



## Really!?

Drug Use is the Contagion and further permission models will only increase this disturbing toll. #DemandReduction

More than a quarter of a billion people worldwide use drugs. Over 35 million people suffer from drug use disorders.

An estimated 11.3 million people worldwide inject drugs. Worldwide, every eighth person who injects drugs is living with HIV.

Almost half of all people who inject drugs, an estimated 5.5 million people worldwide, are living with hepatitis C.

Almost one million people who inject drugs are infected with hepatitis B.

World Drug Report 2020 Booklet 2 – UNODC (June 2020)

**“Booze Big Killer: Alcohol killed more people than opioids (1423 deaths), benzodiazepines (1343), amphetamines (766) & cocaine (91).” Herald Sun 6/5/21**

**“53% of all police reported family violence incidents involved alcohol.”**

(Sutherland & Millsteed 2016 - Vic Crim Stats)

**This will ONLY increase... Covid Impact - Alcohol turnover increased by 27% in 2020, compared to only 1.6% in 2019. With December 2020 Sales Hitting an all time high.**

F.A.R.E Report 2021

## Baking Bad: Is Your Rental Home Toxic? Residential Drug-Labs on the Rise.

Drug use, manufacture and property damage are back in the headlines and the problem is causing major headaches for landlords, real estate agents and insurance companies. Post covid, this issue is exacerbated, as multiple unforeseen circumstances have seen both increases in drug trafficking and use with many other negative social outcomes, including the urgent need for safe housing.<sup>1</sup>

The following article summarises what is now a growing problem nationally.

**Thousands spent on drug remediation works in Qld public housing | The Courier Mail (5/4/21)**

*Hundreds of thousands of dollars has been forked out on contracts that involve drug remediation works and treatment in Queensland's public housing.*

*The state's Housing Department spent more than \$300,000 on at least 24 contracts that involved drug remediation works in the 6 months to December 31 last year.*

*The department has confirmed all of the contracts related to remediation works for “drug use residue”, and that some included swab testing to identify chemical staining following notifications from police.*

*The contracts ranged in value from about \$10,300 to over \$17,000, with a department spokeswoman saying remediation work – including drug remediation work – was sometimes required to maintain a “safe property”.*

*The department spokeswoman said Queensland Police Service data showed*

*there were two drug labs identified in public housing last financial year – compared to 66 in the private market.*

Real Estate Agents which the Dalgarno Institute has interviewed, have confirmed not only the above, but more, with accounts of properties being over 50 x safe limits of drug toxicity – and not from manufacture, but simply chronic and consistent use of various drugs by tenants. Given this background it seems sensible for anyone seeking to rent or buy a property to have proper testing regulations of homes not dissimilar to contracts subject to termite inspections.

Whilst alarmism and hyperbole are unhelpful in any context<sup>1</sup>, erring on the side of more robust scrutiny is the wise course of any resident concerned with health, safety, and well-being.



However, somewhat predictably, some drug information resource organisations are not only downplaying concerns, but also fail to disclose the full extent surrounding the widespread issues and substantial concerns regarding drug labs manufacturing and its harms. Also downplaying building and property contamination and the flow on effects causing serious human health hazards.<sup>1</sup>

(continued on page 4)

# What's Up at Dalgarno?

## Education: *Humpty*

### *Dumpty Resiliency Project* –

National Promotion: In early May this year, we deployed our first nation wide promotion of our online resources to all secondary schools. The no-cost option of the [Humpty Dumpty Dilemma Resilience Building Project](#) was the centre piece of this promotion, however, we also promoted our popular Party Girl video curriculum, co-produced with A.T.O.M (Australian Teachers Of Media).

## International Advocacy:

Along with our Executive Director being on the International Board of World Federation Against Drugs, and Dalgarno being members of ISSUP, our **ECOSOC** application is finally moving forward after the COVID hiatus. We completed final paperwork and are now waiting for the adjudication from the United Nations committee.

Consultative Status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (**ECOSOC**) is the highest status granted by the United Nations to non-governmental organizations

(NGO's), thereby allowing them to participate in the work of the United Nations.

Our [submission to the UNGASS 2016](#) and the Executive Directors presentation at the October 2020 UNODC Commission on Narcotic Drugs International Forum, put us in good stead for this accreditation

## Dalgarno Merchandise and our Online Store:

We have recently upgraded our online store to our extensive education resources list, we have had Merchandising. You can now purchase T's, Caps and Hoodies directly from the site, and with potential to add # options to the clothing item you chose. The margins are small, but not only does every cent count, the conversation starters this apparel will generate are invaluable for getting our #DemandReduction message out. Go to Dalgarno site and click on the shopping cart in top menu, or click on STORE at [www.nobrainier.org.au](http://www.nobrainier.org.au)

**New Search Bot:** Dalgarno Institute is currently working on a website capacity upgrade for

our Dalgarno site offering. The deployment of a new 'chat/search bot' is being added to the site to significantly enhance not only information accessibility, but formatting by the site visitor for note taking, research and talking points. Keep an eye out for this in the coming weeks.

## Society for Prevention Research Conference

**involvement:** In June, this year the S.P.R will conduct their [Annual Conference](#). This year our Executive Director has been asked to co-present with international experts on the misinformation and unattended harms of cannabis. The society decided to address this issue and take the growing cannabis industry misinformation and lack of scientific to task. It is a real privilege for our E.D to be involved.



## Cannabis Conundrum Continues

For extensive and up-to-date research, information and data on the growing 'Cannabis Conundrum' put the following Dalgarno online resources into your Bookmarks.

[Cannabis As Medicine](#)

[Cannabis Conundrum](#)

[Cannabis Conundrum Continues](#)

[Cannabis Conundrum Blog](#)



# Prevention & Demand Reduction – An All of Community Approach.



## Prevention & Demand Reduction – An all of Community Approach

The Dalgarno Institute has long advocated for an anthropological approach to the cultural 'symptom' of substance use. Drug use invariably causes (at the very least) some level of harm to both the drug user, their health and well-being or that of their family and community. On an ever-growing number of occasions, drug use creates a veritable maelstrom of disturbing outcomes and harms – many of which cannot be 'reduced', despite the claims of pro-drug advocates. Prevention (denying and/or delaying substance uptake) is the only best-practice for the developing brain demographic.

This is one of the core reasons why our long standing, but relatively small grass-roots movement, [has always sought to look 'behind' the noise of drug use and its outcomes to origins, motivators and initiates.](#)

Anthropologically sound proactive and protective elements have always been [part of our community education mechanisms](#), very much including the understanding of a consistent culture shaping Journey of resiliency building principles, values and relationships with

young people and their immediate socialisation contexts.

Engaging All of community – All of the family – with [one focus, one message and one voice of deny and/or delaying uptake](#). Our perception of reality is constructed socially, and that is done through recency, frequency, proximity and intensity. [What the young person is immersed in familial and culturally will shape the development of the emerging citizen.](#)

So, it is imperative that what focus, message and voice our young people are exposed to on drug use does not create cognitive dissonance or deliver contradictory messaging and modelling in the public square. Any confusion in this space only diminishes the protective factors of the message. We do not have such cognitive dissonance around tobacco use on our culture, and subsequently demand for cigarettes has plummeted. All messaging must enable, equip, and empower the emerging generation to have greater capacity to develop their humanity, agency, and dignity without the drug use, **which only undermines these imperatives.**

Iceland too, understood much of this, and not only the value of the preventative 'all of community' approach, but the need for a disciplined, sustained, and uncompromised implementation of strategies be bought to bear. (Again much like our successful 'war on tobacco' in Australia) The outcomes, as we already understand from other historical models of 'all of society' shaping mechanisms; works.

The following is a link to the overview of this model, which is based in sound anthropological, not merely sociological principles – including Sustainable worldview, meaning, purpose, values and relationships – All things that keep [Humpty Dumpty from and unnecessary fragility and self-sabotaging risks.](#)

The Dalgarno Institute provides **B.O.W.I** (Better Off Without It) seminars for sporting clubs – **Bounce Back**, parent awareness seminars – **No Brainer** Primary and Secondary school curriculum, coaching and incursions, along with community forums and other culture shaping advocacy and education vehicles. These can all be found on our [www.nobrainier.org.au](http://www.nobrainier.org.au) and [www.dalgarnoinstitute.org.au](http://www.dalgarnoinstitute.org.au) websites/

Check our Planet Youth Core Elements <https://planetyouth.org/the-core-elements/>

PLANET Youth **THE CORE ELEMENTS**

## “Baking Bad”...continued.

The Dalgarno Institute as an advocacy and education provider works to promote protective factors and safety of all our citizens, but particularly for the overwhelming non-illicit drug using majority.

Unwanted and uninformed participation in 'secondary drug use' is dangerous and patently unfair for those subjected to it. This is no different to previous campaigns targeting the dangers from passive smoking.<sup>1</sup> Yet unlike cigarettes and cannabis that are easier to smell and notice, the manufacture of newer drugs such as ice are less obvious but far more porous and dangerous in homes even up to three years after drugs are produced.<sup>1</sup>

Concerns about use of illicit drugs, particularly growing or manufacturing in a residential home has legal support under property law with potential liabilities for non-disclosure that is subject to serious [legal consequences](#).

That level of concern about property habitability is not based on anecdotes or sporadic cases. REIV professionals have noted the increasing dire health problems and financial costs<sup>1</sup> associated with residential drug labs as detailed in the article below.

## Rental Home Made Family Sick – Shocked by Test Results

*"Well, my 13-year-old daughter's bedroom was 80 times the safe level"...Josh Marsden of Meth Lab Cleaners Australia told Seven News the problem is only getting worse. "We've seen properties that have been 15,000 to 20,000 times over the safe level".<sup>1</sup>*

But drug lab problems are certainly not limited to rentals. Dream homes, Airbnb's<sup>1</sup> and public housing are being rendered uninhabitable without expensive remediation that in one instance had the [Queensland government spending over \\$600,000 in three years](#) to repair damage from meth lab activity to public housing.

Although Queensland has held the unenviable title of having most residential drug labs, Australian's are the world's fourth leading consumers of methamphetamines,<sup>1</sup> consequently the contagion of residential drug labs is spreading to other states quickly. More disturbingly for Queensland (and indeed other states) these labs and their contaminations have an accompanying toll of family violence, abuse and neglect leading to an acceleration of 'Kincare' and the further fiscal and familial toll this takes.

And while the real estate industry has strenuously addressed this issue, it remains an ongoing concern as one agent told *Dalgarno Institute*, “It worries

the hell out of you, thinking that you may have been partly responsible for putting a family in a toxic environment, without even knowing it.”

Re-emphasising the issue of lingering harmfulness briefly mentioned earlier, it is important to underscore that toxins remain high even after significant time has elapsed as these Victorian residents discovered.

*“Although the time since the cooking had taken place was significant, the levels of contamination were extremely high in both household items that were part of the house when cooking was taking place, such as blinds, carpets, walls, and also in articles brought to the house post-cooking, including rugs, toys, beds.”<sup>1</sup>*

This was the emphasis of a 2009 US video produced by **Partnership for A Drug Free America: [Jamies Drug Problem](#)**, clearly showing the impact of drug labs on health, safety and well-being.<sup>1</sup>

Yet, despite the growing public and residential health concerns Australian national standards have lagged.

For complete report and Dalgarno Institute Recommendations go to <https://www.dalgarnoinstitute.org.au/advocacy/dalgarno-aod-policy/1465-is-your-rental-property-toxic-residential-drug-use-need-for-protective-legislation.html>

## SUPPORT OUR WORK!

HELP US MAKE IT EASIER TO SAY... 'NO THANKS'.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address

Postcode / / / /

Email  Phone

Please debit \$\_\_\_\_\_ from my credit card: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa

[illegible]Expiry Date  /  /  Signature 

■ Schools ■ Education ■ Fence Building ■ Bounce (Parent Night)

## LEAVING BEQUESTS

Many long time and faithful supporters have and will choose to leave a portion of their estate to the work of Temperance. Whilst over the years, the labour and passion of our movement has not changed, its name has.

Consequently we have had recent experiences of Estates leaving bequests to our work , but under a previous name. As you can imagine, this creates some legal issues and often delays or denies our movement receiving the gracious gift.

To avoid this, we would like to simply request that if you have, or intend on, leaving a bequest to the work of Temperance that you stipulate it be given to DALGARNO INSTITUTE (C.O.A.D.E Inc.) This will ensure your gift contributes to the continuation of helping Australians have a better chance of a safer and healthier future.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

