



Methamphetamine: Its History, Pharmacology, and Treatment

By Ralph Weisheit, William White

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In recent years, the media have inundated us with coverage of the horrors that befall methamphetamine users, and the fires, explosions, and toxic waste created by meth labs that threaten the well-being of innocent people. In *Methamphetamine: Its History, Pharmacology, and Treatment*, the first book in Hazelden's Library of Addictive Drugs series, Ralph Weisheit and William L. White examine the nature and extent of meth use in the United States, from meth's early reputation as a 'wonder drug' to the current perception that it is a 'scourge' of society.

In separating fact from fiction, Weisheit and White provide context for understanding the meth problem by tracing its history and the varying patterns of use over time, then offer an in-depth look at:

- the latest scientific findings on the effects of the drug on individuals
- the myths and realities of the drug's impact on the mind
- the national and international implications of methamphetamine production
- the drug's impact on rural communities, including a case study of two counties in the Midwest
- issues in addiction and treatment of meth

Thoroughly researched and highly readable, *Methamphetamine* offers a comprehensive understanding of medical, social, and political issues concerning this highly impactful drug.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Ralph Weisheit, Ph.D., is a Distinguished Professor of Criminal Justice at Illinois State University where he has been teaching and conducting research for over 25 years. He has authored eight other books, including *Domestic Marijuana: A Neglected Industry and Crime and Policing in Rural and Small-Town America*. His research on methamphetamine draws together his knowledge of illicit drugs and of rural crime issues to gain a more comprehensive understanding of its effects, issues concerning the manufacture of the drug, and the process by which use of the drug spreads from one region to another.

William L. White, M.A., is a senior research consultant at Chestnut Health Systems Florida with more than thirty-five years of experience in the addictions field as a counselor, clinical director, researcher, and trainer. He has authored thirteen books, including *Slaying the Dragon: The History of Addiction Treatment and Recovery in America*, which received the McGovern Family Foundation Award for the best book on addiction recovery. White is the recipient of several other awards and recognitions from such organizations as the National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers, the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, and NAADAC: The Association of Addiction Professionals.

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