

JULY 1986

CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - Monday, July 7, 1986

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. The drug cocaine has been much in the news lately. It's being blamed for causing the deaths of two young professional athletes. The case of Lenny Bias of the University of Maryland is notable because it appears that he died within minutes of taking cocaine into his body ^{as} far as anyone knows the first time he had taken cocaine.

Drugs, as we all know, can be good for human beings, and they can be bad. Today we'll be talking about some current research being carried on by Thomas Aronson and others at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Dr. Aronson is a psychiatrist; he has a medical degree, ~~he~~ he is assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science in Stony Brook's School of Medicine. Dr. Aronson has been working with patients with panic disorder, and he has discovered an interesting link with cocaine. It would be safe to say, Dr. Aronson, that cocaine does not appear to help people with panic disorder.

Director of The Anxiety Disorder Clinic.

INTERVIEW DR. ARONSON:

- What is cocaine?
- Discuss its widespread use; illegality (cite jail sentence reported in today's newspapers)
- Discuss societal conflicts in drugs, alcohol etc.
- Note Lenny Bias and Don Rogers cases:
 - * All are affected, including athletes
- What happens when such stimulants enter the body?
- Worst case/best case scenarios
- Effects of drugs on the body generally (good/bad)
- Touch of panic disorder and cocaine
- Best advice about drugs

14:00

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We're going to take a short break now. We'll return in a moment to talk with Dr. Thomas Aronson about this condition called panic disorder. Please stay tuned.

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

Hi. I'm Al Oickle, and I'm at the State University of New York at Stony Brook with Dr. Thomas Aronson, a psychiatrist who has been working with patients who have a condition known as panic disorder. With Dr. Thomas J. Craig, a colleague in Stony Brook's School of Medicine, Dr. Aronson reported on his panic disorder research in a recent issue of the American Journal of Psychiatry. We touched on this a few minutes ago, Dr. Aronson. Let's delve into panic disorder more deeply.

INTERVIEW DR. ARONSON:

- Describe panic disorder: symptoms
- What causes the basic disorder?
- How does it compare with, or relate to, similar disorders (e.g., agoraphobia)?
- Discuss the three recorded cases at Stony Brook
- Update: new cases, pattern continuing?
- Discuss experiments in stimulating panic disorder/ethics of such research
- Any similar drug-induced/residual conditions common to other disorders?
- Are internists, family physicians staying up with research into such cases?
- Some people conclude that nothing is safe to eat or drink. What advice do you give?
- What research, improved health conditions lie ahead?

(Curtis / UANA)

psychiatrists

29:00

OUTRO

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COCAINE - PRECIPIT P/O

COCAINE ABUSERS who

SAVE it up to had

PANIC ATTACKS - 1 up to 3 yrs