



## Preface

In 1995 Macmillan Reference USA published the outstanding *Encyclopedia of Drugs and Alcohol*, edited by Jerome Jaffe. An extensively revised second edition, entitled *Encyclopedia of Drugs, Alcohol, and Addictive Behavior*, was published in 2001. Now Macmillan Reference USA is drawing from the fine work done for these prior encyclopedias to publish *Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco: Learning About Addictive Behavior*, a three-volume set targeted towards general and younger readers.

Alcohol, drugs, and tobacco have myriad ill effects on the lives of children and teenagers. Babies are born addicted to crack or harmed by exposure to alcohol while in the womb. Children live in poverty and chaos, at high risk of neglect, abuse, and homelessness because of their parents' drug and/or alcohol problems. Increased school dropout rates, a high risk of psychiatric problems, and a greater chance of severe injury or death due to violence, motor vehicle accidents, and self-injury endanger the worlds of children and teens raised amid substance abuse. Furthermore, children from substance-abusing homes are more likely to turn to smoking, drugs, or alcohol. Then comes the convergence of the genetic propensity for substance abuse, the availability of alcohol and drugs, and peer pressure, all factors that increase a child's risk of engaging in substance abuse or addictive behaviors.

*Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco: Learning About Addictive Behavior* was the brainchild of H el ene Potter, director of new product development at Macmillan Reference USA. Aware that initiating substance use prior to the age of fifteen carries a greater risk of severe problems, and aware that prevention must begin with thorough education, Ms. Potter conceived of and pushed through this valuable project. Designed to engage, interest, and educate children and teens, this work provides information on specific drugs (such as nicotine, alcohol, marijuana, and ecstasy), risk and protective factors for addiction, diagnosis and treatment of addictions, medical and legal consequences of both casual use and addiction, costs to families and society, drug

production and trafficking, policy issues, and other compulsive disorders (including gambling, cutting, and eating disorders).

Although the *Encyclopedia of Drugs, Alcohol, and Addictive Behavior* was used as a structural basis for this present work, the entire table of contents was revised to focus the new work on the needs and interests of young students. An impressive cadre of experts and academics was commissioned to review, revise, rewrite, and refocus every article from the original collection, or to produce new articles pertinent to the project's goals and relevant to children and teenagers. New ancillaries provide additional resources that will be particularly helpful to children and teenagers researching topics for school or for their own personal use.

The result is *Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco: Learning About Addictive Behavior*, a collection of over 190 alphabetically arranged articles intended to reach out to an audience of children and teenagers with information that can help them understand issues surrounding addictive behavior on both an academic and a personal level. The thoughtful, visually interesting design of the text includes call-out definitions in the margins of articles (so that young students do not have to flip to a separate glossary, although that is provided as well); lively marginalia that highlights interesting facts or makes reading suggestions for fiction that deals with topically similar issues; and more than 200 full-color illustrations that help young readers to organize and to compare and contrast information. Articles are followed by cross-references. Appendices include a wide-ranging list of organizations (including their addresses, phone numbers, and web sites) from which readers can seek more information or obtain contacts for personal help; a complete glossary of terms; and an annotated bibliography that will point students toward further research, assist teachers with class preparation, and guide individuals who are struggling with the effects of addiction in their personal lives.

Many fine people deserve considerable thanks for contributing to the birth of this new work, beginning with H el ene Potter, whose vision and guidance were essential throughout the production process. Editor Oona Schmid slaved over every aspect of the project and supported everyone else's work with competence and good humor. Jan Gottschalk consulted on the project, sharing her considerable experience with middle-school students, and providing excellent input regarding relevancy of material, fit with middle-school curriculum, and appropriateness for middle-school readers. Copyeditor Jessica Hornik Evans put in countless hours to make entries suitable in length, scope, and reading level for middle-school students. Amy BATTERY worked to ensure that data presented were up-to-date and pertinent to young

teenagers. And once again, my husband Toby, and our children Anna, Emma, Isabelle, and Sophie, graciously tolerated the presence of a fifth child in the guise of an encyclopedia in our home.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of clinicians who are working on the front line to treat families grappling with addiction in their lives; academics who teach about substance abuse and its effects on individuals, society, and the international community; researchers who are studying issues that may lead to better ways to diagnose, treat, and prevent addiction; policymakers who struggle to find ways to protect society from the crime and violence associated with addictions; and the many individuals who awaken each day to face the effects of addiction wreaking havoc on their lives and to try once again to find their way free of addiction's stranglehold.

*Rosalyn Carson-DeWitt, M.D.*  
Editor in Chief

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## Volume 2 Index

*Page numbers in boldface type indicate article titles, and italics indicate an image. Numbers followed by a “t” indicate the presence of a table; “f” indicates an illustration. A cumulative index, which combines the terms in all volumes of Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco: Learning About Addictive Behaviors, can be found in volume 3 of this series.*

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