The Strange Saga of Ecstasy

Will the DEA’s ban on MDMA really cut the clamps on the Ecstasy entrepreneurs?

Now that it’s Legal, Ecstasy—the rage, the rage, the rage with the chemical acronyms MDMA—has gone underground with other street drugs. Bill, one police source, wonders what last year’s media frenzy over Ecstasy was all about. “It’s been around for years,” says Bill, Martin, columnist for The Village Voice, “but here it is again.”

A few questions whether to consider the legalization of Ecstasy as a ‘legal drug’ will have to be made in early 1989 by the federal government. The new status of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the change in the Medical Research Act (MKRA) and the 1990 Administration (MDA) will continue until some comprehensive guidelines are established and until some monitoring of the drug is conducted. And with the current status of the drug, the secondary effects are still in the making.

Most of the information gathered about Ecstasy during its brief period under the drug’s legal cover is not accurate and not useful. Some sources referred to an incidental drug, another described it as “twilight,” which is a term, but would be absurdly impossible, he says.

Some of the drug’s effects are not understood. The effects of Ecstasy can be attributed to a number of substances about the drug. The University of Chicago’s Charles Schuster and Lewis Tischler have studied amphetamines for eight years and have determined the MDA, which is chemically similar to MDMA, has caused brain damage in monkeys. However, no serious study has been conducted on Ecstasy itself.

It’s clear that one of MDMA’s major supporters may have been more than good to the Ecstasy cause. Richard Sack, a student at the University of South Florida, founded the Ecstasy Foundation in 1967. According to MDMA, Richard Sack, a chemist, claimed MDMA could be a breakthrough drug. The plan is to find the necessary conditions of the drug and is still in the making.

The DEA has estimated that about 2,000 pounds of Ecstasy is being produced each month, but some estimate 200 pounds is being produced weekly.

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