

The violence spawned by the Hobbesian 'dog-eat-dog' world of narcotrafficking is the most obvious of such threats - ranging from the victims of Vancouver's gang wars to the victims of paramilitary and guerrilla forces in Colombia. A vast array of human rights abuses are also apparent as a result of the industry. Crucially, the corruptive influence of narcotrafficking erodes the structures that can provide human security - such as truly democratic government, an honest judicial system, and a trustworthy army and police force. The wide range of health problems faced by users of illicit drugs may be viewed as another blight to human security emanating from the industry of narcotrafficking.

Feasible solutions to the problems generated from narcotrafficking require a realistic assessment of both local and global situations. They must taken into account significant transformations in the realms of economy, warfare, communication, and political space. Because the industry and market of narcotrafficking are global, fundamental solutions must be sought on that level. In this hemisphere, the role of the US, Canada, Mexico, and the Andean countries are key. Multilateral efforts can be made at the United Nations Drug Control Program and at the Organization of American States' CICAD. Despite the necessity of global resolutions to confront the problem, Canada can still act locally in ways that promote human security.

¹ Here the works of Michel Foucault are essential. See especially: *Discipline and Punish* (New York: Vintage, 1977); *The History of Sexuality* (New York: Vintage, 1978); as well as a variety of pieces in James Faubion, ed., *Michel Foucault: Aesthetics, Method and Epistemology - Essential Works of Foucault, 1954-1984, Volume 2* (New York: New York Press, 1994).

² See, for example, Jeffrey Singer, MD, "Medicalization: A 'Third Way' to Approach Drug Policy," paper presented the Fraser Institute Conference "Sensible Solutions to the Urban Drug Problem," Vancouver, BC, 21 April 1998, p.2.

³ As reported in *The National Post*, 23 February 1999.

⁴ Interview, Bud Osborne, Board Member, Vancouver-Richmond Health Board, 23 February 1999, Vancouver, BC.

⁵ Interview, Pierre Beauline, Developer, Communications and Marketing, BC Persons with AIDS Society, 23 February 1999, Vancouver, BC.

⁶ Statistics from *BC Persons With Aids News*, # 106, December/January 1999, p. 13.

⁷ Interview with Anne Livingston, of the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users (VANDU), and with ten anonymous cocaine or heroin users who are members with