

# MAPS in the Media



**The Agony and the Ecstasy** by Kelley McMillan

August 17, 2015. *Marie Claire* highlights several women’s experiences of receiving MDMA-assisted psychotherapy as a treatment for posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) within MAPS’ clinical research. The report investigates how current PTSD treatments are not adequately addressing the growing rate of PTSD, and explores the science and history of MDMA. “I spent 35 years suicidal, and I’m not anymore, because of the MDMA and two really skilled therapists,” explains Brenda, a study participant in MAPS’ clinical research.



**Ecstasy Therapy Approved for Trial in Marin County** by Don Lattin

May 24, 2015. *The San Francisco Chronicle* features a front-page investigative report about MAPS’ ongoing clinical study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy to treat people with anxiety associated with life-threatening illness in Marin, Calif. “It’s a really interesting and a very powerful new approach,” explains Dr. Thomas Insel, director of the National Institute of Mental Health. “It’s not just taking MDMA. It’s taking it in the context of a treatment that involves improved insight and increased skills and using this in the broader context of psychotherapy.”



**Ex-Marine Sees Dramatic Drop in Symptoms After Party Drug-Therapy** by Don Lattin

May 24, 2015. *The San Francisco Chronicle* reports on MAPS’ ongoing research into MDMA-assisted psychotherapy as a treatment for posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), telling the story of retired Marine Nigel McCourry’s recovery from PTSD after participating in a clinical study. “The basic idea is that the drug somehow helps you in the context of psychotherapy to learn things or feel things that you otherwise wouldn’t,” explains Dr. Paula Schnurr, executive director of the Veterans Affairs’ National Center for PTSD. “So I can see how people would feel this is a transformational experience.”



**Major Pot Research Barrier Goes Up in Smoke** by Steven Nelson

June 22, 2015. *U.S. News and World Report* discusses the implications of the Obama administration’s decision to eliminate the obstructive Public Health Service review previously required for marijuana research. The article details the additional barriers still standing in the way of marijuana research, most importantly the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)’s monopoly on government-approved marijuana for research purposes.



**Streamlined Regulations May Clear Path for More Marijuana Research** by Julie Weed

June 28, 2015. *Forbes* reports on the Obama Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services’ decision to eliminate the Public Health Service (PHS) review for medical marijuana research proposals. Brad Burge of MAPS speaks about the variety of obstacles that have stood in the way of medical marijuana research, stating, “Medical marijuana drug development research, which aims to bring the whole plant through the FDA approval process so it can be prescribed, has been so tightly restricted that it has barely existed.”



**WEED 3: The Marijuana Revolution**

by Dr. Sanjay Gupta

April 19, 2015

CNN’s *WEED 3: The Marijuana Revolution*, is a special report by CNN’s chief medical correspondent Dr. Sanjay Gupta about the politics of medical marijuana research, with a special focus on MAPS and Dr. Sue Sisley’s work to study medical marijuana for U.S. veterans with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The documentary follows MAPS Founder and Executive Director Rick Doblin, Ph.D., and Dr. Sisley as they work to conduct the first clinical study of medical marijuana for PTSD, illustrating how the study has had to overcome numerous obstacles including the Public Health Service (PHS) review process and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) monopoly on marijuana approved for clinical research.

For more psychedelic and medical marijuana research headlines, visit [maps.org/media](http://maps.org/media).



White House to Let Researchers Study Medical Marijuana for PTSD  
by Bryant Jordan  
June 23, 2015, 2014



White House Takes Huge Step Forward in Fight Over Marijuana Research  
by Ryan Grim  
June 22, 2015



Could Pot Help Veterans With PTSD?  
by Johnna Rizzo  
August 2, 2015



That Loving Feeling  
by Kasia Pawlowska  
June 30, 2015



Psychedelics Changed the Way a Mother and Daughter Experienced Death  
by Lara Salahi  
July 30, 2015



The Virtues of Psychedelic Harm Reduction at Festivals  
by Staff  
July 15, 2015



I Did "Psychedelic First Aid" at a Festival in Costa Rica  
by Eamon Armstrong  
March 26, 2015



Drug Use at Festivals Doesn't Have to End in Hospitalization or Arrest  
by Chris Sosa  
July 21, 2015



Harm Reduction Offers a Sane Way of Dealing with Drug Use at Festivals  
by Yoonj Kim  
July 21, 2015



Meet the Man Trying to Use Ayahuasca to Treat PTSD  
by Thor Benson  
July 11, 2015



 **reddit** Ask Me Anything!

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I Participated in the MAPS MDMA/PTSD Study and It Saved My Life.  
**Ask Me Anything!**  
by Study Participant  
March 25, 2015



We are the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS). **Ask Us Anything!**  
by MAPS  
February 11, 2015



We are the Zendo Project, a non-profit harm reduction service. **Ask Us Anything!**  
by Zendo Project  
March 25, 2015