

EIGHTH EDITION

Drugs, Behavior, and Modern Society

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For my grandsons

**Aaron Matthew Levinthal
and
Michael Samuel Levinthal**

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PREFACE

In today's world, drugs and their use have the potential for good and for bad. As a society and as individuals, we can be the beneficiaries of drugs—or their victims. This perspective continues to be the message of *Drugs, Behavior, and Modern Society*, Eighth Edition. As has been the case since the first edition, this book introduces the basic facts and major issues concerning drug-taking behavior in a straightforward, comprehensive, and reader-friendly manner. A background in biology, sociology, psychology, or chemistry is not necessary. The only requirement is a sense of curiosity about the range of chemical substances that affect our minds and our bodies and an interest in the challenges these substances bring to our society and our daily lives. These challenges can be framed in terms of three fundamental themes.

- *The role of drug-taking behavior throughout history*—First of all, present-day issues concerning drug misuse and abuse are issues that society has confronted for a long time. Drugs and drug-taking behavior are consequences of a particularly human need to feel stronger, more alert, calmer, more distant and dissociated from our surroundings, or simply good. It is the misuse and abuse of chemical substances to achieve these ends that have resulted in major problems in the United States and around the world.
- *The diversity in psychoactive drugs in our society*—There is an enormous diversity among drugs that affect the mind and the body. We need to educate ourselves not only about illicit drugs such as cocaine, amphetamines, heroin, hallucinogens, and marijuana but also about legally available drugs such as alcohol, nicotine, and caffeine. *Drugs, Behavior, and Modern Society* has been designed as a comprehensive survey of all types of psychoactive drugs, addressing the issues of drug-taking behavior from a combination of psychological, biological, and sociological perspectives.
- *The personal impact of drug-related issues in our lives*—Finally, we need to recognize that, like it or not, the decision to use drugs is one of life's choices in contemporary society, regardless of our racial, ethnic, or religious background, how much money we have, where we live, how much education we have acquired, whether we are male or female, and whether we are young or old. The potential for misuse and abuse is a problem facing all of us.

New To This Edition

The Eighth Edition of *Drugs, Behavior, and Modern Society* is divided into six sections:

- *Part One* (Chapters 1–3): Drugs in Society/Drugs in Our Lives
- *Part Two* (Chapters 4–7): Legally Restricted Drugs in Our Society
- *Part Three* (Chapters 8–11): Legal Drugs in Our Society
- *Part Four* (Chapters 12 and 13): Enhancers and Depressants
- *Part Five* (Chapters 14 and 15): Medicinal Drugs
- *Part Six* (Chapters 16 and 17): Prevention and Treatment

As you will see, chapters about particular drugs have been grouped not in terms of their pharmacological or chemical characteristics but, rather, in terms of how readily accessible they are to the general public and today's societal attitudes toward their use. The last section of the book concerns itself with prevention and treatment. In addition, several special features throughout the book will enhance your experience as a reader and serve as learning aids.

This text is available in a variety of formats—digital and print. To learn more about our programs, pricing options, and customization, visit www.pearsonhighered.com.

By the Numbers . . .

At the beginning of each chapter, a feature called **By the Numbers . . .** provides an often surprising and provocative insight into current viewpoints and research. It is presented in a brief, quantitative format that draws you into the chapter and sets the stage for further exploration.

Quick Concept Checks

Sometimes, when the material gets complicated, it is good to have a quick way of finding out whether you understand the basic concepts being explained. Each chapter of this book includes, from time to time, a **Quick Concept Check**, where you can see in a minute

or two where you stand. Some of the Checks are in a matching format; others involve interpreting a graph or diagram. In some cases, you will be asked to apply the principles you have learned to a real-world situation.

Portraits

Seventeen **Portrait** features, one in each chapter, take you into the lives of individuals who either have influenced our thinking about drugs in our society or have been affected by drug use or abuse. Some of these people are known to the public at large, but many are not. The subjects of these Portraits include a brutal drug trafficker (Pablo Escobar, Chapter 2), a movie star (Robert Downey Jr., Chapter 4), a convicted killer (David Laffer, Chapter 5), a cultural icon (Timothy Leary, Chapter 6), and a depressive U.S. President (Abraham Lincoln, Chapter 13). All the Portraits put a human face on discussions of drugs and behavior. They remind us that we are dealing with issues that affect real people in all walks of life, now and in the past.

Drugs . . . in Focus

There are many fascinating stories to tell about the role of drugs in our history and our present-day culture, along with important facts and serious issues surrounding drug use. A total of 26 **Drugs . . . in Focus** features are presented in the Eighth Edition. The topics of these features cover a wide range, from questions about the origins of the word *coca* in Coca-Cola (Chapter 4) and possible hallucinogenic witchcraft in seventeenth century Salem, Massachusetts, (Chapter 6), to future possibilities of gene doping in the Olympics (Chapter 12) and the present-day use of “truth serum” in terrorist interrogations (Chapter 13).

Health Line

Helpful information regarding the effectiveness and safety aspects of particular drugs, specific aspects of drug-taking behavior, and new medical applications can be found in 22 **Health Line** features throughout the book. Health Line topics include understanding the neurological basis for drug craving (Chapter 3), the controversy over the use of stimulant medications as “smart pills” (Chapter 4), concerns over a new synthetic marijuana called Spice (Chapter 7), the risks of smoking mentholated cigarettes among African Americans (Chapter 10), “doctor-shopping” and prescription pain medications (Chapter 14), and alcohol prevention programs like Alcohol 101 on college campuses (Chapter 16), to name a few.

Health Alert

Information of a more urgent nature is provided in 14 **Health Alert** features. You will find important facts that you can use to recognize the signs of drug misuse or abuse and ways in which you can respond to emergency drug-taking situations, as well as useful Internet links where you can go for assistance. Health Alert topics in the Eighth Edition include strategies to avoid adverse effects of drug-drug and food-drug combinations (Chapter 3), the risks of cocaine combined with alcohol (Chapter 4), emergency guidelines for adverse reactions to LSD (Chapter 6) or alcohol (Chapter 8), and the dangers of Rohypnol as a date-rape drug (Chapter 13).

Point/Counterpoint Debates

Drug issues are seldom black or white, right or wrong. Some of the most hotly debated questions of our day concern the use, misuse, and abuse of drugs. These issues deserve a good deal of critical thought. This is why at specific locations in this book, I have taken five important controversies concerning drugs, collected the key viewpoints pro and con, and created a **Point/Counterpoint** debate based on a simulated conversation that two hypothetical people might have on that question. The Point/Counterpoint features appear at the end of the chapter that deal specifically with the controversy addressed in the debate. I invite you to read these debates carefully and try to arrive at your own position, as an exercise in critical thinking. Along with considering the critical thinking questions for further discussion that follow each Point/Counterpoint feature, you may wish to continue the debate in your class.

Supplements

Pearson Education is pleased to offer the following supplements to qualified adopters.

Instructor’s Manual and Test Bank (0-205-04839-0)

This Instructor’s Manual and Test Bank provides instructors with support material, classroom enrichment information, and wealth of assessment questions. Corresponding to the chapters in the text, each of the manual’s 17 chapters contains discussion questions, lecture outlines, video suggestions, and a test bank, which

includes an extensive set of multiple choice, true/false and essay questions.

MyTest Test Bank (0-205-04837-4)

This test bank is available in computerized format, which allows instructors to easily create and print quizzes and exams. Questions and tests can be authored online, allowing instructors ultimate flexibility and the ability to efficiently manage assessments anytime, anywhere. Instructors can easily access existing questions, edit, create, and store using simple drag and drop Word-like controls. For more information, go to www.PearsonMyTest.com.

PowerPoint Presentation (0-205-04836-6)

The PowerPoint Presentation is an exciting interactive tool for use in the classroom. Each chapter pairs key concepts with images from the textbook to reinforce student learning.

MyPsychLab (www.mypsychlab.com)

This online study resource offers a wealth of animations and practice tests, plus additional study and research tools. With this edition, there are now new assessments, web and video/media links, and flash cards. www.pearsonhighered.com

An Invitation to Readers

I welcome your reactions to *Drugs, Behavior, and Modern Society*, Eighth Edition. Please send any comments or questions to the following address: Dr. Charles F. Levinthal, Department of Psychology, 135 Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY 11549. You can also communicate by fax at 516 463-6052 or at the following email address: charles.f.levinthal@hofstra.edu. I look forward to hearing from you.

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Charles F. Levinthal