

HES 224 – Drugs, Behavior, & Society

Black Sabbath – Sweet Leaf & Clearing the Smoke

Alright now
Won't you listen?

When I first met you, didn't realize
I can't forget you, for your surprise
You introduced me, to my mind
And left me wanting, you and your kind, oh yeah

I love you, oh you know it

My life was empty, forever on a down
Until you took me, showed me around
My life is free now, my life is clear
I love you sweet leaf, though you can't hear, oh yeah

Come on now, try it out

Straight people don't know, what you're about
They put you down and shut you out
You gave to me a new belief
And soon the world will love you sweet leaf, oh yeah baby

Come on now, oh yeah
Try me out baby, alright, oh yeah
I want you part of this sweet leaf, oh yeah
Alright, yeah, yeah, yeah, oh try me out
I love you sweet leaf, oh

Songwriters: Michael Butler / Ozzy Osbourne / Tony Iommi / William Ward
Sweet Leaf lyrics © T.R.O. Inc.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are the drug references conveyed in the song?
2. How do the lyrics, music, and video portray drug use?
3. How does this song/video influence behavior/society?... Who is the target audience?
4. This song was written and recorded in 1971, what cultural implications did this song have?

Next we'll view the CBS Sunday Morning: Marijuana Clearing the Smoke

5. How is legalizing marijuana causing more confusion in the US?
6. What are some of the different sides of the issues?
7. What have "we" (other states) learned from states that have legalized recreational marijuana use?