



'People have always consumed psychoactive substances, risking harm.' This is the opening sentence of a recent article by Fiona Godlee and Richard Hurley appeared in the **British Medical Journal**. Why so?, one wonders. Is it peace of mind or consciousness we are seeking, or are we drowning in the loneliness of addiction? Whatever the reason for getting high, prohibition is not a solution, as – in the words of the *British Medical Journal* itself – it has 'failed to curb either supply or demand, reduce addiction, or minimize harm'. 55 years have elapsed since the **United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs** tried to prohibit the non-medical use of narcotics globally, but the world has gone a long way since then, and the consumption of once illegal drugs is now accepted and legal in a number of countries – a **decriminalization** partly in recognition of the enormous social harm and injustice of mass incarceration. What did this original criminalization arise from? Quite expectably, from **economic interests** and political strives, as the **The Guardian article** and the videos by **Kuzgesagt** and **Adam Ruins Everything** explain and summarize...

Click on the Pictures for Two **VIDEOS** and an **ARTICLE** on this Topic