

A person is shown in profile, exhaling a large, billowing cloud of white smoke or vapor. The smoke fills the upper right portion of the frame. The background is a blurred indoor setting with a window and some furniture. The overall tone is light and airy.

41. Illicit substances and drugs

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Which drugs are legal?

- A drug is any substance that causes a temporary physiological (and psychological) change in the body when used
- Drugs are heavily regulated and controlled by national and international legislation
- Drugs in society are a taboo subject that is ever under heavy social signification in discourses

Which drugs are legal?

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- In health science we try to distance ourselves from social signification process in order to offer as objective information about subjective health effects as possible

Illegal substances in Finland

Cannabis, hashish,
Designer Drug forms
of cannabis

Stimulants: Amphetamine,
methamphetamine, MDMA
i.e. ecstasy

Opiates (opioids): Heroin,
morphine and replacement
therapy drugs:
Buprenorphine, nalokson
and Metadon

Drugs: Sedatives,
pain killers,
hypnotics

Psychedelics: LSD,
mushrooms, DMT

Designer Drugs

The main problem substance of those who have arrived to medical detoxification



Source: Päihdehuollon huumeasiakkaat 2013.

Internet and drugs

- Internet is full of information about drugs
- It's easy to surf with already fixed mind-set and find information that supports only your subjective perception
- Common fallacy is to rule drug use into realm of personal matters and disregard the impact of ones actions to close ones and to society
- Drug use has always consequences beyond individuals control

Homework

- How can you avoid drugs from taking over your life?

