

BOOK REVIEW

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A Review of "Narcotics and Narcotic Addiction"

REFERENCE: Maurer, D. W. and Vogel, V. H., *Narcotics and Narcotic Addiction*, 4th ed., Charles C Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 473 pages, \$15.75.

For the many persons who have an interest in current drug abuse problems, this fourth edition of *Narcotics and Narcotic Addiction*, by Maurer and Vogel, is a clearly written and comprehensive presentation of this vitally important problem in our modern times and society. The treatment of the multifaceted subject of drug abuse in this book is sufficiently broad that a wide variety of interested persons may gainfully turn to it.

The practicing physician will obtain information on the clinical, pathophysiological, diagnostic, and therapeutic sides of the problem. The toxicologist will find information and guidance on the methodology for identification of many of the drugs of abuse currently in use in the section by Winek.

The psychologist and the penologist will find discussions on personality types and reaction patterns of drug abusers, based on the wide hospital and clinical experience of the authors over many years. Those in the legal and legislative fields will gain a background on personality types, tendencies, and activities associated with those who abuse drugs.

Sociologists will obtain orientation and guidance on a variety of rehabilitation programs that have been tried over the years, and on the large number of subcultures that have been spawned by drug abuse. Law enforcement officers will get a comprehensive overview of the complex chain of events leading from the production of the drugs of abuse to the ultimate consumer.

Those with a historical bent will be led to the early roots of drug abuse and to the changes in patterns of the drug culture as it has been affected by technologic, social, political changes over the past hundreds of years. The anthropologist and the linguist will be interested in the chapter on the distinctive sublanguage of drug abusers, and in the comprehensive glossary of the narcotic argot.

For the reader who has specialized in depth in a particular part of the drug abuse field, the remainder of this book should prove interesting, broadening, and very informative.

For those wishing to pursue further the variety of drug abuse problems here discussed, there are 232 references cited.

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