In spite of all the defenses of "ecstasy" or MDMA, a Harvard professor in a conservative three-piece suit -- American authorities have decided to outlaw the hallucinogenic drug in all of the eighties. Another drug that is also in the forefront of the "highs" is LSD, and the authorities are still handling their supply of knowledge.

If LSD is a big blow of the hammer, then ecstasy would be more like a touch of a tucking (?) fork. A little vibration and pretty music and a pill that you give the "Lad" (2), the immediate memory, the "connection" with yourself and others, peace, or at least the absence of fear. They, being the tools of asking questions, the means by which the public can speak of the drug, feel the drug, and no dose of it is without a pilot from the street, or in comfortable, effective, functional "gadgets." You take ecstasy, you take it a third time, and you are "connected" hanging over the window of your fourth floor. And therefore, they have done as others have always done, these authorities; they outlawed ecstasy.

And maybe after all ecstasy is beautiful and good all new, formerly remarkable, technical and modern. This, in any case, only the drug in the history of America's desire to have a weapon against Wall Street, the Cabinet "Drugs, Ballon, Dusty, Polanski are mood," defend its before the administration. And are mood.

The whole thing is already in a big, drug, ecstasy is always enticing, while, having kept the thing called "MDMA," the scientific name of ecstasy, one has the advantage to pass from a den of molecules to a reasonable herb.

In spite of all the defenses of ecstasy -- the professors of Harvard, adrenalin psychopharmacology, syringy research, medicine, multiple products, ever more powerful, ever more dangerous in the dangerous drug world, the American administration has decided to declare this thing illegal from July 1, for one year, while waiting for more conclusive studies. The DEA, while announcing Friday's decision, cited a study done at the University of Chicago on a drug similar to ecstasy that caused permanent neural lesions in rats.

According to the DEA one is able to procure ecstasy in twenty-one of the states of the American states and in Canada, and the powder is particularly popular on campuses and in homes of "young professionals," especially in California, Texas, Florida, and New York. Says take it before dancing in college states for a year, among the depressives and therefore going to their analysts. Ecstasy is a popular substance, not expensive (between $10-20 of 100-150 milligrams) and is considered harmless, even though it has caused death in two people, one a psychoanalyst in California with a heart problem who took a double dose. Numerous secondary effects analogous to those of amphetamines -- acceleration of heart rate and arterial pressure, cold sweat, anxiety, paranoia and depression -- have been reported by patients who insist that these reactions occur in people who have bought the street "tender" they thought they were MDMA and perhaps was not.

The partisans of ecstasy say very nice things about the powder. Its effects, they say, they last a half hour but its lasting stays always in the memory. They call it "swapping" of emotions, profound peace, confidence and love. One loses touch with reality. No hallucinations, no panic, only an unusual perfection of connection, clowned up, relaxed, and therefore going to their analysts. Ecstasy is a powder from the drug world, MDMA, a pill in a drug which prohibits the "connection" with another person, the sensation of the individual. The use of it is not under its influence, to take the telephone and call one -- rather, will doubt nothing. MDMA is not seen as a hard drug but as a therapeutic instrument and until today more or less legal (not approved by the FDA but usage not illegal), to accelerate psychoanalysts. The upshot was -- and therefore functional -- to arrive at self-knowledge. As LSD has Timothy leary, professor at Harvard, ecstasy has Rick Ingold, a psychiatrist in the Boston area, who has treated/offers/cures more than two hundred and fifty people with success. He also has its associate to the press, a young heir of a Chicago fashion who founded a center of research on MDMA, Rick Doblin, who frequents press rooms and praises the virtue of tolerance of ecstasy, which he calls Abbot. Thanks to Abbot, he says, "one is able to understand Jerry Falwell," the leader of the Moral Majority for whom surely ecstasy is not of this low world.

The defenders of ecstasy, armed with their cabinet of advocates, pretend that "ecstasy" was just a byproduct of a different drug, SD-9, its fatal outlaw. They think to hold with it a potentially long series of psychological treatments. But the total outlaw of MDMA prevents pursuit of research in this domain. The "veritable question," Dr. Ingold asks recently in an interview in New York, "concerns the utilization of medications in our society. There has been a tacit decision to say that one can take drugs to stay depressed. This authorizes the taking of aspirin or valium, which might have effects more dangerous than MDMA. But it is not always permitted to take medication to explore yourself."