

DRUG POLICY BIBLIOGRAPHY AND WEBSITES

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Books can be ordered from CJPF/Amazon.com at www.cjpf.org/shop.php

*** Robert J. MacCoun and Peter Reuter, Drug War Heresies: learning from other vices, times and places, Cambridge University Press, New York, 2001, 479 pp. MacCoun and Reuter are two of the best and most respected scholars in drug policy in the United States. They've written **an essential book on drug policy**. Considers all of the issues carefully. Examines the ideas and debate about drug legalization. Makes considerable and sophisticated recommendations. Has some dense sections.

*** Douglas Husak, Legalize This! the case for decriminalizing drugs, Verso, New York, 2002, 197 pp. Husak, a professor of the philosophy of law, has written an outstanding, elegantly simple book, committed to asking the right question about drug policy. Contrary to MacCoun and Reuter he insists that the first question is, "Should drug users be punished?" He carefully examines the question of what is a drug, what types of use of drugs are we talking about, what are the legitimate bases for the state's punishment of conduct, and the ostensible reasons to answer the question affirmatively. He finds that because an individual who simply uses a drug has not harmed anyone or society, there is no justification for punishing the drug user. The importance of understanding **the first principle** of drug policy can not be overstated. Essential for the reformer's library.

*** Effective Drug Control: Toward a New Legal Framework, 2005, 145 pp., independently published, <http://www.kcba.org/ScriptContent/KCBA/druglaw/pdf/EffectiveDrugControl.pdf>, prepared by the King County (WA) Bar Association Drug Policy project <http://www.kcba.org/ScriptContent/KCBA/druglaw/index.cfm>. A succinct, yet quite comprehensive review of U.S. drug law, the issues involved in drug control, models for drug regulation, federalism issues, and parameters for a new legal framework for control. Extensively footnoted. A very valuable analysis and an important contribution from a very sophisticated and advanced community effort to comprehensively revise drug law.

*** Jacob Sullum, Saying Yes: In Defense of Drug Use, Tarcher/Putnam, New York, 2003, 340 pp. An outstanding overview of the history of attitudes about drug use. Notes the parallels of contemporary anti-drug beliefs with anti-tobacco and anti-alcohol beliefs from the 17th to the early 20th centuries. Includes interviews with current and former drug users. Persuasively argues that the contemporary received wisdom about drug use exaggerates its harmfulness. Very well written and flawlessly documented.

*** Thomas Szasz, Ceremonial Chemistry: The ritual persecution of drugs, addicts and pushers, (Rev'd. ed.), Syracuse University Press, Syracuse, NY, 2003, 290 pp. Originally published in 1974, this libertarian analysis of drug laws demolishes the authority of the state to prohibit the use and distribution of drugs. A sweeping analysis of culture, religion, society and law by a physician and psychiatrist, that frames drug policy in the broad historical, philosophical and anthropological contexts of freedom and control. Written in a brilliant and compelling style.

**Mike Gray, Drug Crazy: how we got into this mess and how we can get out, Routledge, New York, 2000, 251 pp. A beautifully written, easy to read account of the war on drugs by a leading critic. Very well reviewed. Well documented. Contains websites of activist organizations.

**Dan Baum, Smoke and Mirrors: The War on Drugs and the Politics of Failure, Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1997, 396 pp. “An entertaining history...a lacerating look at how we got into this quagmire.” – *Los Angeles Times Book Review*. “Devastating...A complex story...often dramatic and sometimes outrageous...It brings the actors up close to cheer and hiss (mainly hiss)...a valuable work of reporting.” – *The New York Times*. “For the inside story of why the drug war remains a dismal failure, there is no better source than Smoke and Mirrors.” – *Chicago Tribune*.

** David T. Courtwright, Forces of Habit: Drugs and the Making of the Modern World, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA, 2001. 277 pp. This well-respected historian comprehensively explores the importance of European and American domination of global trade in spreading alcohol, morphine, tobacco, caffeine and abused prescription drugs around the world. Anyone interested in Globalization or Free Trade will find this a fascinating history. The role of labor, political parties and cultural elites in shaping drug policy is also explored.

** Paul Gahlinger, Illegal Drugs: A Complete Guide to Their History, Chemistry, Use, and Abuse, Plume Books (Penguin), 2004, 456 pp. The subtitle is surprisingly accurate in describing the book. Well-illustrated. The book is an excellent introduction to the universe of drugs, includes accurate statement of federal laws, the 12-steps and websites. Many points not supported by footnotes. One error incorrectly states that NORML was founded in 1981 (p. 330).

**Mike Gray (ed.), Busted: Stone Cowboys, Narco-Lords and Washington’s War on Drugs, Nation Books, 2002, 290 pp. Thirty-two excellent essays from a wide variety of authors about the variety of drug issues. They range from the profound to the hilarious to the outrage-inspiring.

**David F. Musto, The American Disease, (3rd ed.), Oxford University Press, New York, 1999, 414 pp. Probably the most authoritative history of American anti-drug policy from the late nineteenth century through the 1980s. Also describes the racist origin of the narcotics laws, and the history of marijuana prohibition. Thoroughly documented.

**Edward M. Brecher, Licit and Illicit Drugs: The Consumers Union Report on Narcotics, Stimulants, Depressants, Inhalants, Hallucinogens, and Marijuana – including Caffeine, Nicotine, and Alcohol, Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1972, 623 pp. An extremely authoritative and comprehensive history of drug use and laws. Although written more than 30 years ago, due to its honesty, its observations and recommendations are completely contemporary. Thoroughly documented.

** Raymond P. Shafer, Chairman, National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse, Drug Use in America: Problem in Perspective, Second Report of the National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 1973, 481 pp. The extremely thoughtful report of the Commission created by Congress in 1970, when the Controlled Substances Act was enacted. The Commission was composed of four Members of Congress and nine others appointed by President Nixon. Nixon ignored the report. Every page has a nugget of wisdom. Surprisingly well written. Most of this book could be adopted unchanged by contemporary drug policy reform advocates. The wisdom of this report will continually surprise you.

** Clarence Lusane, Pipe Dream Blues: racism and the war on drugs, South End Press, Boston, 1991, 293 pp. A political scientist and former Capitol Hill staffer, Lusane has written a very thorough and important overview of the drug problem, with an emphasis on politics and cities, and comprehensive recommendations.

* Susan N. Terkel, The Drug Laws: a time for a change? Franklin Watts, Danbury, CT, 1997, 176 pp. This is an excellent text for the high school audience. Highly readable, it is a balanced overview of the drug problem and the current topics of concern. Illustrated and documented.

* Charles Ksir, Carl L. Hart and Oakley Ray, Drugs, Society and Human Behavior (11th ed.), McGraw Hill, Boston, 2006, 451 pp. plus appendices, glossary and index (A twelfth edition is available). An excellent collegiate text. Comprehensive, balanced, very well illustrated in color. Includes many side-bars, self assessments, websites for more information. Thoroughly footnoted.

* Andrew Weil & Winifred Rosen, From Chocolate to Morphine: Everything you need to know about mind-altering drugs, (Revised ed.), Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 2004, 291 pp. A non-judgmental and accurate review of commonly (and uncommonly) used mind-altering drugs, and their use. Teachers, parents, and drug users (potential, current and former) will find it useful. Not illustrated as were the earlier editions.

Erich Goode, Drugs in American Society (5th ed.), McGraw-Hill College, Boston, 1999, 481 pp. An excellent sociology text that thoughtfully examines the many problems and controversies raised by the drug issue. Thoroughly documented. There are newer editions.

Mark A.R. Kleiman, Against Excess: drug policy for results, Basic Books, New York, 1992, 474 pp. A comprehensive study of drug policy by one of the most thoughtful, iconoclastic but pragmatic scholars in the field. A clever and original analytical approach.

Jefferson M. Fish, ed., How to Legalize Drugs, Jason Aronson, Inc., Northvale, NJ, 1998, 675 pp. Twenty-four excellent essays on a variety of drug policy themes. Academic in tone, yet a trove of history, philosophy, experience, clever ideas, and references.

Preston Peet, ed., Under the Influence: The Disinformation Guide to Drugs, Disinformation Company, New York, 2004, 312 pp. Fifty-one highly-engaging essays (a majority are first person accounts) regarding drug use, drug dealing, drug enforcement, and drug policy. Includes history, speeches, interviews, and memoir. An authentic exposition of the reality, tragedy and absurdity of the contemporary drug scene, from the gutter to Capitol Hill.

MARIJUANA

** John Kaplan, Marijuana – The New Prohibition, Pocket Books, New York, 1971, 402 pp. A classic. Stanford law professor John Kaplan demolished the factual foundation for marijuana prohibition when originally published in 1970. Thoroughly documented.

** Mitch Earleywine, Pot Politics: Marijuana and the Costs of Prohibition, Oxford University Press, New York, 2007, 382 pp. Seventeen thoughtful essays discuss critical issues regarding marijuana – the cost to public budgets, drug testing in the workplace, driving, news media depictions, religious perspectives, abuse prevention and education, marijuana's addictiveness and harmfulness.

Mitch Earleywine, Understanding Marijuana: A New Look at the Scientific Evidence, Oxford University Press, New York, 2002, 326 pp. An excellent, scholarly (yet easy to read) and up to date review of marijuana issues. It is thoughtful, sensitive and comprehensive.

Lynn Zimmer and John P. Morgan, Marijuana Myths and Marijuana Facts, Lindesmith Center, New York, 1997, 241 p. A very readable review of many of the controversies regarding marijuana after attempting to review all of the academic and scientific literature pertinent to those controversies by two leading critics of marijuana prohibition.

MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA

*** Janet E. Joy, Stanley J. Watson, Jr., and John A. Benson, Jr., Marijuana and Medicine: Assessing the Science Base, National Academy Press, 1999, 267 pp.

<http://books.nap.edu/catalog/6376/html/> The report of the Institute of Medicine of the National Research Council requested by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy to assess the medical value of marijuana, and the risks thereof. Extremely authoritative.

Recognizes the medical value of the constituent chemicals in marijuana. Expresses reservations about smoking marijuana, but finds that until refined pharmaceutical preparations of these constituents are available, “there is no clear alternative for people suffering from *chronic* conditions that might be relieved by smoking marijuana, such as pain or AIDS wasting.”

** Lester Grinspoon and James B. Bakalar, Marihuana, The Forbidden Medicine, Yale University Press, New Haven, CT, (Revised and Expanded edition) 1997, 296 pp. A review of many of the medical benefits marijuana might provide by leading advocates of the use of marijuana in medicine. Very well documented. (Banned in Russia!) Updated information at <http://www.rxmarihuana.com/>.

** Mary Lynn Mathre, ed., Cannabis in Medical Practice: A legal, historical, and pharmacological overview of the therapeutic use of marijuana, McFarland, Jefferson, NC, 1997, 239 pp. An extremely useful reference on many issues in the debate regarding the medical use of marijuana by highly qualified authors who are supporters of the medical use. Well documented.

* Americans for Safe Access, Patients in the Crossfire: Casualties in the War on Medical Marijuana, Americans for Safe Access, Berkeley, CA, 2004, 78 pp. The stories of thirty-five persons involved in medical marijuana as patients and as prisoners, legal targets, or protestors. A very compelling series of narratives that tells the story of medical marijuana politics and law from a variety of patient perspectives. A very useful political tool.

Angel Justice <http://www.angeljustice.org/article.php?list=type&type=11>

This website holds the many excellent and fascinating briefs submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court for its consideration of *Gonzales v. Angel Raich*, 545 U.S. 1; 125 S. Ct. 2195; 162 L. Ed. 2d 1; 2005 U.S. LEXIS 4656; 73 U.S.L.W. 4407; argued Nov. 29, 2004, decided June 6, 2005. They put the current medical marijuana situation into the contemporary and historical constitutional context. An excellent way for non-lawyers to get insight into Supreme Court argument and analysis.

Cannabis as Medicine <http://www.medicalcannabis.com/>

An extremely useful website advocating for patients, with many resources.

COCAINE USERS

*** Dan Waldorf, Craig Reinerman and Sheigla Murphy, Cocaine Changes: The Experience of Using and Quitting, Temple University Press, Philadelphia, PA, 1991, 326 pp. An extremely valuable ethnographic study of over 250 cocaine users in California from a variety of backgrounds that presents a realistic view of the range of cocaine use and quitting experiences. A very valuable tool for escaping the stereotypes and cliches of media and political presentations of cocaine use.

***Philippe Bourgois, In Search of Respect: Selling Crack in El Barrio, Cambridge University Press, New York, 1996, 392 pp. Another extremely valuable ethnographic study of crack sellers and users in “Spanish Harlem” in New York City. This study puts the crack cocaine business in the economic and social context of New York – the relative economic and social opportunities, the status relationships, sexual activity. Understanding the realities that make the crack business attractive and very unpleasant.

**Terry Williams, The Cocaine Kids: The Inside Story of a Teenage Drug Ring, Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., Reading, MA, 1989, 140 pp. An acclaimed ethnographer tells the stories of young Dominican cocaine sellers (and their families and friends) in Manhattan’s Washington Heights neighborhood from 1982 to 1986.

**Terry Williams, Crackhouse: Notes From the End of the Line, Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., Reading, MA, 1992, 156 pp. A compellingly written account of a group who live together in Manhattan whose lives revolve around crack use from 1987 to 1991. The work is grounded on many years of ethnographic interviews with cocaine sellers and users, including visits to thirty-eight crack using and selling places in Manhattan and Brooklyn in the 1980s and early 1990s. A very accurate account of the functioning and dysfunction of a set of crack users.

METHAMPHETAMINE

** Dana Hunt, Sarah Kuck and Linda Truitt, Methamphetamine Use: Lessons Learned, Abt Associates, Inc., Cambridge, MA, May 2005, 63 pp.
http://www.cjpf.org/methuse_lessonslearned.pdf An excellent paper prepared for the National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice, that provides an accurate and up-to-date description of methamphetamine use, manufacture, trafficking and treatment.

RACE AND THE WAR ON DRUGS

***David A. Harris, Profiles in Injustice: Why Racial Profiling Cannot Work, The New Press, New York, 2002, 276 pp. University of Toledo law professor Harris carefully examines the problem of racial profiling and how criminal profiling does not work. He lays out some ways to correct the problem.

**Marc Mauer, Race to Incarcerate, The New Press, New York, 1999, 208 pp. Chapters 7 and 8 investigate this issue very thoroughly.

** Eric E. Sterling, “Drug Policy: A Challenge of Values,” in Criminal Justice: Retribution vs. Restoration, (Eds. Eleanor Judah and Rev. Michael Bryant), Haworth Press, Binghamton, NY, 2004, 30 pp. Argues that the post civil-rights war on drugs serves the social function of maintaining white privilege.

* Randall Kennedy, Race, Crime, and the Law, Pantheon Books, New York, 1997, 538 pp. A distinguished Harvard Law School professor provides excellent historical and legal background to contemporary problems. Chapter 10 focuses on this issue. The author argues that allegations of deliberate racial discrimination are insufficiently substantiated, legally unpersuasive, and legislatively counterproductive. Thoroughly footnoted.

FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

* Domenic Cappell and Xenia G. Becher, Ten Talks Parents Must Have With Their Children About Drugs and Choices, Hyperion, New York, 2001, 379 pp. Provides techniques and materials to initiate intelligent conversations with children about drug use. Recognizes that parents need to hear what their children think and believe. One useful resource for a parent, but inadequate by itself.

* Marsha Rosenbaum, Safety First: A Reality-Based Approach to Teens, Drugs, and Drug Education, Drug Policy Alliance, San Francisco, 2004, 24 pp.
<http://www.safety1st.org/pdf/safetyfirst.pdf> An important, readable analysis of the failing of most school-based anti-drug programs. Warns against writing off teens who use alcohol and drugs. Suggests integrating anti-drug programs into school subject curricula, and establishing a credible after-school drop-in center.

* Rodney Skager, Beyond Zero Tolerance: a reality-based approach to drug education & student assistance, Drug Policy Alliance, San Francisco, 2005, 25 pp.
http://www.safety1st.org/pdf/Beyond_Zero_Tolerance.pdf Presents a program for schools for substance abuse prevention that is now being used in California schools that parents, teachers and principals praise, www.upfrontprograms.org. Approach endorsed by the California State Parent Teacher Association in 2003. Provides contact information for conferences, publications and training.

Joseph Volpicelli and Maia Szalavitz, Recovery Options: The Complete Guide: How you and your loved ones can understand and treat alcohol and other drug problems, Wiley, New York, 2000, 320 pp. This is a very valuable guide for people with drug problems and their families. Explains different kinds of drug treatment and how to find it.

Szalavitz, Maia, Help At Any Cost: How the troubled-teen industry cons parents and hurts kids, Riverhead Books/Penguin, New York, 2006, 326 pp. Explores the multi-billion dollar industry that “treats” adolescents for drug use, truancy, promiscuity, etc. Many of these programs have no therapists, lock children up, expose them to physical and sexual abuse, divide families, and hurt kids badly. They also make a lot of money as they exploit parental fears.

WEBSITES AND INTERNET

U.S. GOVERNMENT SOURCES:

White House Office of National Drug Control Policy:

* 2005 National Drug Control Strategy – The official government strategy:
<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.org/publications/policy/ndcs05/>

* 81 tables of government data on many aspects of drug abuse in the U.S.:
<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.org/publications/policy/ndcs04/tables.html>

SAMSHA’s National Survey of Drug Use and Health – Extensive data on prevalence of drug use.
<http://oas.samhsa.gov/NSDUH/2k5NSDUH/2k5results.htm>

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration <http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/>

U.S. Sentencing Commission

May 2002 Report to Congress on Cocaine and Federal Sentencing Policy

http://www.ussc.gov/r_congress/02crack/2002crackrpt.htm

Documents the racial disparity in federal cocaine prosecutions and documents the focus of federal drug enforcement resources on low-level offenders, at least in cocaine cases.

NON-GOVERNMENT SOURCES:

Drug Reform Coordination Network <http://stopthedrugwar.org/index.shtml>

Access to an enormous internet library of drug policy reports. Access to outstanding weekly news report on drug issues, *Drug War Chronicle*. <http://stopthedrugwar.org/chronicle>

MAPINC DrugNews Archive <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/>

An easily searched database of over 175,000 news stories about the drug issue from English language newspapers around the world. Invaluable for every drug issue research project.

The Vaults of Erowid <http://www.erowid.org/>

Member-supported organization provides access to non-judgmental information about psychoactive plants and chemicals. Accuracy and timeliness can be spotty.

Drug Policy Alliance <http://www.drugpolicy.org>

Website of the largest, most comprehensive drug policy reform organization in the U.S.

Marijuana Policy Project <http://www.mpp.org>

Website of the largest marijuana policy reform organization in the U.S., newly updated and much more useful.

National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws <http://www.norml.org>

Website of the oldest drug law reform organization in the U.S. Interesting reports on medical uses; marijuana arrests and state marijuana laws.

King County (WA) Bar Association Drug Policy project

<http://www.kcba.org/ScriptContent/KCBA/druglaw/index.cfm>

Very sophisticated and advanced community effort to comprehensively revise drug law.

Senate of Canada, Special Committee on Illegal Drugs Report on Cannabis Policy, Sept. 2002

http://www.parl.gc.ca/common/Committee_SenRecentReps.asp?Language=E&Parl=37&Ses=1

Criminal Justice Policy Foundation <http://www.cjpf.org>

Annotated links to treatment, reform organizations, and many other topics. Numerous articles on drug policy. **Sole nation-wide database on obtaining executive clemency for criminal convictions for all states.**

– Racism and the war on drugs: <http://www.cjpf.org/booksandresources/challengeofvalues.pdf>

– Economics and the war on drugs: <http://www.business-council.org/>

– Crack Facts: <http://www.crack-facts.org/>

– Crack cocaine -powder cocaine disparity:

http://cjpf.org/Getting_Justice_Off_Its_Junk_Food_Diet.pdf

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