

## DRUG POLICY REFORM READING LIST

*Drug Crazy* by Mike Gray. Random House 1998. This book examines both local and international events which detail the failure of the war on drugs. While the focus is the United States the general principles apply to Canada. It is an easy, compelling read and is a good summary of why North American drug policy is not working.

*Modernising Australia's Drug Policy* by Alex Wodak and Timothy Moore. This short, accessible book was written by the individuals who are largely responsible for introducing harm reduction and supervised injection sites in Australia. This book is easy to read and covers all the main issues. It makes a compelling argument that there are significant benefits to all, when a "public health" response to drugs is implemented.

*Drug War Heresies: Learning from other Vices, Times and Places* by Robert MacCoun and Peter Reuter. 2001. Cambridge University Press. An academic analysis of the failures of drug prohibition that looks at the global context of the drug policy debate.

*Drug War Politics - The Price of Denial* by Eva Bertram et al. University of California Press, 1996. An excellent book which goes beyond the failure of the war on drugs. It explores the alternate models and comes to the compelling conclusion is that the Public Health Model is the most desirable. How this model would impact treatment, prevention, and enforcement is explored.

*Peaceful Measures - Canada's Way Out of the War on Drugs* by Bruce Alexander. University of Toronto Press, 1993, 1997. This book looks at historical and current drug policy in Canada and suggests specific policy strategies to help decrease the "war on drugs".

*Why Our Drug Laws Have Failed and What We Can Do About It: A Judicial Indictment of the War on Drugs* by Judge James P. Gray. 2001 This analysis of why the war on drug is failing is extremely good. The solutions point in the right direction but do not go far enough.

*Busted: Stoned Cowboys, Narco-Lords, and the Failure of Washington's War on Drugs* by Mike Gray, 2002. This collection of essays are easy and fun to read. Together they offer insight into the multitude of problems associated with current drug policies.

*Heroin Century* by Tom Carnwath and Ian Smith. Routledge, London and New York. 2002. This book contains an up to date analysis of the pharmacological, social, criminal and health issues around heroin. It also comments on the policy debate and makes progressive recommendations.

*Ending the War on Drugs* by Dirk Chase Eldredge. Bridge Works, 1998. The author is a conservative republican and was an advisor to President Ronald Reagan. He examines why the war on drugs has failed repeatedly and now creates many of the problems it was designed to solve. He suggests that the process of law enforcement is not the solution to this social/health problem and that prevention and treatment should be expanded.

*Smoke and Mirrors: The War on Drugs and the Politics of Failure* by Dan Baum. Little Brown Co. 1997. This book is a detailed and blistering examination of why the war on drugs in the USA was created and why it is failing.

*The Fix* by Michael Massing. Simon and Schuster, 1998. This American book explores how treatment is more effective than criminalization in dealing with North America's drug problems.

*Safety First Program: A Reality-Based Approach to Teens, Drugs, and Drug Education*, by Masha Rosenbaum. Available on the internet (Lindesmith Center), 1999. This work is an exploration of the principles of a harm reduction program for youth

*Our Right to Drugs: The Case for a Free Market*. By Thomas Szasz. Syracuse University Press. 1992. This book details the libertarian, free market approach to drug control.

*The Real Drug Abusers* by Fred Leavitt. Rowan & Little Field Pub. 2003. This book explores both the legal and illegal drug industries and examines the social and economic factors which maintain drug prohibition.

*Drug Control in a Free Society* by James Bakler and Lester Grinspoon. Cambridge University Press. 1984. This book is an exploration of the failures of drug prohibition and the beginning exploration of alternatives.

*How to Legalize Drugs* By Jefferson M. Fish. 1998. Aronson Press. A series of articles exploring issues related to both the failures of drug prohibition and options for the future.

Mark Haden, November 2006, Vancouver Coastal Health