CURRENT LITERATURE ON

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

An annotated bibliography submitted to

The U.S. Army Drug and Alcohol Operations Agency

October 1991

19951212 072

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

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**Title:** Current Literature on Drug and Alcohol Abuse: An Annotated Bibliography

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**Sponsoring Agency:** U.S. Army Drug and Alcohol Operations Agency, 4501 Ford Avenue, Suite 320, Alexandria, VA 22302-1460

**Abstract:**

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.

**Subject Terms:**
- Drug abuse
- Narcotics
- Substance abuse
- Alcohol abuse

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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.

Discusses Prevention programs assigned to schools with (a) former provider training and implementation feedback, (b) videotaped provider training and no feedback, or (c) no treatment showed significant effects for cigarette smoking, marijuana use, and immoderate alcohol use.

Keyword(s): marijuana; cigarette; abuse prevention strategies and techniques; alcohol


Italy’s new drug law has been in effect for a year, but the use of illicit drugs continues to climb. Deaths from overdoses are up 13 percent, and although the authorities have confiscated large quantities of illegal drugs, business in these drugs prospers. The Italian government has launched a poster campaign against drug use by young people and opinions are divided about its success. The government’s approach has been a hard one with posters showing young people with white spaces in place of eyes. The posters are captioned: If you take drugs, you turn yourself off. Some observers regard the posters as effective. Others say they are counterproductive in that they make drugs glamorous by demonizing them.

Keyword(s): Italy; anti-drug campaign


Examines the critical issues dealing with substance use and misuse in the Dominican Republic, the present state of drug use and misuse, the law, and efforts to deal with the problem. A final section is concerned with conclusions and
recommendations dealing with the future policies of drug use and misuse in the Dominican Republic.

Keyword(s): substances of abuse; Dominican Republic; law


The purpose of the present study was to compare differences in personality characteristics among well-defined groups of substance abusers using multiple personality measures. Four groups of substance abusers were identified on the basis of primary drug of abuse and compared on numerous patterns of use dimensions. Subject variables including age, sex, employment, criminality, and volunteer status were controlled statistically. The Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory and the SCL-90R were chosen to measure variables which encompass both symptomatic and characterologic dimensions of personality and psychopathology. Findings reveal high levels of psychopathology and considerable heterogeneity of symptoms within and across groups of substance abusers at treatment admission.

Keyword(s): personality; substances of abuse; treatment; psychopathology


Study examines the relationship between prioritized rankings of human values among persons who either use or do not use marijuana. Discriminant analyses indicated that personal values are more important to marijuana users, while social values are more important to nonusers. Based upon this study and previous research, the existence of a value orientation predisposing some individuals toward substance experimentation and use is suggested.

Keyword(s): marijuana; prevention; values

From an interview with Professor Karl-Artur Kovar, an expert in designer drugs at the University of Tubingen in Germany, it is learned that manufacturers of designer drugs in Germany have an easier time of it than their counterparts in the United States. Unlike the United States, Germany can prosecute manufacturers of designer drugs only after these new drugs have been listed in law as illegal. Even worse is the fact that manufacturers can claim they didn't know a listed illegal designer drug was illegal. This happened recently when a court fined two chemists who had made and sold significant amounts of MDMA $2000 and $5000, respectively. Dr. Kovar fears that if designer drugs become common in Germany, that country's present drug problems will seem idyllic in comparison.

Keyword(s): designer drugs; Germany

Engs, Ruth C.; Hanson, David J.; Gliksman, Louis; and Smythe, Cynthia. "Influence of Religion and Culture on Drinking Behaviors: A Test of Hypotheses Between Canada and the USA." British Journal of Addiction, (Shrewsbury), vol. 85, no. 11, 1990, 1475-82. [Call Number: HV5800.B7]

The aim of this study was to test hypotheses examining the relative influence of culture versus religion in regard to drinking behaviors and problems among collegians.

Keyword(s): religion; drinking; Canada


Recent Canadian drug concerns have been with cannabis, other hallucinogens, and the reemergence of cocaine, especially in the form of crack. Renewed enforcement efforts, combined with the redirection of priorities toward demand reduction via educational intervention, have been the hallmarks of recent Canadian drug policy initiatives. Some implications of these strategies for the
future definition of the boundaries of Canada’s drug problems, and likely policy directions, are discussed.

Keyword(s): drug laws; drug policy; Canada


Reports the efforts Colombia has been making to ensure a long jail term for Escobar, leader of the Medellin cocaine cartel. The maximum legal penalties for drug trafficking in Colombia are 12 years in jail.

Keyword(s): Colombia; cocaine; legal penalties


Reports on heavy drug smuggling and trafficking in Iran and the severe measures to deal with the "merchants of death." The death sentence for possession of drugs existed before 1989 but was not implemented. In January 1989 the death sentence became mandatory for anyone caught with 30 grams of heroin, codeine, methadone or morphine, or five grams of hashish or opium. In 1989 alone, 1,000 "merchants of death" were executed. Forty thousand drug addicts are being treated in rehabilitation centers and were warned of serious penalties if they relapsed after three treatments.

Keyword(s): Iran; legal penalties; heroin; morphine; codeine; opium


Italy’s new drug law that went into effect in the summer of 1990 has caused much debate about how addiction should be treated: as a crime, or as a sickness. Rita Levi Montalcini, a Nobel Prize winner in medicine, said recently that addiction can be caused by the physical composition of the nervous system. Those opposed to the severe new drug law believe her statement supports their
view that drug addiction should be seen as an illness and treated accordingly. Others hold that the scientist's views tempt addicts to give up all hope that they can be cured. At present there are about 200,000 drug addicts in Italy.

Keyword(s): drug addiction

Green, Gill; Macintyre, Sally; West, Patrick; and Ecob, Russell. "Do Children of Lone Parents Smoke More Because their Mothers Do?" British Journal of Addiction, (Shrewsbury), vol. 85, no. 11, 1990, 1497-1500. [Call Number: HV5800.B7]

Report examines the association between smoking behaviors of mothers and their 15 year old children, and whether there is a difference between families headed by a mother living alone or with a partner. It is based on data collected from a cohort of young people and their mothers (N=967), resident in the west of Scotland. No evidence was found that children of lone mothers smoke more because their mothers do; the familial transmission of smoking behavior, at 15, appeared to be less apparent in households headed by lone than cohabiting mothers.

Keyword(s): children; parents; smoking


A review of various treatment methods that have survived the tests of empirical scrutiny, clinical experience, and practical financial considerations is discussed. In addition, these methods are offered for consideration by community corrections professionals in developing a basic design for outpatient substance abuse treatment programs.

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

Howard, Matthew O., and Jenson, Jeffrey M. "Chemical Aversion Treatment of Alcohol Dependence. II. Future Research Directions for the 90s." International Journal of the
Chemical aversion treatment is one of the most promising modalities currently available for treatment of alcohol dependence. This review highlights potentially fruitful areas for future investigational efforts and poses a number of specific empirical questions. Investigations of these issues delineated in this report would advance understanding of pharmacological aversion therapy vis-a-vis utility and mechanisms of action.

Keyword(s): treatment; alcohol; future directions


This paper describes the origins of British drug policy as it relates to the main features of current thinking and identifies particular British themes.

Keyword(s): substances of abuse; United Kingdom; prevention

"Indonesia's Drug Problem Still Low" Indonesian Observer, Jakarta, vol. xxxv, no. 7025, August 30, 1991, II.

Reports the close cooperation among ASEAN countries to develop a common strategy in combating drug problems. The Philippines will be responsible for preventive education, Thailand, for law enforcement and training, and Indonesia, for research into the reasons for drug abuse and effective ways of conducting anti-drug abuse campaigns. Indonesia continue to apply death penalty to illegal drug traffickers but unlike Thailand and Malaysia, death penalty in Indonesia is not immediately implemented because of the five principles of Pancasila.

Keyword(s): Indonesia; legal penalties; Thailand; Malaysia; Philippines; abuse prevention strategies

The Teen-Addiction Severity Index (T-ASI) is a structured interview which was developed to assess the seven following domains: chemical use, school status, employment-support status, family relationships, peer-social relationships, legal status, and psychiatric status. This paper discusses the rationale for the design of the T-ASI and presents a preliminary study indicating satisfactory interrater reliability of the rating scale.

Keyword(s): teenagers; methodology; chemical abuse


This paper reviews the existing theories of youth substance use and presents the results of several variations of an empirically tested causal model of substance use for primarily white male and female high school students. This model includes both environmental and individual variables.

Keyword(s): adolescents; substances of abuse; prevention


Reports the death sentence given to an Australian found guilty of heroin trafficking in Malaysia. About 100 drug offenders were hanged, including 1 Briton, 8 from Hong Kong, and 2 Australians. Malaysia's anti-drug laws call for automatic death sentence to drug traffickers caught with more than 15 grams of heroin or 200 grams of cannabis.

Keyword(s): Malaysia; legal penalties; cannabis; heroin

According to the article, many young Italian adults are spending their vacation using a variety of drugs and alcohol. They cannot be classified as addicts, but as consumers. Cocaine has replaced heroin as the most commonly used drug. Five years ago, 90 percent of those arrested with drugs were found with heroin. Now most are caught with cocaine, only 20 percent with heroin. Ecstasy, present in Italy only three years, is the second most commonly used drug, followed by hashish. One specialist in drug use, Rocco Caccavari, says that many young people have come to view drug use as a rite of passage. Another expert, Antonio Mazzi, says that many young people do not regard drug use as deviant behavior, but as part of their life, along with school and work.

Keyword(s): drug use; Italy


Article examines data on substance use and abuse from Truk, Federated States of Micronesia. Ethnographic research in 1976 based solely on qualitative methods is compared with a second study by the same investigator on the same island 9 years later that combined ethnographic fieldwork with an epidemiological general population survey of substance use by 1000 adults. The survey data were found to support many of the ethnographic conclusions, provide some new information not revealed by use of the qualitative methods and call into question a few interpretations of Trukese drinking based on qualitative data alone. This buttresses the argument that these methods are complimentary, provide a cross-check on one another, and yield more information when used together than either does by itself.

Keyword(s): epidemiology; substances of abuse; Micronesia

Article examines the history of drug trafficking and consumption, and government policy in this area. The current Spanish National Drugs Plan is detailed. Since the project is recent, it is too early to attempt an exhaustive evaluation of government drug policy results. However, a number of suggestions based on consideration of what has been achieved so far are made in the hope that they may serve to redirect future efforts to where they are most needed in this urgent field.

Keyword(s): drug abuse; prevention; Spain


Study shows that impaired drivers arrested after an accident or moving violation were significantly higher in hostility, psychopathic deviance, nontraffic arrests, frequency of impaired driving, accidents after drinking, and drinks consumed per week than impaired drivers caught in roadblocks. Neither impaired drivers stopped in roadblocks nor impaired drivers never arrested differed from nonimpaired drinking drivers or nondrinking drivers on most measures examined.

Keyword(s): behavior; driving; drinking


The study examines the impact of coca and cocaine on the social and economic policies of Peru over a five-year period. The article surveys the traditional use of coca
and production, trafficking, and abuse of cocaine within the context of a much larger national problem. The study concludes with a critical evaluation of the limited investment in crop substitution and eradication programs supported by the United States.

Keyword(s): coca; cocaine; Peru; drug policy


Study was undertaken to identify quantitative data on alcohol consumption and interpersonal violence in Great Britain. The data provides a basis for considering whether alcohol is a causal factor in interpersonal violence, the proportion of such violence that can be attributed to alcohol, and the levels of alcohol consumption associated with increased relative and absolute risks of violence perpetration and victimization.

Keyword(s): alcoholism; violence; morbidity; Britain; mortality; Great Britain


Survey reveals a decline in adolescent drug since 1981. Data shows some drug use in the 4th and 5th grades and considerable use from the 6th to 9th grades. The use of marijuana, cocaine, and stimulants continues through high school but the use of inhalants and heroin declines. Patterns of adolescent drug use vary in different locations.

Keyword(s): marijuana; heroin; cocaine; patterns in substance abuse addiction

Reviews promising community-based approaches to primary prevention of drug abuse. Eight Kansas City communities assigned programs (school, parents, mass media, and community organization) and control (mass media and community organization only) conditions showed (a) significant reductions at three years in tobacco and marijuana use and (b) equivalent reductions for youth at high- and low-risk.

Keyword(s): marijuana; tobacco; abuse prevention strategies and techniques; media impact on substance abuse


The paper evaluates the role of marriage and other partnerships and the formation of families in shaping the drinking behavior of young adults. This was approached in two stages. The first stage attempted to establish how family formation compares with other potential influences on drinking in early adulthood; while the second stage attempted to determine the direction of any relationships between drinking and family formation characteristics. Results generally were consistent with stable relationships and family formation exerting a moderating influence on drinking since marriage and parenthood were most prevalent among groups reducing consumption or maintaining the lighter drinking of their teens. Most importantly, partnership breakdown was associated with heavier drinking established at age 16 and increasing consumption between adolescence and early adulthood.

Keyword(s): family; drinking; adulthood


Reports a study on a new approach to treat drug addicts which differs from traditional therapy. According to the researcher at Purdue University, after having learned to
resist drugs and alcohol, drugs addicts can better control drug addiction at the communities where they started their addiction.

Keyword(s): drugs; alcohol; abuse prevention strategies and techniques

Pyorala, Eeva. "Trends in Alcohol Consumption in Spain, Portugal, France, and Italy from the 1950s Until the 1980s." British Journal of Addiction, (Shrewsbury), vol. 85, no. 4, 1990, 469-77. [Call Number: HV5800.B7]

This article compares trends in alcohol consumption in Spain, Portugal, Italy, and France starting from the beginning of the 1950s until the 1980s, and examines the modernization and internationalization of beverage preference in these countries. The total consumption of alcohol has declined in Spain, France, and Italy and the consumption of wine has shown a declining trend in all countries studied. Wine, the traditional beverage, in Spain, Portugal, and Italy, has been substituted by a new beverage with a lower alcohol content—beer. In France, the decline in wine consumption has not been substituted by the use of other alcoholic beverages. No noticeable internationalization in beverage preferences has taken place in Spain, Portugal, or Italy, whereas imported beverages have gained some ground in France.

Keyword(s): Spain; Portugal; France; Italy; alcohol; consumption


Italy’s new drug law, the so-called Vassalli-Jervolina Law, is now before Italy’s Supreme Court to see if it conforms to the country’s constitution. The core of the question hinges on the issue of equality before the law. The new law’s provisions can easily cause an simple consumer of drugs to be classified as a dealer, and, as such, be subject to stiffer penalties. The law’s setting of average daily doses of drugs is also unjust, because addicts have differing daily needs. The article’s author points out that the law has encouraged the consumption of
hard drugs, rather than soft ones, because of the way it is drawn up.

Keyword(s): drug law; Italy

Scherp, Bruno and Uentzelmann, Dieter. "Ich bin da ganz guter Hoffnung [I’m quite hopeful about this]." Der Spiegel, vol. 44, no. 45, November 5, 1990, 117,120,123,125,127. [Call Number: AP30 .S66]

In this interview with the director of public health in Bremen, a city in northern Germany, the liberal drug policies practiced in this city are explained and defended. Bremen has one of the most liberal methadone policies in Germany and is having success reducing drug-related deaths among addicts. Methadone is not available upon demand, however, and can only be dispensed after the addict’s doctor and a hearing board have discussed the case and approved the substance’s use. Bremen also has erected vending machines for disposable needles around the town in an effort to reduce the danger of HIV infections through contaminated needles. The interviewee states that all political parties support her initiatives, and that for Germany circumstances are fairly advanced, though still not so liberal as those of Amsterdam and Zurich.

Keyword(s): drug treatment programs; Germany


Article discusses the teenage market for cocaine in the United States, how cocaine affects the user, and the options physicians have in treating young people who use the drug. According to a 1989 survey conducted by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, 5.6 percent of high school seniors had tried cocaine once, and 1.5 percent had used cocaine in the past month. Negative physical effects of cocaine use include a chronic cough, insomnia, weight loss, and nervous behavior. Cocaine-induced seizures are treatable with diazepam and anxiety can be managed with benzodiazepines. The author notes that continued drug use after treatment occurs in between 60 and 80 percent of
cases involving adolescents. Schwartz believes pediatricians and emergency room personnel should play more of a role in encouraging young people to join self-help groups in order to learn to abstain from the use of all mind-altering drugs.

Keyword(s): cocaine


Young people perceive there are many more people using cannabis than any survey can document. As part of an education program, students were exposed to survey data to influence their perceptions and in turn to affect their use and intentions to use cannabis in the future. This study showed that perception has no relationship to use or intentions to use, and that changing perceptions of use is very difficult.

Keyword(s): cannabis


Thirty-five male drug-free heroin addicts rated their affect, craving, and withdrawal in response to boring, anxiety-eliciting, and heroin stimuli. Results revealed that: (a) heroin cues were more effective than boring or anxiety-eliciting cues in prompting self-reports of craving or withdrawal; (b) heroin cues produced an effective state characterized by self-reported low-pleasure and high anxiety/tension; (c) craving was not correlated with any particular effective state, but rather was associated with a variety of negative effects—anxiety, depression, fatigue, and anger; (d) the coherence of affective, craving, and withdrawal measures was greatest when addicts made their self-ratings immediately after exposure to drug stimuli, and (e) while
addicts routinely reported craving without withdrawal sickness, they virtually never reported withdrawal sickness without reporting craving. These results suggested that the potential for negative reinforcement subserved stimulus elicited craving and that craving involved cognitive appraisal processes (attributions, expectations).

Keyword(s): heroin; treatment

Shulman, Gerald D. "Experience with the Cocaine Trigger Inventory." Advances in Alcohol and Substance Abuse, (Binghamton, New York), vol. 8, no. 2, April–June 1989, 71–85. [Call Number: HV5800.A356]

Article assesses the importance of identifying environmental factors that cause recovering addicts to have relapses. Two hundred cocaine recidivists participated in a study that examined the importance of the following environmental factors on their relapses: being around people using cocaine; talking about it; seeing cocaine paraphernalia; use of leisure time; visiting places where the addict used cocaine; availability of cocaine; and the state of the individual's own physical and mental health. Shulman suggests that all psychotherapy treatment programs examine these issues and provide education to recovering addicts on how to avoid situations which could lead to a relapse.

Keyword(s): cocaine; treatment


Article notes a decreasing trend in the use of marijuana among Canadian high school students. Every other year since 1977 the Canadian government has sponsored a survey that is given to a sample of the country’s high school population. Between 1977 and 1987, the percentage of students who reported using marijuana declined 10 percent. Smart and Adlaf point out that since the use of other illegal drugs also has declined, more high school age persons are refraining from all types of drug use.

The introduction of a new cannabis education programs in Ontario schools was associated with significant increases in reported exposure to cannabis education. Significant increases were reported for both sexes, all grade levels, and all geographic areas. These increases were associated with subsequent decreases in proportions of drinkers, especially among younger students. Little effect was seen on heavy drinking. The evidence also suggests that reported increased exposure to cannabis education was not associated with reduced cannabis use. The challenge remains to develop effective cannabis education programs.

Keyword(s): cannabis


The study explored the efficacy-outcome expectancy relationship in a population of alcoholic clients as they moved through a traditional treatment program and were contacted following a three-month aftercare period. Results indicated that outcome expectancies (defined as the costs and benefits expected to result from a change in drinking) did not predict consumption at follow-up. However, self-efficacy (defined as confidence in being able to resist the urge to drink heavily) assessed at intake of treatment, was strongly associated with level of consumption on drinking occasions at follow-up. These findings are discussed in relation to the relevance of self-efficacy theory to research and treatment of alcoholic patients.

Keyword(s): drinking; alcohol; treatment

This study compared family insurance claims 2 years prior to and 2 years following the year in which a family member completed a chemical dependency treatment program. Results indicated a significant decrease in claims following the family member’s completion of treatment, thus suggesting a relationship between the chemical dependency of one family member and the health status of other family members.

Keyword(s): drugs; family; prevention


Seven addicts, each of whom had regularly used heroin for at least seventeen years, had CT and other neurophysical tests performed to determine if particular physiological problems could be directly related to their addiction. Article discusses previous studies on the subject, the methodology for this study, case histories of the seven subjects, and the results of the study. While computerized tomography showed abnormal conditions in six subjects and neuropsychological impairments were present in five subjects, no consistent relationship to heroin use was found.

Keyword(s): opiates; dosage


Research for this article was conducted with 1,900 Israeli high school students who were interviewed by the authors concerning use of illegal drugs, the sensations sought when taking these drugs, and the physiological and
psychological effects of the drugs. The authors found that students who used drugs experimentally usually discontinued use with few adverse effects. However, drug use by emotionally disturbed students often led to anxiety and depression, and the author believes these students are candidates for drug addiction.

Keyword(s): heroin; marijuana; Israel; psychosocial aspects


Reports a new law enacted in Thailand based on a similar law in the United States and in Britain. The Anti-Narcotics Bill passed on August 16 calls for confiscation of the assets of drug barons and their associates if they cannot prove the legal source of their properties.

Keyword(s): Thailand; legal penalties

"Two Lose Appeals Against Death Sentence" *The Indonesian Times*, vol. xvii, no. 82, August 8, 1991, 4.

Reports the appeal loss against death sentence of two men for drug trafficking. Malaysian drug laws call for death for anyone caught with 15 grams of heroin, or 200 grams of cannabis, or one kilogram of opium.

Keyword(s): marijuana; opium; heroin; Malaysia; legal penalties


Article examines the characteristics of a drug addict’s family structure in the Yugoslav culture. The investigation, involving 41 families, was performed using an analysis of the cross-generational patterns of behavior of one family and an interview. The "identified patient" was addicted to opiates. The results show that the family
of a drug-addicted individual does not differ much, if at all, from the typical post-war Yugoslav family. However, the feedback and interactions of certain positions in the birth order of IPs and their parents, together with some other factors, point to some predictable risk factors for the onset of drug addiction.

Keyword(s): Yugoslavia; drug addiction; family


This article contains a literature review of the psychometric properties of the Mortimer-Filkins test of problem drinking. The test was devised initially to identify problem drinkers from among drunk-driving offenders. It was initially validated against a general population, and has since been used with worksite populations. The test demonstrates high degree of internal consistency reliability, test-retest reliability and concurrent validity. It has been shown to be predictive of drunk-driving recidivism and the occurrence of work injuries and injury related absences.

Keyword(s): drinking; drivers; Mortimer-Filkins Test; testing