kind increased by 50 percent a year, reaching 2,000 a year in the early 1990s. Some German politicians opposed to the use of methadone and innovative drug-treatment programs claim that traditional policy of restrictive laws and the advocacy of abstinence are responsible for the declining death rates among addicts. Scheider disagrees and recommends that a national conference on drug addiction and treatment be convened to decide in what direction Germany should go in the coming years.

Keyword(s): Germany; methadone; drug treatment programs


Five groups of six male social drinkers learned a psychomotor task and subsequently attended five sessions to perform the task after drinking. Results indicate that mental or physical practice associating drug-compensatory performance with some valuable outcome enhances tolerance to moderate doses of alcohol.

Keyword(s): alcohol; tolerance; methodology

The paper describes a psychotherapeutic approach designed to alter substance abusers' emotional, cognitive, and volitional state in such a way as to enable them to evoke natural neurochemicals for relief of substance cravings. Subjects were told that they could satisfy their cravings immediately and completely without taking abuse substances by intentionally restoring adequate levels of the depleted neurochemicals. To perform this self-regulation, they were taught a specific psychological technique that united reason and emotion in an order to the brain. Seventy-nine percent of the subjects were able to use the procedure to relieve all substance cravings and withdrawal symptoms. Their remissions lasted up to 66 months.

Keyword(s): methodology; substance abuse; craving; treatment; psychotherapy


The Mortimer-Filkins Test was originally devised for use with persons charged with drink-driving offenses, in order to identify problem drinkers. Few studies have used the Mortimer-Filkins test with general populations. This study investigated the test-retest and internal-consistency reliability of the instrument. The test was administered to moderate and heavy drinkers at an industrial workplace on three occasions. The results indicated that the Mortimer-Filkins test has a high test-retest and internal-consistency reliability, and problem drinking, as measured by the test, appears to be a stable characteristic across time.

Keyword(s): alcoholics; methodology; Mortimer-Filkins Test