

Thompson Fennel, President of Fennel Laboratories

Fennel is President of a pharmaceutical company, which has offered Yale University \$10,000,000 for the exclusive rights to market and manufacture Psychamine™.

There's this moral argument that is going around. It says that people shouldn't be allowed to take drugs to escape from their problems, that they should have to face up to their lives. That's a lot of hogwash, if I can put it plainly. Man has always tried to escape from reality — alcohol, pot, opium, cocaine, you name it. These drugs have been around for centuries, to help people get a little breather from the harsh facts of life. To give them a different perspective on things. I'm not saying I advocate those drugs. Far from it — we have enough evidence of the effects of the abuse of these illegal substances. But Psychamine is different.

For one thing, Psychamine has been manufactured in a scientific laboratory, so you can be sure it's pure. You know what you're getting with every dose — and exactly how much, too. As a laboratory product, it's got science's stamp of approval on it, so why the fuss? The Yale scientists say it's not going to kill anyone.

And if it makes some people lose their sense of competition, well, maybe that'll improve the world. We'll all be a little more relaxed and content with our lots. And maybe fewer people will be the victims of aggression, which, to my mind, is a far worse problem than drug abuse. If you ask me, the real problems in the world aren't because people are poor or starving, but because they're not content with what they've got. Maybe if they had the chance to try Psychamine, they'd lay back and stop complaining for a change, and the world could go on without war and violence.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not trying to say that the whole world ought to be on Psychamine, that we should put it in the water supply or something — like fluoride. Just that people have the right to choose, the right to have options. Who knows? Maybe aggression is just chemical imbalance in the human body, and Psychamine happens to be the drug that corrects that imbalance. Is there anything wrong with that?

And who knows? Maybe all the millions of dollars Americans are spending talking to their shrinks about their unhappy childhoods and marriages is just a waste. What if it's just a chemical problem in their bodies. Why *not* treat it with a drug like Psychamine?

One more thing: why should a doctor have to put his signature on it? Who needs a doctor to tell you if you need a rest from your troubles or not? We're too reliant on doctors, anyway. You start depending on the medical profession and pretty soon people lose touch with their own bodies. They run to the doctor for the slightest little pain or problem. People are smart enough to know when they can be laid back, and when they need all their attention and physical strength. I have a basically positive view of mankind, and I believe you have to trust people's own judgments. When you slap a lot of laws on something like this, you're only being negative and saying that you think people are basically stupid and unable to take care of themselves.