

lecture 21:

***Finish Drugs and Alcohol,
Start Desistance***

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1

theories of drug/alcohol use

- Biological and Psychological
- Sociological (mirror theories of crime)
 - Individual
 - Self- and Social-Control (Hirschi)
 - Social Learning (Sutherland, Ron Akers)
 - Group/Subcultural (Becker) – socialization
 - Societal/Structural
 - Anomie (Merton)
 - Conflict (Reinarman, Erich Goode)
- Medicalization: health & disease model

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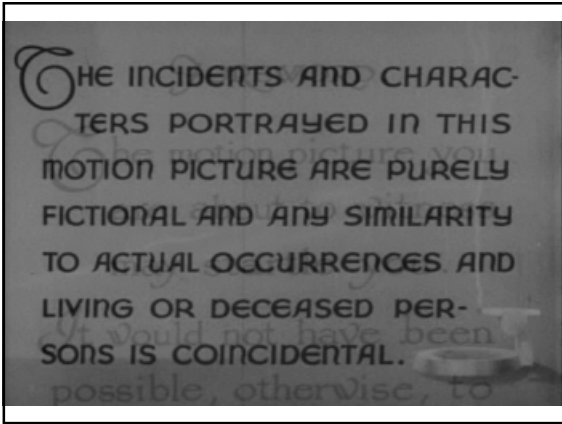
2

Howard Becker, 1963 Outsiders

- Learning to use Marijuana
 - identify appropriate internal states
 - associate those states with the drug use
 - define the states as pleasurable (disoriented, nauseous)
- Subculture
 - socialization
 - supply
 - neutralizes stigma
- *Reefer Madness* and moral panics

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3



alcohol

- **Prevalence**
 - Roughly: 1/3 abstain; 1/3 light; 1/3 moderate+
 - 10% drink half of all alcohol produced
 - Costs?
- **Correlates**
 - Youth; Men; High SES;
 - Culture - race/ethnicity and religious differences
- **Concepts**
 - "Alcoholism" -physical dependence and withdrawal?
 - distinct from problem drinking (consequences)
 - problem drinking, binge drinking, and social drinking
- **Alcohol in International Relations**
 - Don't try this at home. Uggen's identical twin "Roy"

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social control

- **Prohibition**
 - 18th Amendment (1920-1933)
- **Legal Regulation**
 - "package stores"
- **Education/Prevention**
- **Substitution/Harm reduction**
- **Treatment**
 - Detox, AA, "Controlled Drinking"

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3 desistance studies

1. adlers: leaving dealing/smuggling

- Dealers go through “shifts and oscillations”
 - “desistance” as a process, not an abrupt act
- Simple aging and burnout
- “Phasing out”
 - chance for ‘last big score’ can end in prison
 - attempts to try legitimate businesses
- Reentering as “comeback” or relapse?
- Career shifts (some in drugs, some out)

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2. pryor: exiting child molesting

- Honest on methods – fear (p. 510)
 - Do you believe the offenders?
- Move from “discreditable” (secret deviant) to “discredited” (busted)
- 3 stages out of offending
 - Boundary reemergence (regrets)
 - Detection (confrontation by spouse or victim)
 - Reaction and devastation (relief or panic?)
- Film: *The Woodsman*

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3. devah pager, criminal record

- “audit study” in milwaukee, wi
- identical testers: 2 African Americans, 2 white
- who was called back?
 - White no record: 34%
 - White criminal: 17%
 - African American no record: 14%
 - African American criminal: 5%
- are you surprised by the results? Would they be the same in minneapolis?

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next - by request! a movie

- **Film: *The Woodsman***
 - Caution: this is an R-rated film dealing with a released sex offender.
- **Readings for 11/22**
 - Clinard & meier: corporate & white collar crime (pp. 202-244)
 - Adlers, Lieberbach on medical crime (pp. 445-454)
 - Adlers, DeYoung on moral panics
- **Group exercise on moral panics**
