

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910955694403321
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Titolo	The quest for drug control : politics and federal policy in a period of increasing substance abuse, 1963-1981 // David F. Musto and Pamela Korsmeyer
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, : Yale University Press, 2002
ISBN	9786611735272 9781281735270 1281735272 9780300137842 0300137842
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xxiv, 312 pages ) : illustrations
Altri autori (Persone)	KorsmeyerPamela <1945->
Disciplina	362.29/156/097309045
Soggetti	Drug control - United States - History - 20th century Drug abuse - United States - History - 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- Acronyms and Abbreviations -- Chapter 1 The Johnson Administration: Drug Abuse as a Policy Issue -- Chapter 2 The First Nixon Administration: Early Approaches to Drug Policy -- Chapter 3 The First Nixon Administration: Treatment and Rehabilitation -- Chapter 4 The Second Nixon Administration: Drug Abuse Control -- Chapter 5 The Ford Administration: The White Paper on Drug Abuse -- Chapter 6 The Carter Administration: The End of Accommodation -- Appendix: Summary of Drug Control Policy, 1958-1974 -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Between 1960 and 1980 various administrations attempted to deal with a rising tide of illicit drug use that was unprecedented in U.S. history. This valuable book provides a close look at the politics and bureaucracy of drug control policy during those years, showing how they changed during the presidencies of Johnson, Nixon, Ford, and Carter and how much current federal drug-control policies owe to those earlier efforts. David F. Musto, M.D., and Pamela Korsmeyer base their analysis on a

unique collection of 5,000 pages of White House documents from the period, all of which are included on a searchable CD-ROM that accompanies the book. These documents reveal the intense debates that took place over drug policy. They show, for example, that staffers and cabinet officers who were charged with narcotics policy were often influenced by the cultural currents of their times, and when the public reacted in an extreme fashion to rising drug use, officials were disinclined to adopt modified policies that might have been more realistic. Musto and Korsmeyer's investigation into the decision-making processes that shaped past drug control efforts in the United States provides essential background as creative approaches to the drug problem are sought for the future.

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