



SANDOVAL COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES, Inc.
BERNALILLO COUNSELING RESOURCE CENTER
2001 Camino del Pueblo • P.O. Box 1147 • Bernalillo, NM 87004 • (505)867-3341

August 21, 1984

Administrator
Drug Enforcement Administrator
1405 I Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20537
ATTN: DEA Federal Register Representative

Dear Administrator,

I am writing this letter in regards to the proposed placement of 3, 4 - Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) into Schedule 1 of the Controlled Substances Act (CSA).

I am a licensed, Board Eligible Psychiatrist practicing in the state of New Mexico. I am Medical Director of Sandoval County Human Services, Inc, a private, non-profit corporation providing mental health services to residents of Sandoval County. I am engaged in a private practice at Vista Sandia Psychiatric Hospital, and am a Consultant for two other Mental Health Centers and for Headstart. I am also on the Clinical Faculty Staff of the University of New Mexico Department of Psychiatry.

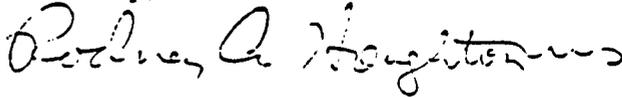
My history and experience with MDMA began over 2 years ago when I was asked by Dr. George Greer, M.D., to become a member of his Peer Review Committee for his research into legitimate medical uses of MDMA. As a committee member I reviewed his research protocol, made suggestions regarding potential subjects, and participated as a subject myself, along with my wife. I found the experience of MDMA under the medical supervision provided by Dr. Greer and his wife, a psychiatric nurse, to be a profound and life changing event - for myself and for my relationship with my spouse. Since that experience, I have watched with pleasure other carefully selected subjects in Dr. Greer's research attain satisfying, insight-giving, and thoroughly positive states of consciousness which can only be therapeutic, in my opinion. As a professional in the field of Mental Health, I have used many types of therapies, including traditional psychotherapy & pharmacotherapy as in-patient and out-patient modalities: never have I witnessed such rapid and profound changes in patients' psychological and emotional health as I have seen under the conditions of Dr. Greer's administration of MDMA to his test subjects.

"La Buena Vida"

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The Federal Register reports that there is a lack of accepted safety for the use of MDMA, and, that MDMA presents a significant risk to the public health. I believe, based on my experience, that MDMA in fact can be safely and therapeutically used and that it offers, under supervision, a unique and useful tool for practitioners in the mental health field. For these reasons, I am requesting that a hearing be scheduled so that more information can be provided to the DEA regarding the medical benefits of MDMA, and the possible alternatives to its being placed on Schedule 1 of the CSA.

Sincerely,



Rodney A. Houghton, MD
Medical Director