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REDUCING DRUG SUPPLY

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MIND

BIOGRAPHY

Marcus Roberts is Head of the Policy and Parliamentary Unit at Mind, the mental health charity. From 2002 to September 2005, he was Head of Policy at DrugScope, and a key author of Beckley reports and briefings. Before working at DrugScope he was senior policy adviser at Nacro, the crime reduction charity. He edited the journal *Childright* from 1998 to 2000 and the magazine *Safer Society* from 2000 to 2002. In 1994 he was Baring Foundation Fellow in Human Rights at the University of Essex, and subsequently taught in the Philosophy Department at Essex for three years, working closely with the Human Rights Centre. He has published numerous policy reports, articles and briefings on a wide range of social policy issues.

ABSTRACT

This paper will present key findings from Beckley Report Three, which looked at the issue of law enforcement and supply reduction. While it can be argued that law enforcement has helped to contain the expansion of drug markets and drug use, this report concluded that a substantial curtailment in the scope of drug markets is not a credible policy objective. The focus of international drug policy should be on harm minimisation approaches that are adapted to the reality of continued widespread drug use in many parts of the world.