يسم الله الرسم السريم

An Essay by: James Riva W38533 OCCC One Administration Rd. Bridgewater, MA 02324 April 6, 2014

AMERICA- THE NARCOTICS TRADE- THE RUMINATIONS OF A PRISONER

Have you ever wondered why, with all the security and resources of American law enforcement, that enough narcotics slip past the goalie to satisfy all the addicts, AND attract new customers? Aside from the addicts, there are a lot of people who benefit from the narcotics trade, and my hypothesis is that without all those people who are not addicts who benefit from the trade, the narcotics trade would dry up very quickly and cease to exist. I would like to note that in no way do I find that narcotics addicts benefit from the trade- they are pawns, and a pawn exists firstly as a sacrifice- very few narcotics addicts have happy outcomes.

Considering that at least on paper a narcotics trafficker can spend a large portion of his life behind bars if caught and then prosecuted for large quantities, what then is the legal and illegal system that makes it all possible? The industry would not exist at all unless alot of people benefited from it. A short list of those who benefit are the smugglers, the narcotics dealers on every level of the business, the police, the public defenders (attornies), the district attornies who prosecute the narcotics offenses, the judges, the clerks, the prison officials, the prison contractors, and prison health care providers, correction officers, prison support staff. All these people would suffer catastrophic job losses, layoffs, wage reductions, if the industry were impacted in any meaningful way. AND there is a sizable portion of the population who all benefit greatly from the narcotics trade that you would probably not even guess.

Who?

Examine what narcotics do to the human body. Narcotics, like cigarettes, alcohol, excessive gambling, render the addict a slave who spends a large portion of his waking hours chasing money to partially satisfy his habit. His addiction also renders him unfit for most kinds of work. So the un-named beneficiaries of addiction are all those non addicts who benefit from the substantial decrease in competition over scarce resources like jobs, housing, transport, schooling, mates, ect. By rendering a huge segment of the populace unable to compete in any menaingful way, another huge segment of the populace benefits by relaxed competition— a genuine boon.

Next comes the controversial observation and hypothesis. It is based upon the question: Is there a conspiracy afoot including shadowy parts of government to faciliate and perpetuate the narcotics trade?

I don't know. I'm a prisoner with almost no resources to look into the matter thoroughly. AND even if I had the unambiguous proof that such a fantastic fraud upon the American public exists, what could I do as a prisoner? Or even an ex-prisoner? Nothing.

I do jailhouse law. As consequence of reading lots of criminal cases I became aware of an obscure fact regarding the narcotics trade. I notice that oftentimes prosecution witnesses in cases involving murder, or even non violent crimes are in fact, low level narcotics dealers— the ones who sell small amounts directly to the addicts themselves. On cross examination it is disclosed that they have been arrested numerous times for selling drugs, and each time they have been let off or received a reduced sentence for providing information to police or even testifying in a criminal case against one of their former customers.

So at least in some fraction of the cases, police permit some low level dealers to operate because they are police informants. Not so far fetched, but still not widely known. Afterall, judges and prosecutors understand all too well that the police witness or informant takes a tremendous risk to his life and the life of his family in order to provide information or testimony. So just what does he get in return?

It varies. Sometimes its just a reduced sentence. Sometimes its money, or a car or even a condo that was seized from someone else. I hypothesize that sometimes the police payout to informants is actually drugs they seized from somebody else. I no longer believe they destroy all or it or even most of it. For one thing, lots of legal drugs are synthesized from opiate stock, and from cocaine stock. The legal pharmaceutical industry has to obtain the raw material somewhere.

A long time ago the police approached me and asked me to come down the station and answer some questions. They assured me I was So I went to the station and sat down with about in no trouble. six officers in a smoky room. They tried to win my confidence, by asking me about aliens from outer space- indicating their knowledge about my mental health history. From there the questions zeroed in on a number of unsolved crimes. It became apparent that Then they offered me treats to loosen my I was their suspect. They had a draw full of various confiscated drugs. offered me hashish. They offered me Thai sticks. could take it with me if I like. I declined. Not because at the time I didn't use these drugs- I did. But because I thought they might have poisoned it. Anyway after a couple hours they let me go. My point is, that I know from personal experience it is one of their tactics to use confiscated drugs to obtain information. If they used it on me as a potential bargaining chip, how much more so on a heroin addict when he gets real itchy? I know that most police will say if true, it is an isolated occurence. I don't know, but I do say it is entirely possible this is business as usual.

Speculate on this. How many street level drug dealers you think they would roll up if all of a sudden police locked up all known addicts for ten hours- until they got itchy- then offered them several bags of dope. Conditions? Names. Addresses. From now on you get your fix from the police. Is it possible? It think it is. Is it reality? I don't know.

I merely speak from observation that the narcotics trade creates alot of legal and illegal employment opportunities. If anything meaningful were actually done to impact the trade, catastrophic job losses in law enforcement, corrections, the legal profession, the judiciary, peripheral providers, and the traffickers themselves would result.

It is a grim reality that America routinely employs assassinations in other countries- at least thats what the mass media depicts. The television news occasionally reports how American black ops kidnap and torture people in other countries to combat terrorism. How much of a stretch of the imagination could it be to say that maybe portions of the shadowy parts of American government also are full partners in the narcotics trade?

I just say the obvious that alot of people would lose their livlihood if a meaningful impact on the drug trade were ever made.