

HEALTHY LIVING *illegal drugs*

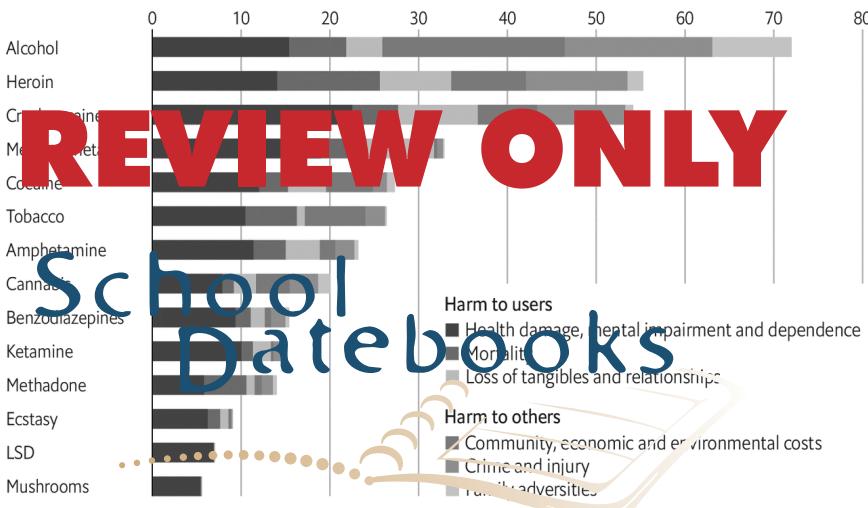
FACT AND FICTION:

Drugs: Collateral Damage

Drug users will often rationalize (i.e., excuse) drug use by labeling use a personal choice which only affects themselves. This reasoning could not be further from the truth. Drug use hurts everyone around the user, from the farmer forced into working for an illegal drug organization to the average person walking down the street. We all are victims of the violence, crime, cost, and loss that stems from drug use.

Paying through the nose

Britain, drug harm score (out of 100), selected drugs, 2010



Source: "Drug harms in the UK: a multicriteria decision analysis", by D. Nutt et al., *The Lancet*

The Economist

REVIEW ONLY

School Datebooks

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Addiction Rank: 2nd

Harmfulness: 3rd

Description: A colorless or white crystalline alkaloid extracted from coca leaves.

Side Effects: Sudden surges in blood pressure, constriction of the vessels in the body, elevated heart rate, reduction in appetite, increased body temperature, paranoia, irritability, restlessness, auditory hallucinations, mood disturbances.

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Addiction Rank: 1st

Harmfulness: 2nd

Description: A white, odorless, bitter crystalline compound that is derived from morphine and is a highly addictive narcotic.

Side Effects: Fatal overdose, possible contraction of HIV/AIDS, collapsed veins, Hepatitis, liver disease, infection of the heart lining and valves, constricted pupils, nausea, and respiratory depression, which in extreme cases may result in death.

Drug Cards:

These are substance cards. They let us know what a substance is and the harm it causes. *Can you make your own?*