

Alcohol abuse is one of the leading causes of death in the United States, killing over 100,000 people annually. More than 75 million people have, at some time, been alcohol abusers, and there are more than 18 million people dependent on alcohol in the U.S. today.

Other drug abuse, involving cocaine, marijuana and heroin, causes the deaths of 20,000 people annually, and there are more than three million people addicted to illegal drugs in the U.S.

Addiction studies involving "animal models" have cost billions of dollars, have caused tremendous pain and suffering and have killed millions of animals. The studies have often just reinforced observations already made in human clinical studies.

While our government spends hundreds of millions of dollars annually on useless animal addiction studies, human addicts must wait six months or longer to get into underfunded treatment programs.

Facts You Should Know

- Heroin is used by over 250,000 people annually.
- 4.5 million people regularly use cocaine.
- There are over 2.6 million people who use prescription drugs such as sedatives and tranquilizers for non-medical use.
- 24 million people ages 12 and older admitted using cocaine, heroin, marijuana or other drugs last year.
- Current substance abuse is estimated to cost U.S. society over \$152 billion annually.

Fatalities involving alcohol and other drugs:

- 64% of fire fatalities, 50% of auto accidents, 33% of drownings, and 30% of suicides are attributable to alcohol and other drugs.
- 50% of all prison inmates had alcohol in their bloodstreams at the time of their crimes.
- In 70% of homicides and assaults, either victim, assailant or both had alcohol in their bloodstream.
- Alcohol is frequently the cause of child and spouse abuse as well as other forms of family violence.
- 16% of fatal juvenile crimes involved using crack-cocaine.

Based on U.S. statistics.