I. Social Problems: psychoactive drugs

A. Three problems

1. Psychoactive drugs: use and negative consequences

(including legal prescription drugs)

2. “Drug War”

3. Hypocrisy and the power to label:

a. users

b. “drugs”

B. Problem one

1. users

a. 28.4 million illegal drug users

b. 31.2 million legal psychoactive drug users

i. pain killers(oxycodone aka OxyContin)

ii. mood enhancers

2. cause personal harm:

a. physiological

b. psychological

3. social costs:

a. health costs: 30% of ER visits OD on painkillers

b. violence

c. family break up

C. Problem Two: What is the war on drugs?

1. Criminalization certain drug use

a. Drug Czar and drug fighting bureaucracy

b. harsh penalties

c. focus of police (2000 1.5 million arrests)

d. increasing % of prison population

e. no medical marijuana

2. Foreign policy

a. Drug War Czar: Canada needs to get tougher

b. “Coalition of the Willing”

i. $43 million to Taliban in support of their anti-opium efforts 2000

ii. $1.2 billion Plan Columbia

3. Public relations campaign:

a. Just say no

i. children practicing saying no to dealers

b. anti-marijuana commercials

i. mj and sexual assault

ii. mj and auto accidents

iii. mj and children drowning

iv. “Mom”

c. drugs and terrorism

4. A. Consequences: Social Problems

D. Drug War: Why a problems?

1. Criminalization creates black market

a. secondary economy

b. huge source of revenue

i. corrupt governments

ii. law enforcement

c. violence over power and profit

2. Unregulated drug use

a. impure drugs, dirty needles

b. social costs ($): infectious diseases

3. Large and expensive bureaucracy

a. $40 billion per year: state and local

b. prison: + $4 billion per year

c. doesn’t solve the problem

4. Racism and the “War on Drugs”

a. crack cocaine 5 grams 5 years

(96% of defendants, 80% of convictions black)

b. Blacks only 13% of illegal drug users but

8x more likely to be incarcerated

5. Families

a. broken families

b. juvenile delinquency

c. social services: no food stamps, public housing

6. political disenfranchisement

a. 13% of black males

b. 30% in Florida

E. Problem Three: Hypocrisy

1. you are getting high on alcohol

2. relaxing with your addictive nicotine fix

3. doing mood altering prescription drugs

4. drugging your child; higher scores/social control

a. US: 80% of Ritalin world wide

B. US vs GB: US 5x more likely

F. Labeling Bias: why criminalize some drug use and its users and not others?

1. addictive vs non-addictive

2. harmful vs non-harmful

3. social costs vs no social costs

4. Pre-1914 and Harrison Act (“dope fiends” paradise)

a. prescription opium

b. over the counter patent medicines: cocaine,marijuana, morphine, opium

c. morphine use: recreational and medicinal

d. cocaine toothache drops

e. marijuana cigarettes for asthma

f. heroin: cure for addiction

5. Cigarettes

a. 90% of those who try to quit w/o seeking treatment fail

b. More than 70% of adolescents who smoked more than one cigarette went on to become lifetime smoker

c. Nearly half of regular cigarette smokes will eventually die or experience one or more severe disabilities as a result of their smoking

G. The power to label

1. politicians

2. moral elites: religious groups

3. mass media: news, entertainment, public service

4. Labeling and minorities

a. Chinese and opium

b. Hispanics and marijuana

c. Irish and alcohol

d. Native Americans and hallucinogens

e. Blacks and Crack Cocaine

H. The power to avoid the label

1. large drug dealing corporations

2. Means

a. campaign financing and lobbying

b. media

c. think tanks, experts, and legal resources

I. Decriminalize drug use

1. Save $44 billion per year

2. eliminate the black market

a. violence

b. corruption

3. eliminate our “need” to cooperate with questionable

foreign governments

4. eliminates health costs $ associated with impurities and contaminated needles

5. allow police to pursue other areas of enforcement

like Homeland Security

6. End a racially biased practice

7. keep families from breaking up

8. end disenfranchisement of minorities

J. Public Health approach

1. Label drug use as a public health care problem

2. Distribution: government distributes and regulates

a. gain: revenue and health costs

b. cost: government bureaucracy

3. Resources to health care

a. treatment

b. gain: end addiction

c. cost: less expensive to treat than to incarcerate

4. Education (not DARE)

5. No advertisements for drugs

6. Re-enfranchise people who lost their right to vote

if there incarceration was “non-violent”

J. Netherlands and marijuana

1. less adult use

2. less young adult use

3. less older teen use

4. less younger teen use

K. Social causes for ADD, ADHD

1. parents working

2. profit to drug companies

3. little or no exercise

a. physical education

b. playgrounds

c. organized vs play

4. time: TV, computer, sitting in classroom

G. Labeling

1. Pure Food and Drug Act 1906: disclosure of contents patent medicine.

2. Harrison Act 1914: revenue, but led to criminalization

3. Volstead Act/Eighteenth Amendment: alcohol prohibition

4. Marijuana Tax Act of 1937: revenue, but led to criminalization

5. Controlled Substance Act 1970: (summary and drug schedule)

6. Sentencing Reform Act 1984: mandatory sentencing

7. Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988: alcohol, death penalty, asset forfeiture

8. 1997 Tobacco Agreement: $368 billion in health care, discontinue billboard advertising, withdraw Joe Camel

II. Normal/Legal drugs

A. Nicotine

1. Addictive as heroin

2. Harmful

a. heart disease,stroke, cancer, emphysema, bronchitis

b. 400,000 lives a year in US, 4 million globally

c. social costs

i. health expenses

ii. smoking around your children

d. cigarettes and the black market

e. pushers target children and minorities

3. Alcohol

a. Addictive

b. physical harm

a. brain cells

b. sclerosis of the liver

c. lowers immune system

b. socially costs

i. traffic fatalities

ii. suicide, drowning, and fire related deaths

iii. most correlated with crime

iv. spousal and child abuse

c. claims 100,000 lives a year

4. psychopharmacology: Prozac, Paxil

a. addictive

b. personal harm

i. decreased sex drive (take Viagra)

ii. sleep disorder, loss of appetite

iii. depression, nausea, diarrhea

c. social costs

5. psychopharmacology: children

a. goal: control children

i. 20.6 million prescription ADD, ADHD

ii. 80% US, 5:1boys, 3% to 5% of school children, one study: 13% students w/0 prescription used

b. harm: sleeplessness, impulsive behavior, depression, anxiety, mood swings, lack of

appetite

c. social costs

III. Power and drugs

A. Power

1. Politicians

2. moral elites: religious groups, community groups

3. mass media

4. dominant ethnic groups

5. large corporations

B. Pre-1914

1. legal and available

2. disease or sin

3. ethnic conflict: social control of minority groups

C. 1914 Harrison Act

D. First “War on Drugs”: Prohibition

1. Ethnic conflict

1. Constitutional Amendment 1919-1933

2. Results

E. Present

1. Pressure groups: religious and community

2. Politicians are part of pressure groups

2. large corporations: avoid deviant label

a. campaign financing and lobbying

b. advertising

II. The War on Drugs

A. Consequences: Social Problems

1. Criminalization creates black market

a. secondary economy

b. huge source of revenue

i. corrupt governments

ii. law enforcement

iii. violence

2. Unregulated drug use

a. impure drugs, dirty needles

b. social costs: infectious diseases

3. Large and expensive bureaucracy

a. $40 billion per year: state and local

b. prison cost: 200,000 + per year

c. doesn’t solve the problem

4. Racism and the “War on Drugs”

a. crack cocaine 5 grams 5 years(89% black)

b. Blacks only 13% of illegal drug users but

8x more likely to be incarcerated

c. federal court 96% of crack defendants are

black

5. Families

a. broken families

b. juvenile delinquency

c. social services: no food stamps, public housing

6. political disenfranchisement

a. 13% of black males

b. 30% in Florida

V. Mental Illness

A. According to the pharmaceutical companies,

1. 20% of adults may be mentally ill

2. 10% of children ADD, ADHD

B. “mental illness”

1. psychological problem

2. chemical imbalance

3. who benefits?

C. “mental illness” is a consequence of social conditions

1. 80% are affective disorders: depression and anxiety

2. related directly to vital interests

a. downward mobility

b. divorce

3. drug your citizens to maintain status quo

Pauline Kaplan, DSM Committee: “DSM mislabels as mental disorder the effects of poverty, racism, sexism, and ageism, making it seem as though these arise from problems in the individual psyche.”

D. ADD, ADHD

1. Childhood today

a. more time watching tv than any other activity

accept sleeping

b. 5+ hours per week on computer: e-mail and chat

c. free time is down from 1981 almost 50%

d. playing is down (not just time, but fewer places to play)

e. shyness is up

i. 60% of high school

ii. 40% of college students

f. sit in school for long hours

2. Give them drugs

B. Deviant/illegal drugs: one study 12.2 million current users

1. mj

a. most widely used illicit drug

i. 1/3 adults have used only 3% current

ii. trend down from 1979, up from 1992

b. some affects contested

i. genetic problems

ii. loss of motivation

c. some are not

i. lung damage,

ii. danger to people with damaged hearts

iii. arrest equals criminal record

b. not physiologically addictive

c. medical pluses

i. migrains, muscle spasms (ms and epilepsy)

ii. glaucoma and asthma

iii. nasea with chemotherapy treatment

d. no lethal dose

e. doesn't lead to harder drugs 83% never try

so-called harder drug

f. US Supreme Ct in 2001: no exceptions for ill patients

2. psychedelics or hallucinogens: natural-peyote, mushrooms. synthetic-LSD, PCP, ecstasy #

a. psychedelics not physiologically addictive

b. ecstasy is fastest growing illegal drug, serious

negative physical reactions

c. PCP is most dangerous, psychotic reactions and

serious physical reactions

d. LSD and the "bad trip"

3. Narcotics(0piates: opium and derivatives morphine,

heroin) # 500,000 to 750,000

a. highly addictive

b. harmful: impurities, disease, high cost =

theft and prostitution

c. collateral costs

i. human: victims of drug related crimes

ii. social: costs of disease

d. dealers: Northern Alliance aka "freedom fighters"

or new government in Afghanistan and Pakistan

4. Cocaine: 1.3 million US consumes 70% of world's output

a. psychologically addictive

b. negative psychological effects: paranoia and

hallucinations

c. negative physiological side effects: nasal damage,

lung damage, neural damage, instant death

c. lead to use of sedatives

d. collateral

i. human

ii. social

e. pushers: cartels, violent from production to

distribution

C. Why?

1. addictive

a. nicotine is highly addictive

i. 17 million try to quit each year only

1 in 10

ii. all the symptoms of an addict

iii. "I choose to smoke"

b. alcohol is addictive

c. some mood enhancers, pain killers are addictive

2. health

a. nicotine and the other impurities are

worse, heart disease, stroke, cancer, and

lung disease

b. alcohol causes brain damage, cirrhosis of the

liver

3. social costs

a. medicaid and medicare to treat illnesses

b. alcohol and crime and violence

c. underage 50% of 8th graders, 70% of tenth

graders, 80% of twelfth graders

4. Cigarettes and violence

a. target children and minorities

b. avoid regulation through black market

c. smoking and others

D. Powerful and illegal drugs

1. moral elites used power to ban certain drugs because of their association with minority groups

a. opiates

i. were legal and sold over the counter and

through the mail and were widely advertised

ii. began to be labeled deviant as the Chinese

in America were targeted as undesirable

iii. violence and exclusionary acts against

Asians, especially Chinese

b. mj

i. was associated with Mexican culture, and

Black American culture

ii. extremely punitive laws, change when white college students began using it

c. psychedelics like peyote and mushrooms used

by Native Americans in religion which was outlawed (deviant) until 70s.

d. alcohol 1919 to 1933 illegal

i. WASPs targeting new immigrants

ii. associated with Irish Catholic

2. Harrison Act of 1914 transformed social definition of

drug use from sick to crime

a. to control and regulate and tax

b. Bureau of Narcotics

c. harass, propaganda that demonized drug

users

d. change from sick to criminal

e. threat to personal safety and moral well being

of "good citizens"

E. Power and legal drugs

1. alcohol

a. influence political system through campaign

financing and lobbying

b. process demands large financial resources therefore can be controlled by large corps

c. large corporations can afford advertisin

d. ads avoid deviant label: showing responsible drinking is not deviant and their civic responsibilty

i. friends don't let friends drive drunk

ii. Spuds Mackensie

2. Cigarettes

a. huge political contributions ($2m soft money '97) and lobbyists('97 $19m

i exempt from hazardous products reg

ii. lessen liability

iii. sell in vending machines

b. avoid deviant label increase advertising

(1982 $2 billion 1999 $8 billion +)

i. Philip Morris anti-smoking ads

ii. Philip Morris feeds the elderly, refugees,

and brings bottled water to thirsty

iii. kind of like Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount

iv. target minorities

c. overseas

i. US govt threaten trade sanction on Thailand,

SK and Taiwan if they did'nt open markets to

US cigarettes

ii. Helms, Dole, Gore letter to SK demanding

distribution, advertisment, and promotion

iv. SK one year after teenage boys +2x, girls+5x

3. Psychoactive prescription drugs

a. huge powerful corporations campaign financing

and lobbying: limits on FDA

b. advertising

i. create diseases General Anxiety disorder

ii. spend more on advertising

IV. Against the War on Drugs

A. Redefine drugs as a public health problem, in other words

decrimminalized drug use

1. cost of prison construction and incarceration is eliminated

2. eliminate drug bureaucracy

3. eliminate black market

B. Govt regulates drug use and distribute

1. regulates price

2. clean needles and purity

3. eliminate social costs of disease

C. Money to health care

1. every $1 spent on health care is worth $7 of law

enforcement

2. cost of treating person one half of cost of incarceration

D. No advertisements for drugs

E. Educate young on affects of drugs