

## Controversies In Drugs Policy And Practice

Taking a multidisciplinary perspective (including public health, sociology, criminology, and political science amongst others) and using examples from across the globe, this book provides a detailed understanding of the complex and highly contested nature of drug policy, drug policy making, and the theoretical perspectives that inform the study of drug policy. It draws on four different theoretical perspectives: evidence-informed policy, policy process theories, democratic theory, and post-structural policy analysis. The use and trade in illegal drugs is a global phenomenon. It is viewed by governments as a significant social, legal, and health problem that shows no signs of abating. The key questions explored throughout this book are what governments and other bodies of social regulation should do about illicit drugs, including drug policies aimed at improving health and reducing harm, drug laws and regulation, and the role of research and values in policy development. Seeing policy formation as dynamic iterative interactions between actors, ideas, institutions, and networks of policy advocates, the book explores how policy problems are constructed and policy solutions selected, and how these processes intersect with research evidence and values. This then animates the call to democratise drug policy and bring

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about inclusive meaningful participation in policy development in order to provide the opportunity for better, more effective, and value-aligned drug policies. This book will be of great interest to students and scholars of drug policy from a number of disciplines, including public health, sociology, criminology, and political science.

The large federal role in the drug treatment system was substantially reduced in the early 1980s, undercutting its ability to help communities respond to new challenges such as the crack-cocaine epidemic and the growing violence in drug markets. How can drug treatment dollars be spent most equitably with the highest likelihood of beneficial results? With this basic question as its focus, *Treating Drug Problems, Volume 1* provides specific recommendations on how to organize and fund the drug treatment system. Detailed attention is given to both public and private sources and their programs. The book presents the latest data and analysis on these topics and more: How specific approaches to drug treatment fit into drug policy, including the different perspectives of the medical and criminal-justice communities. What is known about drug consumption behavior and what treatment approaches have proven most cost-beneficial. What areas need further research--including specifications for increased study of treatment effectiveness and drug use by adolescents and young women.

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Ayahuasca is a psychoactive substance that has long been associated with indigenous Amazonian shamanic practices. The recent rise of the drink's visibility in the media and popular culture, and its rapidly advancing inroads into international awareness, mean that the field of ayahuasca is quickly expanding. This expansion brings with it legal problems, economic inequalities, new forms of ritual and belief, cultural misunderstandings, and other controversies and reinventions. In *The World Ayahuasca Diaspora*, leading scholars, including established academics and new voices in anthropology, religious studies, and law fuse case-study ethnographies with evaluations of relevant legal and anthropological knowledge. They explore how the substance has impacted indigenous communities, new urban religiosities, ritual healing, international drug policy, religious persecution, and recreational drug milieus. This unique book presents classic and contemporary issues in social science and the humanities, providing rich material on the burgeoning expansion of ayahuasca use around the globe.

Some people suffer from chronic, debilitating disorders for which no conventional treatment brings relief. Can marijuana ease their symptoms? Would it be breaking the law to turn to marijuana as a medication? There are few sources of objective, scientifically sound advice for people in this situation. Most books

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about marijuana and medicine attempt to promote the views of advocates or opponents. To fill the gap between these extremes, authors Alison Mack and Janet Joy have extracted critical findings from a recent Institute of Medicine study on this important issue, interpreting them for a general audience. *Marijuana As Medicine?* provides patients--as well as the people who care for them--with a foundation for making decisions about their own health care. This empowering volume examines several key points, including: Whether marijuana can relieve a variety of symptoms, including pain, muscle spasticity, nausea, and appetite loss. The dangers of smoking marijuana, as well as the effects of its active chemical components on the immune system and on psychological health. The potential use of marijuana-based medications on symptoms of AIDS, cancer, multiple sclerosis, and several other specific disorders, in comparison with existing treatments. *Marijuana As Medicine?* introduces readers to the active compounds in marijuana. These include the principal ingredient in Marinol, a legal medication. The authors also discuss the prospects for developing other drugs derived from marijuana's active ingredients. In addition to providing an up-to-date review of the science behind the medical marijuana debate, Mack and Joy also answer common questions about the legal status of marijuana, explaining the conflict between state and federal law regarding its medical use. Intended

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primarily as an aid to patients and caregivers, this book objectively presents critical information so that it can be used to make responsible health care decisions. *Marijuana As Medicine?* will also be a valuable resource for policymakers, health care providers, patient counselors, medical faculty and students--in short, anyone who wants to learn more about this important issue. In this unique and engaging book, Sue Pryce tackles the major issues surrounding drug policy. Why do governments persist with prohibition policies, despite their proven inefficacy? Why are some drugs criminalized, and some not? And why does society care about drug use at all? Pryce guides us through drug policy around the world.

This work focuses on the many critical areas of America's drug problem, providing a foundation for rational decision making within this complex and multidisciplinary field. Broken up into three sections, *Understanding the Problem*, *Gangs and Drugs*, and *Fighting Back*, topics covered include the business of drugs and the role of organized crime in the drug trade, drug legalization and decriminalization, legal and law enforcement strategies, an analysis of the socialization process of drug use and abuse, and a historical discussion of drug abuse that puts the contemporary drug problem into perspective.

On marijuana, there is no mutual federal-state policy; will this cause federalism to

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go up in smoke? More than one-half the 50 states have legalized the use of marijuana at least for medical purposes, and about a dozen of those states have gone further, legalizing it for recreational use. Either step would have been almost inconceivable just a couple decades ago. But marijuana remains an illegal “controlled substance” under a 1970 federal law, so those who sell or grow it could still face federal prosecution. How can state and federal laws be in such conflict? And could federal law put the new state laws in jeopardy at some point? This book, an edited volume with contributions by highly regarded legal scholars and policy analysts, is the first detailed examination of these and other questions surrounding a highly unusual conflict between state and federal policies and laws. *Marijuana Federalism* surveys the constitutional issues that come into play with this conflict, as well as the policy questions related to law enforcement at the federal versus state levels. It also describes specific areas—such as banking regulations—in which federal law has particularly far-reaching effects. Readers will gain a greater understanding of federalism in general, including how the division of authority between the federal and state governments operates in the context of policy and legal disputes between the two levels. This book also will help inform debates as other states consider whether to jump on the bandwagon of marijuana legalization.

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For the last 50 years, drug prohibition laws have put the market for illegal drugs into the hands of organised criminals. Now, it's time to take control. Ending the failed war on drugs will reduce drug-related violence, tackle organised crime, end the needless criminalisation of millions, and will halt the drain on government funds and resources. In this book, global opinion-leaders on the frontline of the drug debate describe their experiences and perspectives on what needs to be done. Highlighting the pitfalls behind drug policy to-date and bringing to light new policies and approaches, which make a clear case for galvanizing governments to end the war on drugs – once and for all.

Explores highly controversial issues surrounding drug use, drug abuse, and the legalization of drugs.

Tom Brass takes the lessons drawn by Development Studies and deftly applies them to metropolitan capitalist nations.

This handbook provides a comprehensive examination of the past and present roles of drugs in society with a focus on theory, research, policy, and practice. Includes 28 original chapters with multi-disciplinary and international perspectives by top social and behavioral scientists Reviews current knowledge in the field, including key research findings, theoretical developments, and methodological debates Identifies ongoing controversies in the field, emergent topics, and areas in need of further inquiry

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Discusses individual drugs as well as topics like physiological theories of drug use and abuse, public health implications of drugs, patterns of drugs and crime, international drug trade and trafficking, and designer drugs

Offers a collection of articles, both practical and theoretical, exploring drug policies in the United States and their impact on the spread of HIV and the civil rights of HIV-positive persons.

This third volume is a class lesson planner and collection of student essays, the product of a unique undergraduate course at the University of Arizona, a highly regarded research-intensive institution in Tucson. In this class, students demonstrated an understanding of topics reflecting society's deepest conundrums founded in pharmacology and basic science which affect all of us directly or tangentially via decisions made by health and medical policy leaders. This book "curates" those topics and offers thoughtful persuasive essays written by undergraduate students who share their ideas about controversies in pharmacology that confound and complicate our human existence. Topics were chosen for cultural and sociological relevance, importance to young persons, and value to students in the prime "season" of formulating lasting opinions to life's problems and potential solutions. Controversies covered by the students were as follows: -Lethal Injection -Placebo and Nocebo Effects-The Journey of Ru-486-There's a Drug for That!-Conscience Clauses in Medicine-The US Opioid Problem-Scheduling Drugs-Black and Gray Market Drug Purchasing-



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Addiction: A Fiction?-Supplements and Homeopathy-Compassionate/Expanded Drug Use-Drug Advertising, Sales, and Prescribing-Medicating Others for Our Benefit-Cognitive Enhancement

"...the authors provide a detailed review of existing drug policy in the United States and an excellent and thorough review of the effects of both legal and illegal substances. One of the book's outstanding features is its comprehensive coverage of policy regarding legal and non legal drugs...this book is also extremely thought provoking and challenges readers to consider the foundation of their own perspectives on drugs and drug policies." —PSYCCRITIQUES  
Drugs and Drug Policy: The Control of Consciousness Alteration provides a cross-national perspective on the regulation of drug use by examining and critiquing drug policies in the United States and abroad in terms of their scope, goals, and effectiveness. In this engaging text, authors Clayton J. Mosher and Scott Akins discuss the physiological, psychological, and behavioral effects of legal and illicit drugs; the patterns and correlates of use; and theories of the "causes" of drug use.

A comprehensive look at the beginnings of the current drug problems in the United States  
Federal Drug Control: The Evolution of Policy and Practice presents an overview of the key issues and key individuals responsible for the creation of the federal government's efforts to control illegal drugs in the United States, from 1875-2001. The book focuses special attention on federal legislation that constructed the federal drug

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regulatory machinery and the Supreme Court cases that interpreted these laws and their implementation. An esteemed panel of scholars, including co-editor Joseph Spillane, author of *Cocaine: From Medical Marvel to Modern Menace*, and William B. McAllister, author of *Drug Diplomacy in the Twentieth Century: An International History*, traces the internal tensions between factions favoring medicalization and criminalization throughout the 20th century, examining the difficult choices that continue to be made in this ongoing debate. The central question in the government's response to the crisis of illicit drugs in the United States has remained the same for more than 125 years: Should the government rely on educational and treatment programs or turn to the criminal justice system for answers? *Federal Drug Control* examines the historic turning points of the debate, including the 19th Century origins of the controversy, legislation and subsequent Supreme Court decisions in the 20th Century, international attempts at drug control agreements, and the emergence of new illicit drugs. The book also looks at the influential figures of the debate, including Levi Nutt, Lawrence Kolb, Richard Pearson Hobson, A.G. DuMez, and Harry J. Anslinger who ran the Federal Bureau of Narcotics (FBN) for more than 30 years. *Federal Drug Control* examines: the history of cocaine use in the 20th Century the history of marijuana use in the 20th Century the advent of psychotropic drugs in the 1960s the origins of the Harrison Narcotic Act the federal government's efforts to limit the pharmacy profession's control over prescription drugs and much more! *Federal Drug Control: The Evolution of Policy and*

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Practice is an essential resource for criminologists, historians, social historians, sociologists, anthropologists, public policymakers, academics, and anyone interested in the broad issues involved in how the federal government deals with the problem of illicit drugs in the United States.

From Native Americans' use of tobacco for solemnizing oaths to the spread of New Age religious beliefs in Haight-Ashbury coffeehouses, drugs have been intimately associated with American spirituality. In *Stairways to Heaven*, Robert Fuller presents a rarely considered but very important dimension of American religious history—the use of mind-altering substances as an aid to spirituality—in a clear, engaging style. Fuller's entertaining narrative illustrates how such substances as peyote, jimson weed, hallucinogenic mushrooms, LSD, marijuana, wine, and coffee have stimulated ecstatic revelations of spiritual truth and strengthened the social bonds that sustain communities of faith. *Stairways to Heaven* is unique in the study of American religious history in two ways: first, it demonstrates that the ritual use of mind-altering substances has contributed to the innovation and diversity that characterize American religious life; second, it uses interdisciplinary research into the religious uses of drugs to shed light on the controversial legal, ethical, and spiritual controversies that surround drug use in the contemporary United States. The book's final chapter assesses the usefulness of drugs in the quest for a mature, life-affirming, community-building, creative spirituality. With contributions from leading international academics across the social

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sciences, this accessible takes a critical look at the key contemporary issues and debates in the field. The 39 chapters are divided into three parts: · Part I Central Social Science Theories Drug and Alcohol Studies · Part II Pillars in Social Science Drug and Alcohol Studies · Part III Controversies and New Approaches in Social Science Drug and Alcohol Studies This Handbook is an excellent reference text for the growing number of academics, students, scientists and practitioners in the drug and alcohol studies community.

### WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT MARIJUANA AND HOW DO WE KNOW IT?

Marijuana is the most frequently consumed illicit drug worldwide, with over 158.8 million users, according to the UN. Responding to public pressure, the US federal government is likely to legalize recreational marijuana within the next few years. With increasing numbers of people using cannabis both medically and recreationally there are many looming questions that only science can answer. These include: What's likely to happen, both good and bad, if the US legalizes marijuana? What are some simple, science-based rules to separate fact from fiction and to help guide policy in the highly contentious marijuana debate? Exactly what is cannabis doing in the brain that gets us high? A journey through THC neuroscience Does cannabis really have medical benefits - what's the evidence? To what extent does cannabis impair driving? Can smoking marijuana

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in adolescence affect IQ or risk for developing schizophrenia? Is marijuana safe to use during pregnancy? Reviews the endocannabinoid system and why our bodies are full of "weed receptors" Introduces readers to the various forms of marijuana: flower, dabs, hash, edibles, shatter, vapes, tinctures, oils and synthetics, THC, CBD and terpenes. Demonstrates how and why cannabis affects different people very differently. Discusses how MRI and PET scans can help show the effects of marijuana on the brain. Discusses long-term effects of adolescent and adult cannabis use. Examines the evidence for cannabis's role in increasing the risk for schizophrenia-like illnesses.

In the past, the prototypes for characterizing drug use were heroin and cocaine, so that research has focused on possible commonalities between any substance and these drugs. Addiction controversies explores the problems of the commonalities approach by looking at dissimilarities as well. The first chapters of Addiction Controversies trace the development of modern medical attitudes to drug use and the current controversy over its decriminalization. The second set of chapters examines the extent to which drugs have common biological and sociological mechanisms of action and contrasts these explanations. The final chapters consider the extent to which the desires for different substances are the same and the biological and social explanations of relapse. Clinicians,

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researchers and students in all areas of substance use will be stimulated by these challenges to current thinking and will enjoy the comparative approach that is taken by the contributors to *Addiction Controversies*.

This concise, up-to-date volume compiles information and materials documenting illicit drugs and their use from multiple perspectives. \* A chronology of significant events, decisions, policies, and agreements about illicit drug use in the United States from 1872 to the present \* Graphs and tables about illicit drug use patterns and problems \* A world map depicting the distribution of problem drugs throughout the world \* A glossary of key terms about drug use and abuse \* A bibliography of significant reference materials addressing illicit drug use

*In Drugs and Drug Policy: What Everyone Needs to Know* Mark A. R. Kleiman, Jonathan P. Caulkins, and Angela Hawken will provide a comprehensive introduction to domestic drug policy. They will address topics ranging from the basic biology of drug addiction, to the rationale behind drug policies and moves to legalize drugs, approaches to enforcement, drug abuse prevention, treatment, drug-related crime, prevalence of use, medical benefits of drugs, pricing of drugs, international policy, the connection between trafficking and terrorism, and the socio-cultural elements of drug policy.

The *World Drug Report* provides a comprehensive overview of recent

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developments in the world's illicit drug markets. Chapter one of the World Drug Report 2016 provides a global overview of the latest statistics, trends and developments with respect to opiates, cocaine, cannabis and synthetic drugs, ranging from production to trafficking as well as consumption and the health consequences of drug use. Chapter two utilizes the Sustainable Development Goals framework to examine the interplay between the drugs phenomenon and the broader development context.

Controversies in Drugs Policy and Practice Macmillan International Higher Education

'For those who still believe that politics is normally, naturally, about economics, Rob Singh has gathered the evidence and dialed the wake-up call: seven major instances of an ongoing culture war meet a common analytic framework here in a lively and informative fashion' - Byron E Shafer, University of Wisconsin

Updated to include the latest data and research, Abadinsky's DRUG USE AND ABUSE: A COMPREHENSIVE INTRODUCTION, 9th Edition, delivers a thorough, interdisciplinary examination of all aspects of drug and alcohol use and misuse. The text draws from the disciplines of history, law, pharmacology, political science, social work, counseling, psychology, sociology, and criminal justice -- resulting in the most comprehensive, authoritative single source available. The author explores the history of drugs, their impact on society, the pharmacological impact of drugs on the body, drug policy implications, the criminal justice

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system response, the illegal drug business, law enforcement, and theories of use, as well as the effects, treatment, and prevention of abuse. Other topics include the nonmedical use of prescription drugs, synthetic substances, the use of stimulants to treat PTSD and ADD, the pharmacology and controversies surrounding marijuana, and United States and global drug policy. Important Notice: Media content referenced within the product description or the product text may not be available in the ebook version.

Annotation "While providing background theory on harm reduction and pragmatic public health approaches to disease prevention, is focused on HIV/AIDS epidemic in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States (CEE/NIS). This region now se" "Pfaff, let there be no doubt, is a reformer...Nonetheless, he believes that the standard story--popularized in particular by Michelle Alexander, in her influential book, *The New Jim Crow*--is false. We are desperately in need of reform, he insists, but we must reform the right things, and address the true problem."--Adam Gopnik, *The New Yorker* A groundbreaking examination of our system of imprisonment, revealing the true causes of mass incarceration as well as the best path to reform In the 1970s, the United States had an incarceration rate comparable to those of other liberal democracies--and that rate had held steady for over 100 years. Yet today, though the US is home to only about 5 percent of the world's population, we hold nearly one quarter of its prisoners. Mass incarceration is now widely considered one of the biggest social and political crises of our age. How did we get to this point? *Locked In* is a revelatory investigation into the root causes of mass incarceration by one of the most exciting scholars in the country. Having spent fifteen years studying the data on imprisonment, John Pfaff takes apart the reigning consensus created by Michelle Alexander and other reformers,



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revealing that the most widely accepted explanations-the failed War on Drugs, draconian sentencing laws, an increasing reliance on private prisons-tell us much less than we think. Pfaff urges us to look at other factors instead, including a major shift in prosecutor behavior that occurred in the mid-1990s, when prosecutors began bringing felony charges against arrestees about twice as often as they had before. He describes a fractured criminal justice system, in which counties don't pay for the people they send to state prisons, and in which white suburbs set law and order agendas for more-heavily minority cities. And he shows that if we hope to significantly reduce prison populations, we have no choice but to think differently about how to deal with people convicted of violent crimes-and why some people are violent in the first place. An authoritative, clear-eyed account of a national catastrophe, *Locked In* transforms our understanding of what ails the American system of punishment and ultimately forces us to reconsider how we can build a more equitable and humane society.

This anthology is composed of primary sources written by many of the foremost authorities on drug legalization. Leading conservative, liberal, and centrist views are represented, introducing your readers to the broadest possible spectrum of opinions on the topic. Each chapter asks a pertinent question about the topic, and the viewpoints that follow are grouped into "yes" and "no" categories. This unique approach provides readers with a concise view of divergent opinions on each topic. Contains extensive book and periodical bibliographies and a list of organizations to contact are also included. Provide your readers with this invaluable resource, so they can understand the debate over drug legalization from all angles.

Presents essays which give varying viewpoints on the legalization of drugs, discussing such topics as the success of the government's war on drugs, the need to reform current drug

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policy, and whether marijuana laws should be relaxed.

This paper provides a nonpartisan primer on U.S. drug use and drug policy. It aims to bring those new to drug policy up to speed and provide ideas to researchers and potential funders about how they could make strong contributions to the field.

Drug overdose, driven largely by overdose related to the use of opioids, is now the leading cause of unintentional injury death in the United States. The ongoing opioid crisis lies at the intersection of two public health challenges: reducing the burden of suffering from pain and containing the rising toll of the harms that can arise from the use of opioid medications.

Chronic pain and opioid use disorder both represent complex human conditions affecting millions of Americans and causing untold disability and loss of function. In the context of the growing opioid problem, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) launched an Opioids Action Plan in early 2016. As part of this plan, the FDA asked the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to convene a committee to update the state of the science on pain research, care, and education and to identify actions the FDA and others can take to respond to the opioid epidemic, with a particular focus on informing FDA's development of a formal method for incorporating individual and societal considerations into its risk-benefit framework for opioid approval and monitoring.

5 Stars! from Doody's Book Reviews! (of the 13th Edition) "This edition continues to raise the bar for books on drug use and abuse. The presentation of the material is straightforward and comprehensive, but not off putting or complicated." As a long-standing, reliable resource *Drugs & Society*, Fourteenth Edition continues to captivate and inform students by taking a multidisciplinary approach to the impact of drug use and abuse on the lives of average

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individuals. The authors have integrated their expertise in the fields of drug abuse, pharmacology, and sociology with their extensive experiences in research, treatment, drug policy making, and drug policy implementation to create an edition that speaks directly to students on the medical, emotional, and social damage drug use can cause.

The anthology is designed as a starting point for academic debate about illegal drugs. The 25 reprinted articles cover reducing harm and reduction, law enforcement, supply reduction, the European Union's drug policies, and terrorism and drugs. Each appends suggested topics for debate. They are not i

From the obesity epidemic to antibiotic resistance, firearm injuries, and health disparities, many health issues surface to the public domain in the form of controversies. In this innovative new text, author Jan Kirk Carney engages the reader in understanding public health and health policy through a study of current controversies. Many issues connect public health and health care, an important perspective given the Affordable Care Act and health system changes at the state level. To get to the root of the controversy—and gain insight as to what must be done to advance the health issue—learners must grasp the breadth and scope of the issue and evidence-base for prevention, dissect root causes and barriers, then propose strategies for progress. *Controversies in Public Health and Health Policy* uses a structured format to carefully examine each controversy, with background, evidence-base, discussion questions, and additional learning resources. Some of the topics covered include the acceptance of

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obesity as a cultural norm, e-cigarettes, binge drinking on college campuses, prescription drug abuse, antibiotic resistance, gun control, preventing concussions, climate change, and more.

Pharmaceuticals constitute a relatively small share of the total Health Care expenditure in most developed economies, and yet they play a critical role in the ongoing debate over how best to advance, improve, and afford Health Care. Despite this, and perhaps because of this, the industry has had, for many years, an outsized claim to fame and controversy, praise and criticisms, and support and condemnation. Unfortunately, many participants in the debate do not fully understand the complexities of the industry and its role in the overall Health Care system. The analytical tools of economics provide a strong foundation for a better understanding of the dynamics of the pharmaceutical industry, its contribution to Health and Health Care, and its dual and often conflicting priorities of affordability and innovation, as well as the various Private and Public Policy initiatives directed at the sector. Everyone is affected by Big Pharma and the products they produce. At the Drug store, the physician's office, in front of the television, in everyday conversations, Drugs are a part of our lives. Society shapes our values toward Drugs and Drugs shape society. ("The Pill" and minor tranquilizers are good examples.) And, of course, the way Congress deliberates and Big Pharma responds has a huge impact on how Drugs affect our lives. This book is well-researched on the subject of the pharmaceutical industry, its struggles with Government, and its

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relationship to the consumer from the early twentieth century until the present. The Dynamic Tension between the three participants – Government, Big Pharma, and the People – is described and explained to lead to an understanding of the controversies that rage today. The author describes how the Government, its many investigatory efforts, and the ultimate legislative results affect the industry and the consequences of their activities are explored in light of their effects on other players, including the patients and consumers who rely on both Government and Big Pharma for their well-being and who find sometimes unexpected consequences while giving special attention to the attitudes, beliefs, and misadventures of less-than-optimal Drug use. Stakeholders are identified with physicians as a major focus, as well as describing the significance of prescriptions as social objects and the processes by which physicians make choices on behalf of their patients. The author ties it all together with how Big Pharma affects and is affected by each of these groups. The author utilizes his 50-plus years' experience as an academic, practicing pharmacist, and Big Pharma employee to describe the scope of the pharmaceutical industry and how it affects us on a daily basis, concluding with an inside look at Big Pharma and how regulations, marketing, and the press have affected their business, both good and bad.

The rapid deepening of the global drug problem has spurred increasingly heated debate over the best solutions. For example, should drug use be an issue for healthcare services or a matter of criminal justice? Is universal abstinence both

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unrealistic and undesirable? Does drug legalization offer a viable answer? This book provides a lively and thought-provoking account of some of the most pressing issues for policy makers and practitioners in the debate about drugs. Designed as a platform for further discussion, it presents the full spectrum of perspectives on chronic and contemporary challenges to drug policy and explores the reality for drug users, dealers, suppliers and producers. Drawing on an international evidence base, the author considers: ? Drug enforcement measures: do they work and are they always ethical? ? Addiction treatment: its purpose, cost and limitations; ? Drug research: the strength of its impact on policy and practice; ? Possible solutions: from classic criminalization to radical harm reduction. Both engaging and timely, *Controversies in Drugs Policy and Practice* is an essential read for all social science students taking modules related to drug use, addiction and treatment. It also makes illuminating reading for academics and practitioners working within the field.

In the last 35 years, health care in the US has grown into a multi-billion dollar industry. Americans view access to health care as important and take pride in their excellent medical care technology. However, there is growing consensus that the US health care system is in crisis - but there is far less agreement on what to do about it. This book examines the major controversies confronting American society, health care professionals and policy makers: access to health care, costs and financing health care and the quality of health care. Kronenfeld discusses whether the system can solve

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these problems or whether there is a health care system at all.

“Hart’s argument that we need to drastically revise our current view of illegal drugs is both powerful and timely . . . when it comes to the legacy of this country’s war on drugs, we should all share his outrage.” —The New York Times Book Review From one of the world's foremost experts on the subject, a powerful argument that the greatest damage from drugs flows from their being illegal, and a hopeful reckoning with the possibility of their use as part of a responsible and happy life Dr. Carl L. Hart, Ziff Professor at Columbia University and former chair of the Department of Psychology, is one of the world's preeminent experts on the effects of so-called recreational drugs on the human mind and body. Dr. Hart is open about the fact that he uses drugs himself, in a happy balance with the rest of his full and productive life as a researcher and professor, husband, father, and friend. In *Drug Use for Grown-Ups*, he draws on decades of research and his own personal experience to argue definitively that the criminalization and demonization of drug use--not drugs themselves--have been a tremendous scourge on America, not least in reinforcing this country's enduring structural racism. Dr. Hart did not always have this view. He came of age in one of Miami's most troubled neighborhoods at a time when many ills were being laid at the door of crack cocaine. His initial work as a researcher was aimed at proving that drug use caused bad outcomes. But one problem kept cropping up: the evidence from his research did not support his hypothesis. From inside the massively well-funded

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research arm of the American war on drugs, he saw how the facts did not support the ideology. The truth was dismissed and distorted in order to keep fear and outrage stoked, the funds rolling in, and Black and brown bodies behind bars. Drug Use for Grown-Ups will be controversial, to be sure: the propaganda war, Dr. Hart argues, has been tremendously effective. Imagine if the only subject of any discussion about driving automobiles was fatal car crashes. Drug Use for Grown-Ups offers a radically different vision: when used responsibly, drugs can enrich and enhance our lives. We have a long way to go, but the vital conversation this book will generate is an extraordinarily important step.

This book focuses on the use of drugs in our lives and how we respond to them. Whereas drug policy typically centres on the problems of illicit drugs or licit drugs used in illicit ways or circumstances, Contemporary Drug Policy instead considers the wide variety of substances we call drugs as a normal part of our personal and social experience and asks how and when drugs benefit us as well as how and when they are harmful. The evidence is clear that at some times, in some circumstances, and in some places drugs are a problem. This book does not ignore these issues but shifts our attention to making policies that also recognize their legitimate and constructive place in society. It focuses on asking questions, challenging assumptions, and developing responses to drugs based on evidence from scientific study as directed by critical criminological theory rather than mainstream theory or unfounded assumptions.



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Different from other books on drug policy, this book does not offer answers or solutions. Rather it shows how critical criminological theories can lead scientific research in new directions supportive of policies that offer both solutions to problems that are found to be related to drugs and an appreciation for the benefits that drugs can bring to people and society. This book will be of interest to those studying or researching drug policy as well as professionals involved in policy making processes.

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