



Promoting evidence-based drug policy,  
human rights & public health

**Facts Change Minds**

**Hello, I am Greg Chipp, CEO of Drug Policy  
Australia.**

# About Drug Policy Australia



**We believe that legally enforced abstinence is unrealistic, unhealthy and counter-productive in modern Australia which has one of the highest per capita consumption rates of illicit drugs in the western world.**

# Constitution of Drug Policy Australia

The Company is established to pursue charitable purposes only.

The principal purposes of the Company are to promote the prevention and control of diseases associated with the use of psychoactive substances, by way of a harm minimisation approach, **through public education, research and advocacy.**



## **Board of Directors**

- **Greg Chipp BA (Monash) – Director & Chairman**
- **Dr John Sherman – Director**
- **Stephanie Tzanetis LLB. BA (Hon) Director**
- **Annie Madden – Director**

## **Advisory Board & Patrons**

- **Tony Trimingham OAM**
- **Professor Nick Crofts MBBS MPH FAFPHM**

# Drug Policy Advocacy NGO

Registered with the **Australian Charities & Not-For-Profits Commission** (ACNC) as a Health Promotion Charity.

Charity subtypes are:

- Advancing health
- Promote the prevention or the control of diseases
- Promote or oppose a change to law, government policy or practice
- Registered with Australian Tax Department & eligible for Tax deductible donations (Deductible gift recipients Status)



Consultative status with the  
United nations

# **International drug policy – The current treaty system**

- 1961 UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (as amended by the 1972 Protocol)
- 1971 UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances
- 1988 UN Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances

## **OBJECTIVE:**

- Prohibit supply & demand for non-medical purposes
- Ensure adequate access of controlled substances for scientific and medical purposes.





**“Hello my name is Greg and I’m an addict.”**

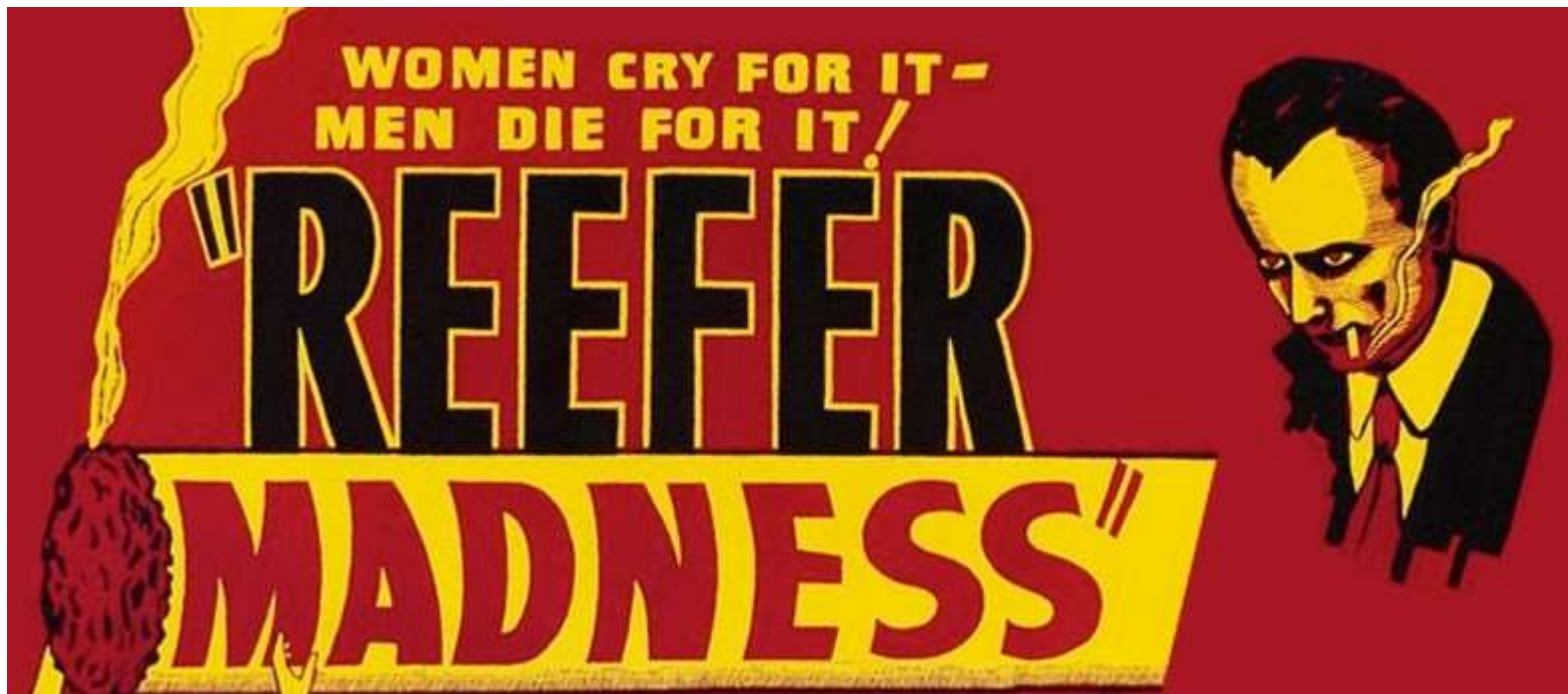


# **The Assumptions of Prohibition**

Drugs use is as old as civilisation itself, but the worldwide prohibition on drugs is a new phenomenon.

What are the assumptions of the prohibition and how can we challenge them?

# The Prohibition Propaganda



# The Prohibition Propaganda



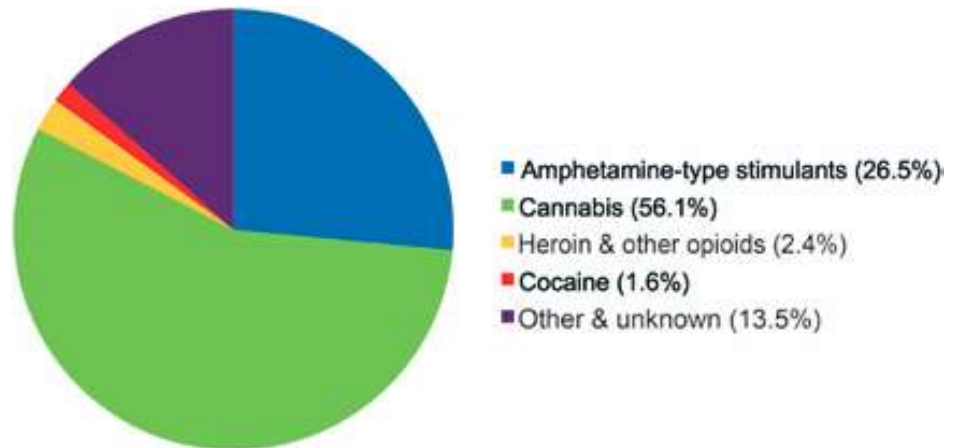
# Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission

## ILLICIT DRUG DATA REPORT 2015–16



There were a record 154 538 illicit drug arrests in 2015–16

### ARRESTS by Drug Type



# **Prohibition is a Failed Experiment**

Drugs use is as old as civilisation itself,  
but the worldwide prohibition on drugs  
is a new phenomenon.

Can't arrest our way out of the problem!

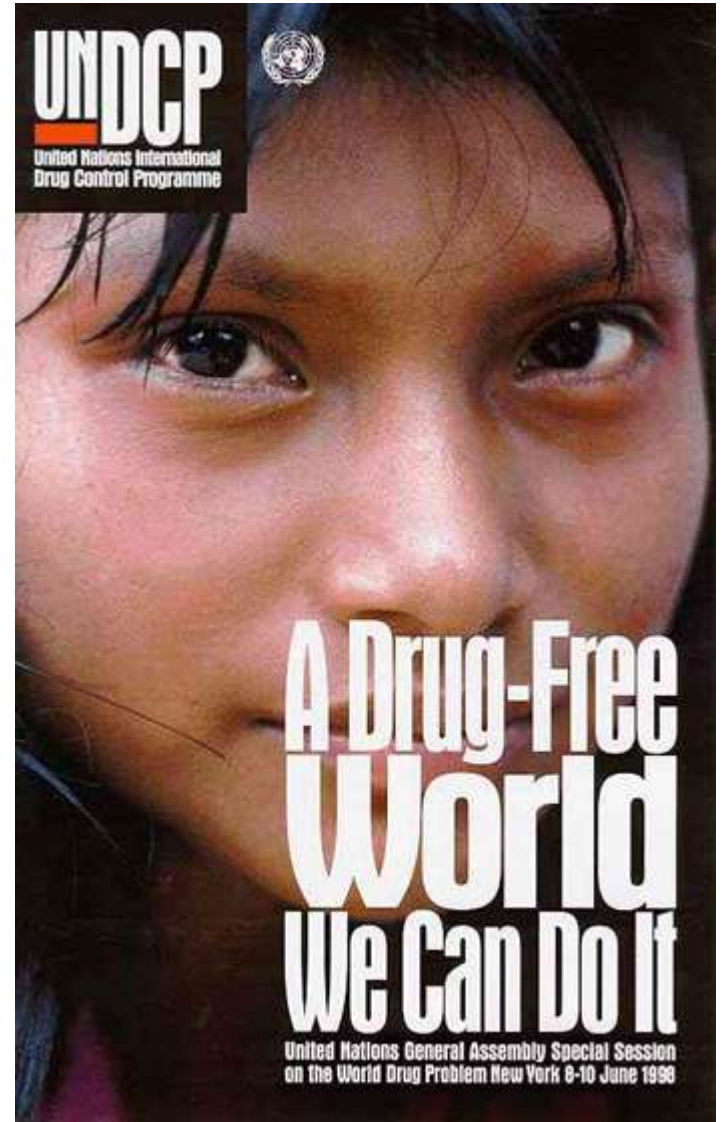
# **Prohibition is a Failed Experiment**

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is a new phenomenon.

# United Nations Drug Control

A drug Free  
world?

What does  
this mean?

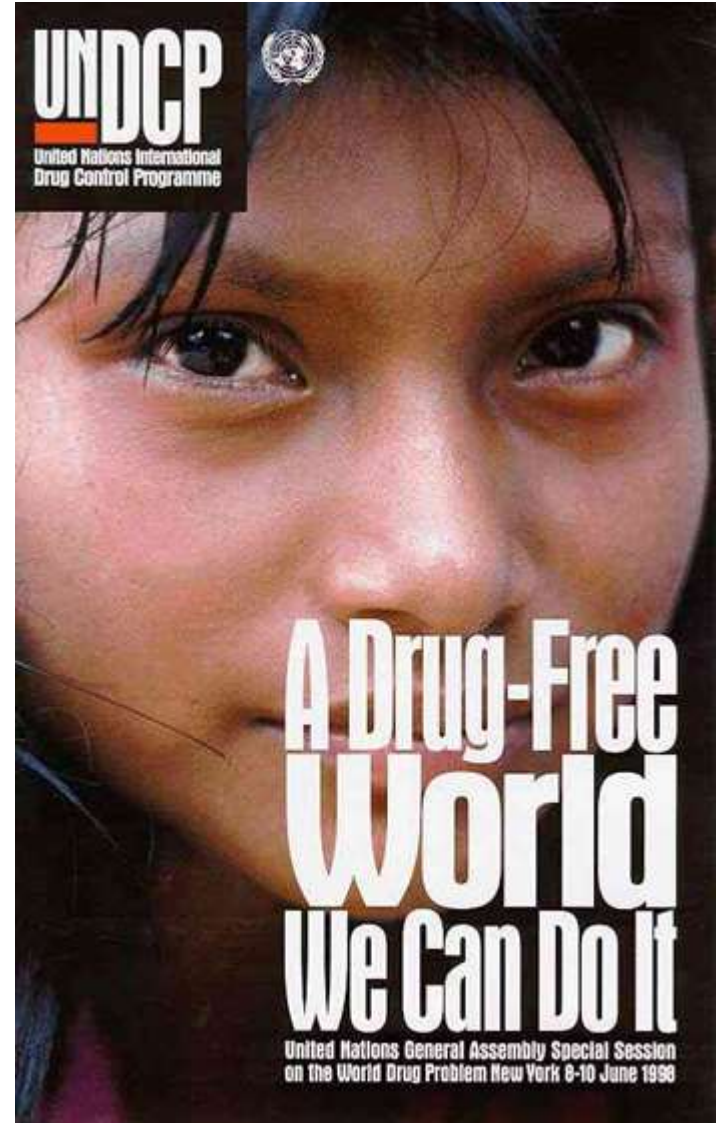




# United Nations Drug Control

A drug Free  
world?

An  
Impossible  
Dream





**[www.drugpolicy.org.au](http://www.drugpolicy.org.au)**  
**Greg Chipp 0417 773372**

# Reading

- **High Price: A Neuroscientist's Journey of Self-Discovery That Challenges Everything You Know About Drugs and Society by Dr Carl Hart**
- **Chasing the Scream: The First and Last Days of the War on Drugs by Johann Hari**
- **In the Realm of Hungry Ghosts: Close Encounters with Addiction by Gabor Mate**
- **Drugs Without the Hot Air by David Nutt**
- **Unbroken Brain: A Revolutionary New Way of Understanding Addiction by Maia Szalavitz**
- **Drugs Unlimited: The Web Revolution That's Changing How the World Gets High by Mike Power**