

AMERICAN DRUG WAR: the last white hope

35 years after Nixon started the war on drugs, we have over 1 million non-violent drug offenders living behind bars.



The War on Drugs has become the longest and most costly war in American history. The question has become, how much more can the country endure? Inspired by the death of four family members from "legal drugs" Texas filmmaker Kevin Booth sets out to discover why the Drug War has become such

a big failure. Three and a half years in the making, the documentary follows gang members, former DEA agents, CIA officers, narcotics officers, judges, politicians, prisoners and celebrities. Most notably the film befriends Freeway Ricky Ross; the man many accuse of starting the Crack epidemic. After being arrested, Ross discovered that his cocaine source had been working for the CIA.

**Crack Cocaine- Medical Marijuana –Alcohol –Tobacco - Pharmaceutical-DEA
Moon Shine- Crystal Meth -Private Prisons- Afghan Poppy - CIA- Czar
Nixon– Reagan - Iran Contra -Drug Free America –Patriot Act - War on Terror**

AMERICAN DRUG WAR shows how money, power and greed have corrupted not just drug pushers and dope fiends, but an entire government. More importantly, it shows what can be done about it. This is not some 'pro-drug' stoner film, but a collection of expert testimonials from the troops on the ground at the front line in the drug war, the ones who are fighting it, and the ones who are living it.



After 4 years of production including several sold out test screenings in New York, Austin & Los Angeles, the final version of American Drug War “the last white hope” is locked and loaded.

120 Minutes on DVD

AmericanDrugWar.com SacredCow.com



AMERICAN DRUG WAR

The Last White Hope



AMERICAN DRUG WAR: THE LAST WHITE HOPE

USA 2006 120 MINS

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER/PRODUCER: KEVIN BOOTH

AMERICAN DRUG WAR gives a radical new perspective to the War on Drugs, showing how money, power and greed have corrupted not just drug addicts and dealers, but the government and Wall Street itself. This comprehensive, well-organized and thoroughly engrossing documentary covers everything from the Drug War's origins to the privatized prison system, the Iran-Contra scandal, medical marijuana, the drug laws in Amsterdam, Afghan poppy production, the crack cocaine epidemic of the 1980's and the incarceration of actor Tommy Chong. The documentary launches into its issue with full speed: Three minutes into the doc we are told that the main source of funding for Partnership of a Drug Free America comes from the tobacco and alcohol industries. But director Kevin Booth also puts a human face on this problem while enlisting help from some unlikely sources: A former DEA agent, an LAPD narcotics officer, an ex-gang leader, a Republican governor, and a right-wing Superior Court Judge. More importantly, the documentary provides some solutions. The culmination of three years of passionate filmmaking, the result is a film that has the courage to tell the truth and the power to persuade even the most skeptical viewer.

SCREENINGS

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 10 PM, LOS FELIZ
THURSDAY, MAY 10, 7 PM LOS FELIZ

CBS Radio - *Todd David Schwartz*

Four Stars

"Open-minded and intellectually honest"

"A mind-altering experience"

High Times Magazine - *Mary Ought Six*

Four Pot Leafs

"Brace yourself for Afghani opium, interviews with a former drug czar and Amsterdam's lone crack connoisseur, and basic bad-guy bedlam in this informative documentary"

Ain't it Cool News - *Elston Gunn*

"And oh, the things he discovers"

"An eye-opening and compelling examination of the war on drugs"

CINEPHELIA - *C. Dempsey*

"AMERICAN DRUG WAR is worth some serious frontal lobe absorption. This is a documentary that will show you just how well the war on drugs is going. And let me tell you it really seems to be going great - drug use is up, education is down and all while you the taxpayer keep pouring the money in"

THCene - *Martin Müncheberg*

Munich Germany

"Diesem Film ist ein großes Publikum zu wünschen, da er sehr kritisch, aber auch auf unterhaltsame Weise den amerikanischen "War on Drugs"

George Soros group - *Drug Policy D.C.*

drugpolicy.org

"This is not some 'pro-drug' stoner film, but a collection of expert testimonials from the ground troops on the front lines of the drug war"

AMERICAN DRUG WAR

Film Festivals & Test Screenings



“Best Feature Length Documentary”
3 out of 3 competitions

Silver Lake film festival - May 2nd - 12th 2007

AMERICAN DRUG WAR was one of hundreds of entries from around the world. Competing against nine other feature documentaries, the final version of the film won best doc. Participants included - Roger Mayer, Hal Hartley, Parker Posey, the directors of “Little Miss Sunshine,” Circle Jerks and John Doe of X. *“Los Angeles’ leading independent film, music & art festival” Film critic Emanuel Levy*

Druid film festival – March 11th 2007

Honorary screening, promoted by an independent group of film students in Echo Park in Los Angeles, CA.

D.I.Y. film festival – February 9th 2007 Egyptian Theater on Hollywood Blvd.

AMERICAN DRUG WAR director Kevin Booth wins *best “Do It Your Self” filmmaker in Hollywood CA*. Participants included writer/director Henry Jaglom and Richard Martini.

Austin TX November 26th 2006

Sold out screening in Kevin’s hometown, produced and promoted by radio host Jack Blood (Fox- News) and several local activists. The film received a standing ovation.

EVIL CITY film festival October 11th 2006

AMERICAN DRUG WAR makes its World debut in New York’s East Village. Chaired by **Morgan Spurlock & Mary Harron**, this early version of the film won against some stiff competition. Several writers from High Times magazine attended the screening and gave the film its first review.

Note from Kevin: because of the masses of footage and incredible complexity of this subject, creating a final edit has taken almost a year. Being able to screen the film in its various stages of completion has been a gift, and crucial to bringing my personal story into this controversial realm. With four years of total production, the festival wins have helped to keep morale high, but it was the opportunity of showing the film to various live audiences that ended up being the most invaluable step in making AMERICAN DRUG WAR such a powerful political statement. So now that my phones are tapped and I owe monthly payments to a drug king pin, I hope you enjoy...

AMERICAN DRUG WAR

Cast :

Tommy Chong - Actor and Comedian - Tommy was sentenced to 9 months in a privately owned federal prison camp, because his son was using his name to sell handmade bongos over the internet.

Freeway Ricky Ross - convicted Crack king pin - known as the “Wal-Mart of Crack Cocaine” with a daily gross in the millions of dollars. Rick is thought by many to be the cause of the LA crack epidemic. It was not until after his arrest that he learned that his cocaine was being supplied by the CIA.

Sheriff Joe Arpaio - former Director of the DEA - Joe now runs one of the nation’s first “Tent Cities” where prisoners live out-doors in temperatures exceeding 130 degrees. Joe is proud to be a pro drug warrior, and allows viewers to see how far to the right one man can go, with 12 cent meals, pink underwear and green baloney.

General Barry McCaffrey - former DRUG CZAR - Four Star General Barry McCaffrey is best known for his “this is you’re Brain on Drugs” add campaign. It was during the Clinton/McCaffrey years that millions of new non-violent drug offenders, mostly Marijuana smokers, became incarcerated.

Celerino Castillo III- ex-DEA Agent - Cele left the DEA after realizing that he was actually protecting drug shipments bound for the United States during the Iran Contra affair.

Mike Rupert - former LAPD narcotics officer - Mike is best known as the man who stood up to the director of the CIA at the Watts hearings.

Robert Steele - ex-CIA Agent - After realizing that his job with the CIA was to protect the interests of huge corporations and not the American people, Robert left and has now become a major thorn in the side of his former employer.

Joe Rogan - Actor & Comedian - Joe is proud of the fact that he smokes POT and is the poster boy to what I refer to as the most honest of all pot smokers-
“People who just want to get high”

Judge James Gray - Superior Court - Judge Gray faces endless drug related cases everyday and does not lose arguments when it comes to discussing the failings of the American Drug War.

Gary Johnson – former Governor of New Mexico - Governor Johnson shocked the citizens of New Mexico when he tried to de-criminalize drug use.

Joe Pietri - former International Drug Smuggler - Joe has paid his dues after losing everything he owns to drug seizures. While working in Nepal, Joe witnessed the effects of the Nixon administration’s disastrous attempt to outlaw drugs.

T. Rodgers - Bloods co-founder - T. has dedicated his life to keeping kids out of gangs. He has appeared in such films as “Colors” and “Training Day”, and serves as our personal link to many Bloods affiliated gang members.

Dr. Claudia Jensen – Pediatrician/Medical Marijuana specialist - when it comes to prescribing her patients the best medicine possible, Claudia has not been afraid to fight the bullies on Capital Hill that fight hard to keep Marijuana illegal.

Dr. Charles Grob – Director of Psychiatry U.C.L.A. – a cutting edge researcher conducting experiments by giving pharmaceutical psilocybin (mushroom) to dying patients.

Sergeant Lou Daigle – LAPD -Drug Recognition Expert (Skid Row - Los Angeles)

Todd McCormick – Activist/Writer - diagnosed with cancer at age 10 and served 6 years for giving free cannabis to dying people.

PCP Guy - in Skid Row we answer a call of a naked black man running into a restaurant. The man is hooded and sits bleeding, with taser darts stuck in his back, reciting poetry.

Plus...

Jona Napier - Heroin addict

Tom Rhodes - comedian

Cynthia McKinney - congresswoman

Darrell “Lucky” Rodgers – son of T Rodgers –Bloods member

Dennis Kucinich - presidential candidate

Ron Paul - presidential candidate

Jello Biafra - Activist

Dr. Robert Melamede - researcher, University of Colorado

Dr. Gary Fisher - pioneer, psychedelics experiments

Jan Irvin - psychedelics expert

Michael Veiling - owner 420 Bar, Amsterdam

Jacki Raines - meanest deputy in Carazozo N.M.

Shelby Chong - wife of Tommy Chong

Paris Chong - son of Tommy, who ran the glass blowing company

Boo Chong - son of Tommy,

Paul Scott – dying of Aids- runs a Medical Marijuana dispensary in South Central LA

Halena Shendo - Mescalero Apache Tribe member

Craig X - Reverend of the Temple 420

Jeff Blackburn - civil rights attorney, TULIA TX.

Gary Gardner-town Red Neck with PHD, TULIA incident

Joe Moore - falsely accused Hog Farmer/ so called King Pin, TULIA TX.

Joe Henderson - father of victim, TULIA TX.

Alan Bean - local Reverend, TULIA TX.

Ice-berg and Kosmo - Bloods members

Chico Brown - co-conspirator, co-defendant of Ricky Ross

Frank Regan -Legal defense for Ricky Ross

Angela Ross - sister of Ricky Ross

John Duetch - former director of CIA

Mack Lindsay – teenage runaway - comedian

John Walko - serving 6 months on chain gang for 11 cents worth of crystal meth

Chain Gang - multiple sound bites from various chain gang members

Prisoners - several interviews with various prisoners

Meth Smoker - Skid Row, unknowingly smokes in front of police headquarters

Ronaldo - Amsterdam crack smoker

Tayngy Washington - crack smoker South Central

Pam Sakuda – Psilocybin patient



Marketing and Demographics

Overall strategy - Festivals -Theatrical - Broadcast - DVD

Activists –

There are many major groups that we are aligning ourselves with who are fighting tirelessly to end the Drug War. Normal.org, MPP.org, LEAP.org, DRCNet and the George Soros group DrugPolicy.org that have acknowledged the film with hundreds of thousands of active members. Every-time someone is running a protest, pot rally, alternative festival; we will be doing public screenings of AMERICAN DRUG WAR. Because of the films strong message about tobacco, alcohol and pharmaceuticals, we would also align ourselves with the many groups fighting these giant industries. This film also ties into the huge 911 truth movement, (loose Change) leading many anti-war protests.

Academic -

College campuses, churches, synagogues, rehab centers and high schools. We are already receiving endless requests to screen the film at various institutions of higher learning. This could prove to be the single most important demo, when trying to get this film off the ground.

Stoner Crowd -

Although this film is not glamorizing drugs, the strong message about the legalization of Marijuana definitely attracts the “young guy stoner crowd” These people may not all buy High Times magazine, but High Times is proven to be the most “passed around” magazine ever. This would be like shooting fish in a barrel, with almost 100% focus. I propose running large color adds in High Times to promote AMERICAN DRUG WAR. The editors of High Times have already taken a liking to the film and will be onboard for promotion.

Internet – Radio -

SacredCow.com has been streaming on-line video for over ten years, because of our association with Bill Hicks, Joe Rogan and syndicated radio talk show host Alex Jones, our site regularly clocks over a million visits per month. We also receive endless requests to do radio interviews all over the world, and will be able to promote screenings, play times and DVD sales.

Screenings –

A short theatrical release for the purpose of promoting the film, during this time, Kevin Booth would be available to tour with the film, and have well promoted events in all the major cities. Attending these events will also be various characters from the film for Q & A.

United Kingdom –

Because of Kevin’s book and many Bill Hicks productions, the British market will be very good for this film, both for theatrical, broadcast and DVD. Kevin’s last visit to the UK proved that the British love his work and this film is sure to be a hit.

Reviews – Media -

The baby boomer/generation X crowd now run all the magazines, newspapers, radio and TV outlets. This almost insures that there will be at least one person working at these places where the subject of “Drugs” is near and dear. These people are almost always going to give the film a good review and will tell everyone that they must see it.



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Director Kevin Booth started out in the music business in the late 80s when his band Year Zero signed a major contract with Chrysalis records. The band toured for several years with the single "Hourglass" playing in regular rotation on MTV. While living in Texas, Kevin went on to produce several records, music videos and short films. Today many people know Kevin from his work with the late great comedian Bill Hicks. Kevin produced most of Bill's CDs and produced the early full -length shows that lead to Bill's HBO specials and Letterman appearances, which are now available on Warner Home video.

At the turn of the century Kevin developed his film making and went in a more political direction producing several films with conspiracy guru Alex Jones about WACO and 9-11, while still directing comedy DVDs with Fear Factor's Joe Rogan and Comedy Central's Doug Stanhope. With its massive on-line video archive SacredCow.com began clocking over a million visitors per month. In May of 2005, Kevin traveled to Britain to promote his first book "Agent of Evolution" about his life with Bill Hicks, published by Harper Collins U.K.

Following Bill's death and the loss of several family members to alcohol, cigarettes and pharmaceuticals, Kevin decided to produce a feature length documentary exploring America's failed Drug War. The discovery that the government classifies Marijuana as being more dangerous than Crack or Crystal Meth was the start of a four year mission to sort the facts from the fiction, and pick apart the paradoxes of America's longest running war. This lead to unexpected associations with characters like Bloods founder- T. Rodgers, and Freeway Ricky Ross, the man blamed for starting the Crack epidemic with cocaine supplied by the CIA. AMERICAN DRUG WAR is Kevin's debut as narrator and the first of a series of films that will build on his ability to untangle the myths and present serious subjects with a dry wit and eye for the absurd.

2007 "AMERICAN DRUG WAR" Producer/Director/Writer/Editor - Currently in Film Festivals

2005 "Bill Hicks -Sane Man" Producer/Director/Editor - **Ryko/Warner** - Home Video

2005 "Bill Hicks - Agent of Evolution" Author - **Harper Collins UK**

2004 "Alex Jones - Martial Law" Producer -Infowars/Genesis Network - DVD

2001 "Doug Stanhope - Word of Mouth" Producer/Director/Editor - Indie dist. DVD

2000 "Joe Rogan - Belly of the Beast" Producer/Director/Editor - Indie dist. DVD

1999 "Alex Jones -Adventures of a Conspiracy" Producer/Director/Editor DVD

1997 "Velvet Rut" Producer/Performer - Black Eden Music - CD

1996 "Bill Hicks - Rant In E Minor & Arizona Bay " Producer/Performer **Ryko/Palm Pictures**

1994 "It's Just A Ride" Interviewee/Contributor - **BBC - Comedy Central**

1991 "Bill Hicks Relentless" Producer/Performer - Invasion Records

1990 "Ninja Bachelor Party" Producer/Director/Editor/Performer (available soon)

1987 "Year Zero" Performer - **Chrysalis Records / MTV**

1984 *University of Texas* R.T.F /Electrical Engineering