

May 5, 2021

To: Milwaukee City-County Heroin, Opioid and Cocaine Task Force  
From: Paul Mozina

There are Principles at stake here that are not being considered. I implore you to consider your presence here today and the very existence of this Task Force in the context of the War on Drugs. The Drug War is a war against Human Nature, and as such, it is doomed to fail.

So, it really reinforces the need for education to stop people from even beginning. And working on that angle. **Cause, it seems like, human nature the way it is, if you don't have one addictive substance you'll figure out another way, and, of course, someone will figure out a way to supply you with it.** So, trying to break the chain is really the big issue.

Alderman Michael Murphy

In 2018 Alderman Murphy said that the return on investment for selling fentanyl at the retail level was 9,000% percent. Arbitrary Drug Laws cannot trump the laws of supply and demand.

Every human being knows deep in their soul that they are the owners of their own bodies. No other human being has the authority to tell another person what they can or cannot inoffensively consume. Thus, this is not a right that any human being can legitimately delegate to any government.

You cannot "break the chain" as Alderman Murphy wishes to do with a government policy that arbitrarily prohibits the sale and use certain substances. Government cannot change Human Nature by codifying its consumption preferences in laws and hiring people to enforce their edicts using coercion and violence. We have 50 years of War on Drugs history and previous experience with Alcohol Prohibition that clearly demonstrate this.

I Feel the fentanyl issue is truly driving the epidemic we have right now, and the stats definitely prove that. If you look at it, if you go through year to year, it's doubled, quadrupled, and I hate to say it, but if we could get back to the heroin status it would be success. But really that's kind of where it's at really when we're talking about fentanyl.

Lieutenant Shaun Doyne, MPD Narcotics Division –  
HIDTA, December 1, 2017 CCHCO Task Force Meeting.

What is at stake in our community? Overdose deaths increased from 418 in 2019 to 544 in 2020 – a 30% increase. Neither sellers nor buyers know the purity or dosage of the substances involved. This is a recipe for disaster directly caused by drug prohibition.

The Milwaukee Homicide Review Commission reported 14 drug-related homicides and 48 non-fatal shootings in 2020. Over 80% of the victims and suspects were Black. I suspect these numbers are understated by the fact that other categories like argument/fight, retaliation, gang-related, other and unknown, may have in fact been related to the illegal market created by drug prohibition.

Drug prohibition has led directly to the proliferation of mobile drug dealing and the reckless driving that can accompany it. I have witnessed mobile drug dealing taking place on the street in front of my house.

In the last 6 months of 2020 the MPD and their law enforcement partners executed 70 no-knock search warrants that targeted:

- 67 Black Male
- 4 Hispanic Male
- 3 Black Female
- 2 White Male
- 2 White Female
- 1 Native American Male

There is a Drug War being waged on our streets and this Task Force needs to examine the trauma and collateral damages that drug prohibition is causing.

The CCHOC Task Force must expand its scope and inquiry into examining the outcomes and evidence of the government's failed attempt at drug prohibition.