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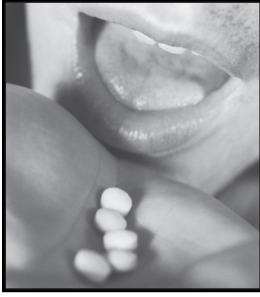


## UNIT 1 Living with Drugs

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- 1. History of Alcohol and Drinking around the World**, David J. Hanson, PhD, adapted from David J. Hanson, *Preventing Alcohol Abuse: Alcohol, Culture and Control*, Westport, CT: Praeger, 1995  
Alcohol use by humans, probably tens of thousands of years old, has both comforted and plagued almost every society. In this discussion author **David Hanson describes the drug's journey through time.** 3
- 2. Can Sips at Home Prevent Binges?**, Eric Asimov, *The New York Times*, March 26, 2008  
Evidence suggests that requiring total abstinence with regards to alcohol use by minors can result in **problematic drinking behavior later in life.** 10
- 3. Tackling Top Teen Problem—Prescription Drugs**, George Lauby and Kamie Wheelock, *North Platte Bulletin*, April 11, 2009  
The illegal use of **prescription drugs looms larger than problem drinking** or marijuana use. This article examines the lives of a group of teens who currently use prescription drugs. 12
- 4. When Booze Was Banned but Pot Was Not**, Jacob Sullum, *Reason Magazine*, February 2011  
The Eighteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution established a **legal prohibition on alcohol.** Was it successful? 16
- 5. . . . Having a Great Detox**, Ruth La Ferla, *The New York Times*, March 29, 2007  
**Substance abuse treatment** has become trendy and fashionable among the elite. It was never to be so. 20
- 6. Scientists Are High on Idea That Marijuana Reduces Memory Impairment**, Emily Caldwell, *Ohio State University Research Publications*, November 2008  
Certain compounds in **marijuana may be beneficial to the aging brain** and may delay or prevent Alzheimer's disease. 22

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## UNIT 2

# Understanding How Drugs Work—Use, Dependency, and Addiction

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<b>7. Drug Addiction and Its Effects, <i>Drug Abuse and Addiction</i>, February 26, 2008</b> What is drug addiction? This article briefly explains what it is, how it affects the brain, and addresses the question of <b><i>why some people become addicted</i></b> and others do not.	<b>27</b>
<b>8. Family History of Alcohol Abuse Associated with Problematic Drinking among College Students, Joseph W. LaBrie et al., <i>Addictive Behaviors</i>, 35(7), 2010</b> Studies examining family history of alcohol abuse among college students are conflicting and suffer from research limitations. <b><i>This report investigates family history of alcohol abuse</i></b> and its potential for predicting future alcohol-related problems.	<b>29</b>
<b>9. Adolescent Substance Abuse: America’s #1 Public Health Problem, <i>A Report of the National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association</i>, May 2011</b> Adolescence is a developmental stage marked by significant personal change, a time of transition to greater independence. This report discusses <b><i>the role of adolescence in addictive behavior</i></b> .	<b>35</b>
<b>10. Medical Marijuana and the Mind: More Is Known about the Psychiatric Risks than the Benefits, <i>Harvard Mental Health Letter</i>, April 2010</b> More is known about the risks of medical use of marijuana than the benefits. Most of the research is based on the study of those who have smoked the drug for recreational, not medical, purposes. <b><i>The movement to legalize marijuana in the United States</i></b> has renewed the discussion about how this drug affects the brain, and whether it might be useful in treating psychiatric disorders.	<b>42</b>
<b>11. Scripps Research Team Finds Stress Hormone Key to Alcohol Dependence: The Findings Suggest Development of Drug Treatment for Substance Abuse, M. Roberto, <i>The Scripps Research Institute</i>, 2010</b> Scientists have found that a specific stress hormone may be a key to the development and maintenance of alcohol dependence in animals. Chemically blocking this stress hormone <b><i>also blocked the signs and symptoms of addiction</i></b> . What are the implications for humans?	<b>45</b>
<b>12. The Genetics of Alcohol and Other Drug Dependence, Danielle M. Dick and Arpana Agrawal, <i>Alcohol Research and Health</i>, 2008</b> This article explores the hypothesis that certain <b><i>genetic factors increase a person’s risk</i></b> for both alcohol and drug abuse.	<b>47</b>
<b>13. Understanding Recreational Ecstasy Use in the United States: A Qualitative Inquiry, Masuma Bahora, Claire Sterk, and Kirk Elifson, <i>International Journal of Drug Policy</i>, January 2009</b> This study explores the perceptions of ecstasy by its users. In particular, it examines <b><i>the role of normalization of ecstasy in its increased use</i></b> .	<b>53</b>
<b>14. Examination of Over-the-Counter Drug Misuse among Youth, Erin J. Farley and Daniel J. O’Connell, <i>Sociation Today</i>, Winter 2010</b> Over-the-counter drug misuse by adolescents is on the rise. This article examines the prevalence of over-the-counter drug misuse by adolescents and <b><i>the relationship between OTC drug misuse and misuse of other substances</i></b> .	<b>61</b>

15. **A Framework to Examine Gateway Relations in Drug Use: An Application of Latent Transition Analysis**, Mildred M. Maldonado-Molina and Stephanie T. Lanza, *Journal of Drug Issues*, October 2010  
Alcohol and cigarette smoking are a public health concern for adolescents. This study uses data from the National Longitudinal Study for Adolescent Health to describe the patterns of sequential drug use among adolescents. Debate remains on whether alcohol and tobacco are a gateway to more serious substance use. What do you think? **68**
16. **Social Estrangement: Factors Associated with Alcohol or Drug Dependency among Homeless, Street-Involved Young Adults**, Sanna J. Thompson et al., *The Journal of Drug Issues*, Fall 2009  
Homelessness offers multiple opportunities for alcohol and drug use and reinforcements for addictive behavior. This study explores the characteristics of the social estrangement inherent in homelessness and their relationship to alcohol and drug dependence. **79**

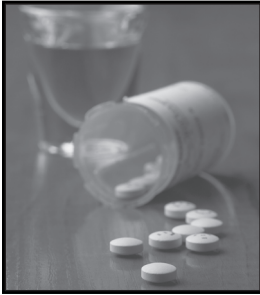


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This article provides a thorough discussion of the ongoing debate of legalizing marijuana and the benefits of medical marijuana. ***It highlights the complexity of the debate when federal drug laws do not mirror state drug laws.*** **93**
18. **Officials Fear Bath Salts Becoming the Next Big Drug Menace**, Sheila Byrd, *The Washington Post*, January 23, 2011  
Sold under the names Ivory Wave, Bliss, Hurricane Charlie, and White Lightning, these drugs are not yet regulated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, but they are coming to the attention of federal authorities as calls to emergency rooms and law enforcement increase. ***This article discusses the chemical compound and patterns of use of this drug fast becoming a community problem.*** **95**
19. **Binge Drinking and Its Consequences Up Among American College Students**, Madeline Ellis, *Health News*, June 16, 2009  
Binge drinking among college students is on the rise, and so are the consequences. It is estimated that as many as ***300,000 of today's college students will eventually die*** of alcohol-related causes. What is behind this disturbing trend? **97**
20. **Public Lands: Cartels Turn U.S. Forests into Marijuana Plantations Creating Toxic Mess**, Phil Taylor, *Land Letter*, E&E Publishing, LLC, July 30, 2009  
***Mexican cartels are crossing the border and setting up pot farms on public lands, creating not only a public menace, but an environmental one as well.*** **99**

21. **Pseudoephedrine Smurfing Fuels Surge in Large-Scale Methamphetamine Production in California**, Situation Report, U.S. Department of Justice National Drug Intelligence Center, June 2009  
This report presents information regarding pseudoephedrine smurfing in California. The *NDIC discusses data related to the use of OTC ephedrine to produce meth.* 101



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22. **Adolescent Painkiller Use May Increase Risk of Addiction, Heroin Use**, *Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Weekly*, September 22, 2008  
A recent study found that oxycodone produced different effects in adolescents than in adults. Adolescents who use opiates may be more likely to become addicts as adults. This article suggests that *prescription opiates are gateway drugs to heroin.* 106

23. **Extreme Barbarism, a Death Cult, and Holy Warriors in Mexico: Societal Warfare South of the Border?** Robert J. Bunker and John P. Sullivan, *Small Wars Journal*, May 27, 2011 108

24. **College Students' Cheap Fix: Increasing Number Using ADHD Drug to Stay Alert**, Trina Jones, Katie Berger, and Alexandra Schwappach, *The Spokesman Review*, November 15, 2009  
An increasing number of *students are using ADHD drugs to stay alert.* They are cheap and available, providing a quick and focused high. The increasing rate of abuse is alarming. 115

25. **Methadone Rises as a Painkiller with Big Risks**, Erik Eckholm and Olga Pierce, *The New York Times*, August 17, 2008  
Physicians are *increasingly utilizing methadone* to manage pain, with serious results. 117



## UNIT 5

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The *abuse of alcohol is an international issue.* The wider problem of alcohol in the Americas is discussed in this article. Is this a good example of a worldwide epidemic of alcohol abuse? 123

27. **Newly Born, and Withdrawing from Painkillers**, Abby Goodnough and Katie Zezima, *The New York Times*, April 9, 2011  
Because of prescription painkiller abuse, a new problem is emerging: *newborns who are addicted to painkillers.* 127

28. **OxyContin Abuse Spreads from Appalachia across United States**. Bill Estep, Dori Hjalmarson, and Halimah Abdullah, *McClatchy Tribune Information Services*, March 13, 2011  
The *abuse of OxyContin*, which initially hit the Appalachian region of the United States hard, is now spreading across the country. 130

29. **Route of Administration for Illicit Prescription Opioids: A Comparison of Rural and Urban Drug Users**, April M. Young, Jennifer R. Havens, and Carl G. Leukefeld, *Harm Reduction Journal*, 2010 132



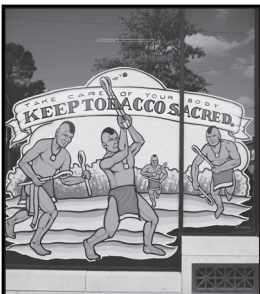
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California's prisons are packed with repeat nonviolent drug offenders. Folsom State Prison's *Parolee Substance Abuse Program seeks to rehabilitate, not incarcerate.* 141
31. **Drugs: To Legalize or Not**, Steven B. Duke, *The Wall Street Journal*, April 25, 2009  
Supporters argue that decriminalizing the possession and use of marijuana would raise billions in taxes and *eliminate much of the profits that fuel bloodshed and violence in Mexico.* Do you agree? 146
32. **Do No Harm: Sensible Goals for International Drug Policy**, Peter Reuter, *The American Interest*, March/April 2011  
This article discusses the problems nations—specifically the United States—encounter in the pursuit of a sensible and diplomatic drug policy. 148
33. **New Drug Control Strategy Signals Policy Shift**, Sam Hananel, *The Associated Press*, May 11, 2010  
The White House is putting more resources toward drug prevention and treatment as part of the *President's, pledge to treat illegal drug use more as a public health issue* than a criminal justice problem. In spite of this, is the administration's focus on treatment and prevention more rhetoric than reality? 153
34. **Beyond Supply and Demand: Obama's Drug Wars in Latin America**, Suzanna Reiss, *NACLA Report on the Americas*, January/February 2010  
The article focuses on President Obama's drug policy in Latin America. The author stresses *the need to understand and question the international political and economic* foundations of drug policy in the United States. 154
35. **Drug Courts: Conceptual Foundation, Empirical Findings, and Policy Implications**, Jeanne B. Stinchcomb, *Drugs, Education, Prevention, and Policy*, April 2010  
The author provides a thorough review of the literature related to drug courts. *She argues that for drug courts to remain a prominent part of the United States criminal justice system, they need to be closely tied to theory and best practices tied to evidence-based research.* Do you agree? 157



## UNIT 7

### Prevention, Treatment, and Education

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36. **Crime and Treatment: Overcrowded Prisons and Addicted Inmates Are a Tough Challenge for Lawmakers**, Donna Lyons, *State Legislatures*, March 2010  
With a prison population that surged 12 percent from 2007 to 2008, *Kentucky lawmakers are looking for a solution.* Have they found one in a measure that passed last year that offers some felony offenders the option of treatment in lieu of criminal charges? 171

<p><b>37. Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders: When Science, Medicine, Public Policy, and Laws Collide</b>, Kenneth R. Warren and Brenda G. Hewitt, <i>Developmental Disabilities Research Reviews</i>, 2009 This article provides an overview of the inherent confusion that happens when <b><i>new scientific findings confront prevailing medical practice.</i></b></p>	174
<p><b>38. U.S. and Europe Split Over Drugs Policy</b>, Luke Baker, <i>The Associated Press</i>, January 30, 2009 The U.S. and Europe fundamentally disagree over <b><i>how drug abuse and addiction should be treated.</i></b></p>	180
<p><b>39. Portugal’s Drug Policy Pays off; U.S. Eyes Lessons</b>, Barry Hatton and Martha Mendoza, <i>The Seattle Times</i>, May 14, 2011 Ten years ago, Portugal had the <b><i>worst injection drug use rate in Europe.</i></b> Then they <b><i>decriminalized drug use.</i></b></p>	181
<p><b>40. Transcending the Medical Frontiers: Exploring the Future of Psychedelic Drug Research</b>, David Jay Brown, <i>Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies</i>, June 2011 There has been a renewed scientific interest in the pharmacology of psychedelics. This article points to the recent research and discusses <b><i>the benefits of psychedelics as a class of drugs.</i></b></p>	183
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