

Rethinking the War on Drugs

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INTRODUCTION

The United States has struggled with the drug crisis for centuries

Nixon declared “War on Drugs” in 1971

Since 1971 we have seen many consequences and very few benefits

How can the United States implement better drug policies to truly begin to end the War on Drugs?

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

- Drug and incarceration rates are much higher in the US than other countries
- The War on Drugs has been highly unsuccessful
- What methods do other countries use that could be successful in the United States?

METHODOLOGY

The Netherlands:

- Smart Shops and Coffee Shops

Portugal:

- Decriminalized the possession all drugs

Japan:

- Heavy social stigmas and rules against drug use

01

Reducing social
stigmas

02

Increasing access
to rehabilitation,
therapy, and
treatment

03

Decriminalizing
drugs to
reallocate
funding

04

Providing safe
areas to use safe
drugs

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

RESULTS

- Safe Injection sites
- Harm reduction tactics
- More recovering addicts being rehabilitated
- Less overdoses, addiction rates, and drug related crimes/incidents