The use of any other drugs other than those sanctioned by the Federal government, whether they are "good" or "bad" for you, is not a liberty in these United States. It makes no difference if you even knew that what you were doing was against the law.

Drug scheduling as we know it today came about, more or less, with the passing of the Controlled Substances Act of 1970. It was passed at a time when there were so many inconsistencies in the standards for control and penalization for drug manufacture, sale, and use that even the drug enforcement officials were frustrated. This item of uniform narcotics legislation sought to put just about every known drug into one of five possible categories known as the Federal drug schedules. To this day, this particular act has enabled the Federal government to restrict manufacture, distribution, and sale of drugs to that which falls within certain pre-set guidelines. It also totally criminalized many drugs, including marihuana, which the government determined to be “hazardous”, and therefore potentially threatening to the status quo. What this boils down to is: any individual who involves themselves with a drug in any manner other than the way detailed for it by the FDA is guilty of abusing that drug unlawfully. Furthermore, to use any asset-scheduled drug at all is to be guilty of abusing the drug criminally, even if the Fed’s aren’t even heard of it. The use of any drugs other than those sanctioned by the Federal government, whether they are “good”, or “bad” for you, is not a liberty in these United States. It makes no difference if you even knew that what you were doing was against the law.

It isn’t difficult to understand the advantages of a blanket approach to the problem of drug law enforcement. However, the methods by which a given drug is determined to be harmful, and to what extent you can be penalized for your involvement with it are often greatly disparate. It might seem as though the criteria for a drug to be considered harmful for law enforcement is not in keeping with an end which maintains the best interests of the public as a whole. We might’ve actually cared a little less about maintaining the status quo, if we had known that we were compromising our personal liberty in the creation of another drug which is currently scheduled. What follows is a more specific description of the three toughest schedules.

Schedule I: Means drugs which get you high and make you feel so good that you may find yourself unable to resist using them. They are not recognized by the FDA as possessing any significant medical uses. Because these drugs are seen as being harmful and without any redeeming characteristics, save for getting one high, they may not be prescribed or administered even under the supervision of a medical doctor. The only really legal way you can take these drugs is within the controlled environment of a research facility. Doctors who fall into this schedule include but are not limited to: MDA, MDMA (Ecstasy), psilocybin, THC, mescaline, marihuana (f), LSD, ibogaine, heroin, DMT, etc.

Schedule II: These drugs also have a high potential for abuse but they are also seen as having some medicinal uses. They are not normally prescribed for an individual’s home consumption without severe restrictions. As with Schedule I drugs, restricted use may result in a severe physical or psychological dependence. They may on occasion be administered to a patient while under medical supervision. Drugs which fall under this heading include amphetamine, methamphetamine, codeine, cocoa leaves, morphine, opium, methadone, etc.

Schedule III: This class of drugs also has a potential both for abuse and dependence but the FDA determines it to be less risky than or for the same reasons. They are also generally regarded as having medical use.

Scheduled IV & V follow with an appreciable reduction in the types of restrictions. Schedule V being the least stringent.

There was recently another setback for the current fight to reverse the Mandatory Minimum Sentencing regulations that are now affecting our nation. Where it was once standard to have one case heard in the county where in one was convicted, this is no longer the case. It is now at the discretion of the Federal Prosecutor to decide which district your case will be tried in. The only requisite that must be met is that it be tried by a court which has handled similar cases in the past. So that if once upon a time, someone was convicted for "selling" or "conspiring to sell" MDMA (for example) in Waco, TX, and later you gotfingered for selling or "conspiring to sell" psychodelcs in Dallas, your Federal Prosecutor for the Northern District of Texas may not transfer you to the Waco court. You may where you find yourself at the mercy of a judge with biases that are very likely to save your prosecutor’s agenda. That is: To fuck you up HARD. For as long as possible. 'Tis For Reals, folks.

*That which follows should in no way lead you to believe that Flipside Fanzine endorses the sale or use of psychedelics. Or any other drug for that matter. Take care of yourself. Asume your "Little Helper or Deadly Killer??!!"

Tips For the Smart Acid Dealer (to save yer butt from getting popped by the DEA)

Send the shit through the mail. It is difficult to detect a sheet of doses that are well concealed in a letter, so stick 'em in a Xmas card or fold up a sheet of paper and stuff it into an envelope that is thick enough that it will not rip open. Another envelope of the same size, the "SASE" may be preferable to use non perforated letter paper if you can. Post office is known to scan mail with X-rays and it might make a difference. Who knows? Use gloves when you are handling the envelope and papers to keep your fingerprints off - they DEA have been known to dust them for prints if they have reason to suspect that you are trafficking and happened to be checking your mail. If they trace the prints to you, it can be difficult to refute as evidence. Also, the DEA are now using DNA tests on saliva samples to identify the sender so whatever you do, do not lick the stamp or envelope. Use water or something else to seal it or poke up an envelope flap so that they DEA are not able to access it. They are very inexpensive and your freedom is priceless.

For delivery we recommend the "Express Mail" service (it costs $9.95) provided by the U.S. Postal Service for three reasons:

1) Federal law prohibits the tampering with of unopened U.S. mail. Services such as "Fed Ex" are owned and operated by private companies and are unaffected by this law because they are contracted by the sender. Signing this contract makes you a part of the network of private companies who are approved by Federal regulations designed to protect U.S. mail, therefore making it subject to the policies set up by that particular company. When you hire a private mail service, you forfeit your right to protection under the laws set up by the government.

2) Private companies such as this also frequently employ drug-sniffing dogs. They can sniff, search, x-ray, and seize your mail, then tip off the Feds and it is all perfectly legal. Not so with the U.S. Postal Service.

3) "Express" is the fastest. The least time it sits at the postal office, being sorted and handled by anybody other than the person who was sending it to, the better.

One thing that the DEAs or other Federal officials will check for is if you are suspected of transporting drugs or money in the mail is that there is a legitimate return address posted on the envelope. This is not a problem if you keep in mind that there will be a postmark on your envelope once it’s been processed; and that this mark will be an aid to any investigator who tries to trace it. So simply crack open your telephone book and choose an address which is in close proximity (by zip code) to the box you plan to send the goodies from. Try to alternate the mailboxes you use but make sure that you use a real address and correct postage to fudge it looks suspicious and may attract attention. Also, don’t fill out any of the information in your own regular handwriting, it could be the clue that incriminates you. Write it in a style you don’t normally use or ask someone else address it for you.

Just as you should never take a drug you know nothing about, so should you never sell drugs to someone you don’t know. If it is known that you could be in a position to obtain this from the wary who walk the street, your friends or do friend starts inquiring about your ability to get drugs in any quantity. If you are told that some rich friend of theirs wants to purchase 60 pages (approx. 60,000 hits) out of the blue. Do not suspect your distrust. Your friend could be in trouble himself and anxious to cut a deal by setting up others. It is unwise to show drugs to anyone who is in such a hurry to get them that they’ll badge your friends or acquaintances to set up a deal for them. If they are inquiring about buying and selling drugs, they are trying to get people to come to the mail, whereby there is never any hand to hand transfer. Set up a mailbox address under a different name.
and have them send you cash well concealed in a letter. Because you have to sign checks and money orders in order to cash them, they are an unsafe option. Last but not least, never, repeat NEVER show drugs to interested strangers. You'd better have a good reason to think they are truly cool.

If someone you don't know is trying to refer someone you don't know to you for the purpose of buying acid or anything else, ask your friend how they know the person they're referring and how long. Find out from your friend how the other party came to them to score. If they just met last weekend at some big concert, rave or party and don't know anything about the person they're dealing with, yet are foolish enough to consider doing business with them, it's probably best not to involve yourself in it. If you would normally trust that friend's judgment in these matters then let them deal with it. Have them act as liaison between you and the buyer so they never meet you directly. Hopefully, your friend will have the discretion not to identify you by name or personal introduction. If they do try to introduce you as someone with drugs to sell, DENY it. Politely laugh and say you don't know who your friend heard that but it's definitely not true. You might tell your friend later that you didn't mean to embarrass them but that you would rather be the one to decide who needs to know and who doesn't. Sure, they were just trying to be helpful, which is cool, but there is no reason to jump the gun and take any unnecessary risks doing it. It'll be your ass on the line if the shit hits the fan, so it should be up to you who you advertise to. You don't want to deal with bigmouths who do your advertising for you or who might really be only too happy to rat on you maliciously. By the same token, you want to avoid high risks like other dealers who sell openly to anybody, they are making themselves obvious targets. If they get popped, they will undoubtedly be offered the chance to cut a deal by cooperating with the Feds in setting up other busts. If the exchange for in-busts, they will be promised a reduction in their sentence. This is usually nothing more than a verbal promise of an unspecified reduction in time-served. The Feds don't really have the authority to carry out their promise. Whatever reduction you get is for the courts to decide. All the Feds can do is recommend you for a reduction and suggest a length of time, based on the work you spared them from having to do without established insider connections like yours. It is ultimately up to the judge to decide what size reduction, if any, will be applied in your case. A confidential informant(CI) may roll on everyone he knows or know, naming them ten (10) years or more apiece, and still only get five(5) years actually knocked off his sentence. When he gets it out he will be a known informant, more or less responsible for the sentences he assisted in obtaining for the people who trusted him and may have been quite cautious about their own dealings, yet thought the person they were dealing with was a friend. A rap like that can be tough to live down than the initial sentence, it sticks with you for life.

On phones: Think the phones are safe? Think again. Remember that private phones can be monitored 24 hours a day. Did you think that was illegal? Well, it really don't matter when it comes to the war on liberty. The technology is already in place to record who calls, who, name, number, and address. Granted, the law says that evidence recorded without the defendant's knowledge may not be used in court. However, that hardly matters if your phone is being monitored; you are already a suspect. If you incriminate yourself over the phone you open yourself up to the risk of a broader surveillance, one which may unearth harder evidence - enough to trap you. Therefore, proper drug etiquette is to not speak directly about them on the phone. Especially not your home phone. If you get busted for doing drug business over your home phone you jeopardize your home, because it may be safe to assume that you are doing business there. That is the case, you may even lose your home. If you must talk about it on the phone use a pay phone. It's tough to track you down at a pay- phone. Nevertheless, if the person you're calling is being monitored, you hardly want to incriminate them so set up key topics or words before hand so they can get the picture without being too obvious. If anybody calling is so indiscrete that they say "Hi, this is so and so, can I come over and buy some dopes from you?" tell them you're on the other line and get off the phone. Then call them back and say you want to see them and can you meet somewhere? Don't talk about drugs on the phone.

Educate yourself as much as possible about the drugs you are taking yourself, much less giving to others. Find out what you need to learn in order to prepare someone else for the trip. It's unwise to buy drugs from a dealer who can't or won't tell you what may be in store for you if you take their drugs. You're cutting a lot of faith in a dealer wherever you take their stuff. Better to make certain that the person you are dealing with has a measure of integrity and responsibility that considers your best interest and concerns to be of importance.

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by D.M.

Designer drugs have been around as long drugs themselves, just the reasons for which someone might “design” a drug has changed. It used to be that a chemist would take an effective drug, look at it, and wonder how to change it to make it stronger or more efficient. They might, deliberately or not, change its effect entirely, actually designing for a specific response. A chemist would call these different variations of a molecule “analogues”. Technically speaking, chemical analogues are usually only an atom or so different from each other. In this paper I’ll be a little more literal with the term, leaving out some of the lineage between these “cousins.” Analogues have certainly been the basis for much of the drug research that has ever been done, commercially or underground.

In the 60’s as it got to the point where drugs that produced euphoria and altered states of mind became more and more popular, the DEA had to come up with a method to “control” this situation. They created various schedules, or lists of drugs they deemed “abusive” and “without any medicinal value” and thus ultimately illegal. The mission of the clandestine chemists (or “cook”) became one of finding analogues that were, again, stronger or more effective, but mostly important, legal. It seemed that every time a new analog was created that was not illegal, the DEA quickly made it so by placing it into their drug schedules. The DEA even went so far as to start placing potentially active substances into their schedules (simply because they were analogues of active substances) and actually had scheduled compounds that were never even synthesized! Atas, in the last decade, with the governments hunger for more control of your life, and with the “war on drugs” great momentum, they had finally decided to simply make a certain state of mind illegal. With the Controlled Substances Analogues Enforcement Act of 1996 it seems that designing a non-illegal compound that gives the same effect as one that is illegal will no longer keep you out of jail. This vague piece of legislation makes the giving of, or the taking of, or even the possession with intent to take, any drug that in any way alters your state of consciousness, a felony. Well, that certainly takes care of any of the analogues that a cook might dream up. It virtually illegalizes everything, and in doing so also ruins it for legitimate scientific research into mind altering drugs. Oh well, just our government being as counterproductive as ever.

In the meantime, the underground doesn’t just stop producing certain drugs because they are illegal - it goes on. In fact, now that the DEA has done the footwork to make sure that all interesting analogues were included in their drug schedules, they have become a good source for the underground chemist looking for new products.

Just what are these analogues and how does one “design” a drug for a specific effect? Well folks, some of that is still voodoo. The bottom line is, we still really don’t fully understand why things such as LSD actually work. We do know that the many molecules that are very similar to LSD (it’s analogues) give a similar response. Even then, it’s hard to predict the quality or quantity of the response. With as much work that has been done on the ever so popular amphetamines, no one really predicted the unique effects that MDMA (Ecstasy) gives. So even though you can anticipate that making an analog of a drug with a specific effect will get you a similar effect, there are still a lot of surprises left to be uncovered.

Without a chemistry background, it would be hard for someone to understand the intricacies of analog drug chemistry! I’m presenting the topic here in a way I hope that everyone can understand. The pictures on these pages are designed to show you the basic molecule being studied (bolder lines) and its variations (lighter lines). The idea here is like that old game where you look at one picture, and then look at another similar picture and try and find out what is different. Without a chemistry background it is enough to just realize that members of the same families are only slightly different, and that the possibilities for even more differences is sometimes endless! If, on the other hand, you know some chemistry, you might realize that no attempt is made here to recognize isomers of the particular molecules. These pictures are presented on flat two dimensional paper, when in reality molecules fill three dimensional space. Often a molecular configuration in 3D space will effect its drug characteristics. These different variations are called isomers, but we’re not going to get into that here. I will mention that the knowledgeable “cook” realizes that, for example, d-methamphetamine is quite a bit stronger than L-methamphetamine. Thus, isomers must be taken into serious consideration in the clandestine underground.

Let’s start now by taking a look at some famous drugs that we’ve all been living with, and some surprising analogs. One of the oldest and most useful drugs is morphine. This fabulous pain killer is indeed “god’s gift to man.” Its main source is still from the rich latex of the opium poppy. In that latex, morphine is present at about 12% (dozens of other alkaloids are present as well). Morphine is indeed a complex molecule, and thus hard to synthesize. From very early on, chemists tried to design a more effective morphine. For drugs to be useful, they need to first off get into our blood stream without immediately being neutralized by our bodies.
own defenses against toxins, and secondly they need to cross the blood/brain barrier to be effective neurologically. Most analogues work by influencing either of those two mechanisms. All of the morphine analogues end up as morphine in our bodies, but their slightly different structures make them either less prone to breakdown, or more efficient blood/brain crossers. The most famous of all opiates is no doubt heroin, some 3 times stronger than morphine. Even though it (as well as the others) is converted to morphine in the body, long-term drug users can tell the difference in these drugs - and doctors can certainly tell you about their different addiction liabilities. No doubt millions of dollars have been spent trying to design that non-addicting morphine analog. The other popular opiate of abuse is probably Dilaudid - made famous in the movie "Drugstore Cowboy", it is ten times stronger than morphine. No wonder they were so excited to score a bottle of pure Dilaudid - and no wonder the unknowing girl died on the stuff. Yes, codeine and its analogues are in this family. "Percodan and Vicodin" pictured here are actually commercial drug mixtures of Aspirin and Acetaminophen respectively with the codeine analog being the major active ingredient). Notice how little difference there is between the molecules? A couple of rather interesting cousins are included here for your trivial interest. Problem is, no one is strongly common - as it is known as Dextromethorphan MDPV is a very common ingredient in many supermarket cough medicines. People have noticed its similarity to morphine and tried this drug in deliberate OD quantities. To their amazement, at doses above 90 mg, DM acts more like QPC than an opiate! Naloxone, another analog very similar to morphine, is actually a narcotic antagonist - it is the antidote for heroin ODs! Of the many many analogs, the last one pictured here can lay claim to the world's strongest drug. Etorphine (sold under the trade name Immobilon, and used to immobilize large animals), is over 3000 times stronger than morphine! A typical dose is in the one microgram range, making it hundreds of times stronger per gram/dose than even LSD-25. Drugs like this are difficult to deal with because of the precision needed in weighing and diluting the substance to make its handling and consumption practical.

Perhaps unique to the opiates is the work akin to a drug called fentanyl. In this case the designer drug was not an analog, but an entirely different molecule. There are, however, many different fentanyl analogues. Fentanyl, unlike the complex multi-ring structure of morphine, is much simpler to synthesize. It was indeed a dark day for the DEA (as well as for many unsuspecting junkies) when it was discovered that speed labs were starting to turn out fentanyl, often referred to and sold as synthetic heroin. Because of its very high potency, some 1000-3000 times that of morphine, the threat of overdose is very high. One single grain of a salt sized speck of pure fentanyl could mean a fatal OD. One ounce of pure 3-methyl fentanyl needs to be cut with over 150 pounds of lactose to give it the same dose effect as morphine. Do you trust your dealers? There are very many powerful fentanyl analogues, including commercial drugs like Sublimaze and Sufenta pictured here. Other analogues the DEA finds on the street include: paraflural fentanyl (only as strong as heroin), acetyl-alpha-methyl fentanyl (three times stronger than heroin), alpha-methylfentanyl (200 times that of heroin and longer acting than fentanyl), benzylfentanyl (an intermediate in fentanyl synthesis, but still 1/10 as strong as morphine), beta-hydroxy-3-methyl fentanyl, thiofentanyl, 3-methylfentanyl, fentanyl etc. Fentanyl has erroneously been referred to as "China White", the name for rather strong and pure Asian heroin. Yeah, but who buys fentanyl on the street? Well, often it is added to batches of heroin to increase potency, or even mixed with caramelize chocolate and quinine (for a bitter taste, since the quantity of fentanyl is too small to taste) for use as a "high-grade" brown heroin. ODEs that have been blamed on heroin could quite possibly have been fentanyl, since when you die they don't find the minute quantity of synthetic, they find heroin. There are a couple interesting substances a little far removed from the fentanyl structure but both included here for the heck of it. One is meperidine, or MPPP, also know by the brand name demerol. This is often doctored up to sell as heroin, or a number of other common street drugs. There are many active analogues of this molecule and, unfortunately, some deadly ones too. Without careful synthesis a cook making up MPPP can end up with some of the toxic byproduct MPTP. In fact, this byproduct is found to varying degrees in most street samples of MPPP, some samples actually containing the contaminant as its major component. MPTP is linked directly to the horrible, irreversible Parkinson's disease! Be wary if you buy "new heroin" or "synthetic!"

Another amazing compound is Loperamide, sold just about everywhere as imodium AD - an anti-diarrheal medication. Imodium AD was actually scheduled by the DEA at one time, but for some reason was taken off the list. It can be had in liquid or in tablet form from many different major pharmaceutical companies as well as in generic supermarket brands. Taken at about double the recommended dose, Loperamide can act just like morphine in relieving herion/morphine withdrawal symptoms. This is the reason for its official, and cheaper, active ingredient to provide morphine and controlled and Methadone. Some people actually claim that Loperamide has some other desirable opiate like effects as well. But some people say that about Methadone. Methadone itself only vaguely resembles the structures here, so I'm not picturing this Nazi developed nasty coat of government controlled nasty stuff named after Adolf Hitler himself!
LSD-25 is probably the most famous psychedelic drug ever developed. Few people realize just how many analogues, or "designer" acids exist and that they are probably what you are really dropping. Just like with morphine, these LSD analogues usually end up as LSD once they are in your body. ALD-52, which turns into LSD when it comes into contact with water, was in fact the substance found in the famous "Orange Sunshine" acid available in the 60's. Some of these analogues keep better (are less susceptible to light or oxygen degeneration than LSD-25) or are simply easier to make. It used to be thought that some of these were "legal" acids until the Controlled Substances Analogy act. People often complain about "speedy" acid or "bad" acid, well the truth is you never really know what LSD analogue you are buying. Sometimes a cook may not even know what analog, or combination thereof, he has prepared. LSD effects are also very sensitive to its isomers. The "d" in front of the name indicates a type of isomer; "iso" LSD (only different from d-LSD by its arrangement in 3D space) is in fact not very potent at all. A LSD cook must be careful to resolve these isomer problems, lest he be making a batch of "speedy" acid. You didn't really think they would cut acid with strychnine or speed did you? An odd analog is found in BOL-148, which like Naloxyone with morphine, is an antitoxin for the effects of LSD-25!

Perhaps the psychedelic with the worst reputation is PCP, or angel dust. Again, many analogues exist for this substance, but the bottom line is that PCP is relatively easy to make with available precursors, so why bother? As you can see, the simple substitution of amines at one location can lead to many different designer PCPs. When you start substituting onto other parts of the molecule, you can end up with the even more interesting examples and analogs. One of these is Ketamine, a powerful anesthetic in large doses, but a full fledged psychedelic in smaller hits. The character of a Ketamine or PCP trip is far different than that of LSD, most people don't seem to enjoy it's powerful body-mind dissociation qualities.

Moving right along to the tryptamines, you can see that there are quite a few analogues here as well. Look how similar DMT is to Psilocybin (the stuff in magic mushrooms), Bufotenine (the stuff in toad venom), and Serotonin (a neurotransmitter in your brain). There are many possibilities here. Even the graminines (one carbon shorter on that main carbon tail) are active in some forms. 5-Acetyl-gramine is really powerful! Lots of these things are legal, and can possibly fall out of the strict chemical definition of "analogue" because of all the substitutions. Tryptophan falls right in here, and was suspiciously yanked from Health Food store shelves because it can be a precursor to active tryptamines. Look what they've done to our sacred DMT molecule. They've killed it, and stuck her with knives and they've come up with a miracle cure for migraine headaches! You've probably heard all about this one on TV, quite a powerful psychedelic/euphoriant, it methylated becomes MDMA or Ecstasy - a powerful euphoriant, but not psychedelic at all! If mesaline (the active ingredient in Peyote and San Pedro cactus) is methylated, it's gram/case strength is at least doubled. Rearrange that slightly to DOM and you have the notorious, very powerful and long acting ST50. It's illegal.

Well, there you have it. The principles are quite simple, the chemistry, on the other hand, can be quite difficult. These same principles go into making adhesives and plastics or anything in this big beautiful chemical world. Mega chemical companies spend millions so their chemists can explore these analogues, playing games like "what if I add a bromine here, or a methyl group there?" Drug cooks do the same thing, only one-cock trying to create a DMT analog by somehow attaching DOM to it. Care to speculate on that one? The possibilities are endless.