Headshop Highs & Lows

A Presentation by Dr Des Corrigan

Headshops

A.K.A. "Smart Shops", "Hemp Shops", "Hemporia" or "Growshops"

Retail or Online Outlets selling Psychoactive Plants, 'Legal' & "Herbal" Highs as well as Drug Paraphernalia including Cannabis growing equipment.







Papers/Blunts



Pipes / Bongs

Headshops supply Cannabis Paraphernalia

Headshops & Skunk-type (High Strength) Cannabis

- 1. Sale of Skunk-type seeds
- 2. Advice on Sinsemilla Technique
 - 3. Sale of Hydroponics & Intense Lighting

Cannabis Potency expressed as % THC Content

> Ireland

> Herb 6%

Hash 4%

> UK

> Herb* 12-18%

Hash 3.4%

> Netherlands

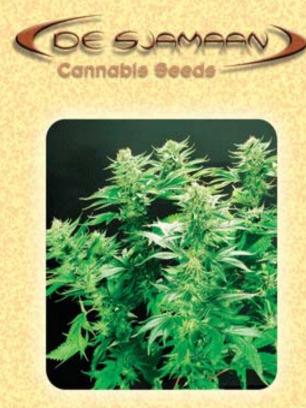
Herb* 20%

Hash 37%

Skunk-type







Thai Widow



Skunk-Type Cannabis & Psychosis

Compared to Hash smoking controls

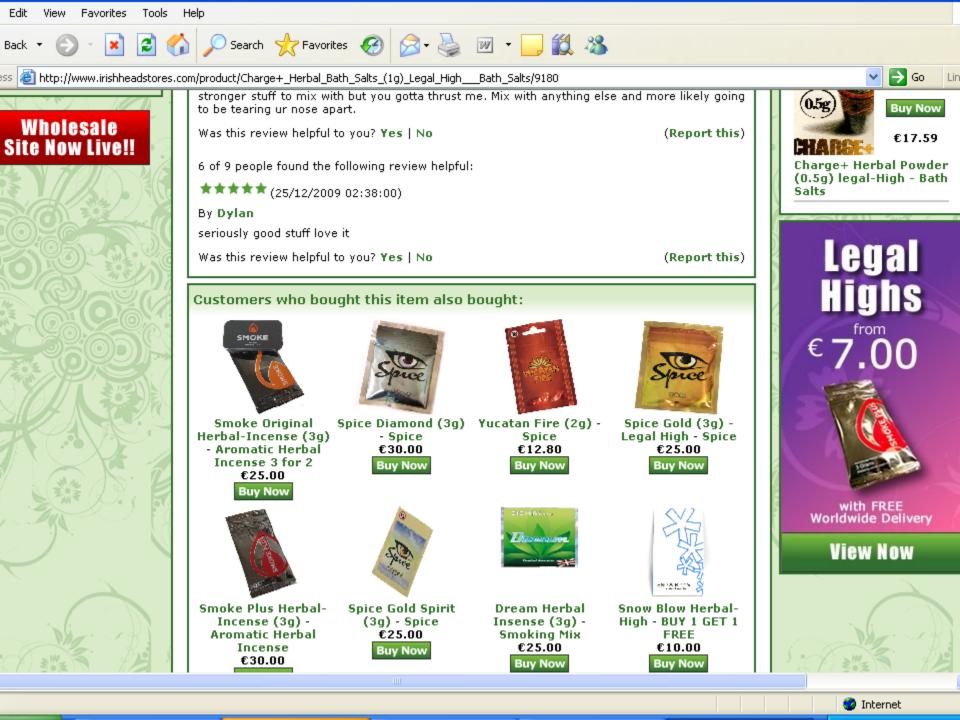
Skunk use - 7 x risk

Daily Skunk use - 12 x risk

➤ Di Forti et al . Br. J. Psychiatry 2009

Cannabinoids

- PhytoCannabinoids- only in Cannabis plants
- Endocannabinoids naturally occurring in the Human Body
- Synthetic Cannabinoids developed as pain-killing drugs – found in some "SPICE"-type smoking mixtures

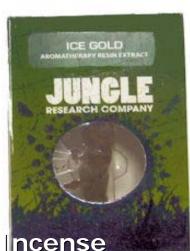


Magic Gold - Incense Blend – (3g) - Aromatic Herbal Incense





Ice Gold (2g) - Herbal Resin



Tijuana Super Strength - Incense Mixture (3.5g) - Aromatic Herbal Incense

HERBAL INCENSE







Spice/Spice Gold Incense

- > Mixture of innocuous herbs BUT
- > 6 potent Synthetic Cannabinoids detected
- Banned in Germany, Austria, France, Poland, Sweden, Luxembourg, Lithuania, Estonia, UK.



Effects of Synthetic Cannabinoids

- No human scientific studies
- Much more potent than THC in lab tests
- Psychosis-like panic attacks
- Heart & circulatory problems
- Addiction potential
- Severe psychiatric complications
- Carcinogenic potential
- Overdose risks with some drugs

Headshop Products are "Failed" Pharmaceutical Drugs

Failed Pain Killers- found in SPICE

Failed Antidepressants- BZP in Party pills

Failed slimming drugs in Bath Salts

Others Mimic existing Drugs

Kratom & Opiate drugs
Salvia & LSD
Mephedrone & Cocaine
Methylone & Ecstasy
San Pedro & Mescaline

Effects of Fly Agaric

Powerful hallucinations

Alcohol-like euphoria

Deep sleep with vivid dreams

Slurred speech + in-coordination

Convulsions/muscle twitching

Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea



Lysergic Acid Amide

LSA /Ergine/ Lysergamide

Active dose 2-5 mg

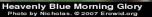
LSD 200 µg

Active dose - 5 – 10 Woodrose seeds

150 – 200 Morning Glory

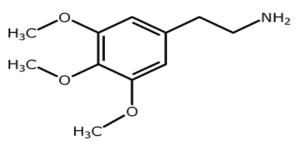
seeds





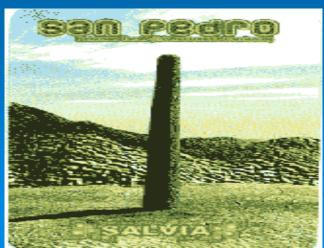
Hallucinogenic Cacti





Mescaline Image by Erowid, © 2006 Erowid.or

Peyote – 1.5% Mescaline
San Pedro – 2.4% Mescaline
Peruvian Torch- 0 -0.8%
(*Trichocereus pachanoi/peruvianus*)





Kratom

Mitragyna speciosa: Thailand, SE Asia



Active drug: Mitragynine (µ opioid agonist) Leaf chewed as a narcotic or as a substitute for Opium.

Low dose-Stimulant
High dose- Sedation/Euphoria
Lucid dreaming

Illegal in Thailand, Malaysia, Australia, Denmark & Lithuania

Kratom Side Effects

- Psychosis
- > Dependence
- Weight loss
- Dry mouth, constipation
- Withdrawal after very high doses
 - Muscle + joint pain
 - Hostility + aggression
 - Spastic limb movements





Salvia divinorum

Member of Mint/Sage family

'Magic Mint'/ 'Divine Mint'

Religious use by Mazatec Shamans

Active Chemicals: Salvinorins

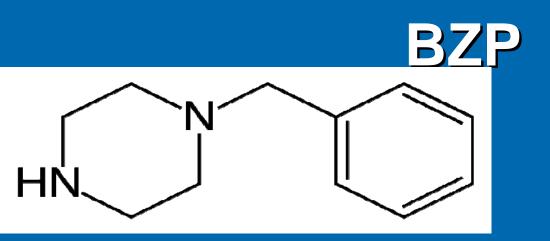
Potency similar to LSD

500 mcg – uncontrollable delirium

Legally controlled in Spain, Australia, Finland, Denmark.

Salvia Side Effects

- Intense derealisation
- Decreased ability to interact with self and surroundings
- Impairment
- Sense of déjà vu
- > Paranoia
- Mental Slowing





Often mixed with related TFMPP (weak LSD-like effects)

Synthetic not Herbal!

BZP tested as Antidepressant (not as an anthelminthic)

Trials stopped because

Psychoactivity similar to Amphetamines



BZP Party Pills

Side effects Hyperthermia similar to Ecstasy Raised heart beat and blood pressure Amphetamine addicts: BZP = Speed Convulsions reported from NZ,UK EU Ban March 2008 Misuse of Drugs Act March 2009

Newer Piperazines Not Legally Controlled

"XXX" 200mg BZP + 100mg MethylBenzyl Piperazine

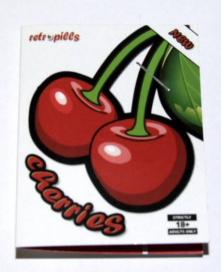
"Loved up"

1-FPP

> "Cherries"

1-FPP









Cathinones

- Originally from Khat plant E. Africa
- Natural form of Speed
- > 20 Designer Cathinones 1997
- Metcathinone known as MethCat
- Cathinone under Misuse of Drugs Act
- Newer ones MDA June 2010

Cathinones

- > Sold as Bath salts or Plant Food
- Contents may be labelled as Ketones
- Butylone or bkMBDB
- Methylone or bkMDMA
- > Flephedrone
- Mephedrone
- > Methedrone

Mephedrone Products

Charge

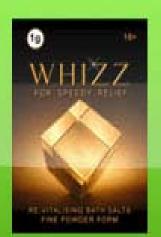
Blow

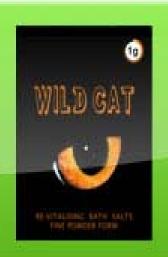
The Business

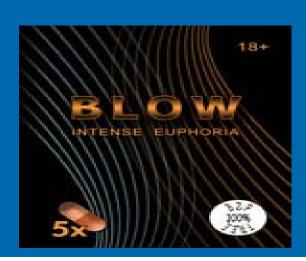
Diablo XXX

Magic Wildcat BATH SALTS









Mephedrone 4-Methymethcathinone

- > Also known as 4-MMC, "Meow-Meow"
- Stimulant & empathogen
- Compulsive redosing ("fiending")
- > Hyperthermia
- > Palpitations, racing heart
- > Jaw clenching & grinding teeth
- > Serious vasoconstriction
- Anxiety & paranoia

Methylone Products

Snow

Mint Mania

Craic

Dogs B****X (+ MDPV)

PLANT FEEDERS PLANT FEEDERS FAST TRAX PERMANENT PER

Methylone Methylenedioxymethcathinone

- Also known as bkMDMA, MDMCAT
- "Euphoric Empathogen"
- Increased heart rate/ body temperature
- > Jaw & Muscle tension/aches
- Paranoia, fear
- Unwanted life-changing spiritual experience

Deaths involving Cathinones

- > 18 in England
- > 7 in Scotland
- > 1 in Guernsey
- > 1in Wales
- > 1 in N. Ireland
- > 1 in Sweden
- This does not mean that the Drug alone caused the deaths.

Whats New

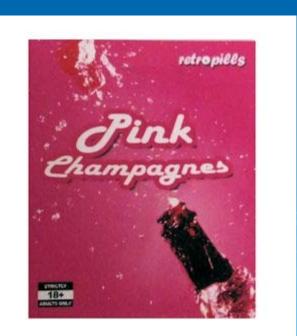
- Pyrovalerones
- Pyrovalerone itself has Ritalin-like effects (stimulant/appetite-suppressant)
- MDPV Vanilla Sky, Hurricane Charlie, Dogs B****x, Ivory White, Sextasy
- Naphyrone NRG-1
- 38 derivatives known

MDPV 3,4-Methylenedioxypyrovalerone

- Stimulant, Euphoria, Hypersexuality
- Compulsive redosing
- > Panic attacks, psychosis
- > Addiction
- Severe comedown: depression, lethargy, anxiety

Aminoindans

- > Pink Champagne contains
- > Aminoindan- stimulant
- Cola Vera Caffeine
- > Caffeine



To Summarise

- Headshops offer for sale drugs which mimic
- Cannabis Drugs
- Hallucinogens (LSD/Magic Mushrooms)
- Stimulants (Speed, Coke)
- Ecstasy

What Can be Done

- Close Headshops down- Legally difficult
- Use Planning Laws
- Influence Landlords
- Reduce Range of Products (Supply Reduction)-Use MDA, Medicines/Food/Chemical Regs
- Harm Reduction Hash vs Skunk, Rehydration
 & Bath Salts, injection issues
- Demand Reduction- why are they so popular?

What is Being Done Supply Reduction

Scheduling 170 Synthetic Cannabinoids under MDA

Scheduling <u>some</u> Designer Cathinones under MDA

What Still Needs to be Done Supply Reduction

Schedule other Cathinones & Pyrovalerones under MDA

Enforce existing legislation

Ephedrine – containing plants

LSA – containing plants- Morning Glories/Woodrose

Mescaline- containing Cacti

Place Salvia, Sida & Kratom on prescription-only list Which means they can't be sold by Headshops