

Drug, Set, Setting

Taken from :

Zinberg, N. (1984)

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New Haven: Yale University

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DRUG

The drug itself (what it does and how potent it is)
What it is cut with
How it is used (swallowed, smoked, snorted, injected, absorbed)
Whether it is legal or not

Problems with drugs, AND the drug experience are the result of an interaction.

SET (person)

Person's unique physiology
Person's physical health
Person's mental or emotional state
Person's cultural identity, culture of origin, and sense of belonging
Expectation of the drug and motivation for using the drug (why a person uses and what a person expects to get out of it.)

SETTING

The stress in a person's life: social, economic, or environmental
The support in someone's life
With whom and where someone uses
The social and cultural attitudes toward drug use – the meaning ascribed to drug use or to a particular drug by the person's community and surrounding culture.