



Drug Scene

Jonathan Aitken

KEY WORDS Drugs. Alcohol Abuse. Sharing. Values

ABSTRACT The very heart of Palmerston North is a town square, and Friday and Saturday evenings are noteworthy for the large number of young people who congregate, drink alcohol, smoke marijuana, and engage in what are to them, pleasurable activities. Recognizing the inherent problems, a significant team of dedicated volunteers have formed, and they go forth to provide food, coffee, transport, and discussions with those in need or those potentially in need. The author studied these volunteers by joining in, and found that dialogue between these two quite different groups is possible and important. He sees great opportunity for doing good, and at the same time, raises deep questions about the causes and long-term solutions to this situation.

Author's Address: Jonathan Aitken, 4 Goodwyn Road, Palmerston North, NEW ZEALAND
Phone: 64 6 356-9415, E-Mail: 00072804@uni.massey.ac.nz

© Kamla-Raj 2003
Human Ecology Special Issue No. 11: 69-76 (2003)

Human Ecology and Community
Robert J Gregory, Guest Editor