The Social and Economic Feasibility of Sustaining the War on Drugs Patrick L. Hampshire

This presentation goes against the current conservative political norms by proposing that the war against illegal drugs is "unwinnable." Future economic conditions will mandate that money now spent on enforcement activity be redirected toward more pressing social and economic needs. Historical facts are explored, especially the American prohibition and marijuana enforcement experience. There is exceptional evidence presented that the law enforcement "war" has actually increased the amount of drug abuse, violent crime, and organized criminal gangs.

A very unique, controlled experiment using conservative police personnel is detailed, showing that given the right arguments, there will be a change in future public attitudes that could lead to, and end the "unwinnable" war on illegal drugs.