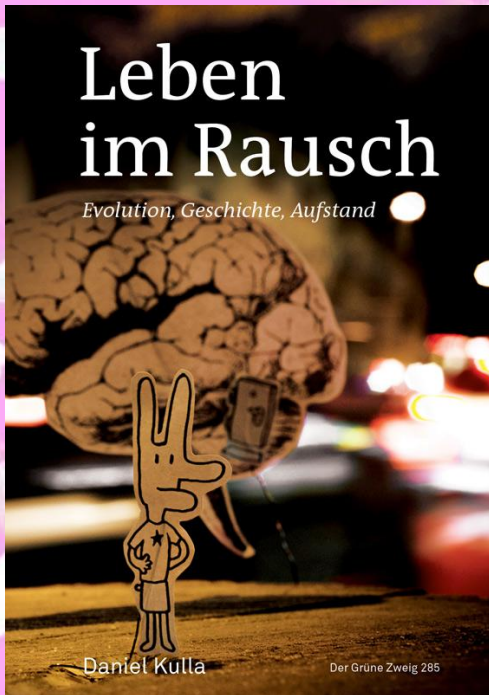


Life in transport

ISWI Ilmenau 2013



*Your consciousness
is always altered –
just too often
too much*

Daniel Kulla

Life in transport

Savage Chickens

by Doug Savage



www.savagechickens.com

Terms

“In the matter of addiction, most people think first of drugs and the emotional discussions on legalisation, drug abuse and crime.”

Terms: „Rausch“

Occurrence

everyday:

euphoria, alertness, appetite,
realization, dream

universal:

every lifeform with a nervous system

Terms: „Rausch“

Occurrence (examples)

| Rausch | Nervous subsystem | External trigger |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Euphoria | Endorphine | f.e. Opiates |
| Alertness | Adrenaline | f.e. Speed |
| Appetite | Endocannabinoid | Cannabis |
| Realization | Serotonin ... | f.e. Caffeine, Spices |
| Dream | (psychedelic/DMT?) | Psychedelics |
| Dissolution | (emergency/GABA) | Ketamine |

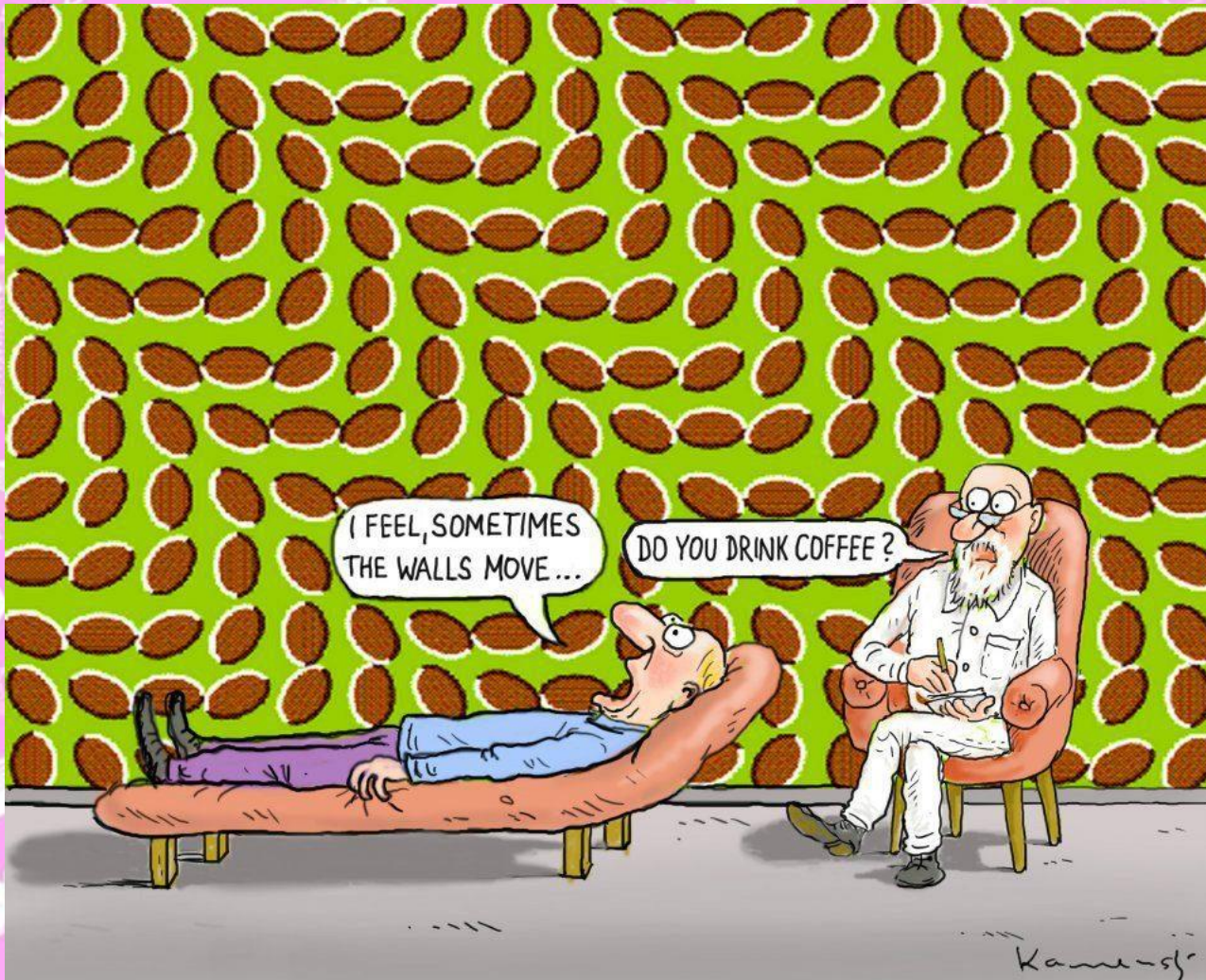
Terms: „Rausch“

Permanence

always going on
just in different forms & different intensity

nervous system always produces "noise"
& is capable of exploiting it

Terms: „Rausch“



Terms: „Rausch“

Feature, not a bug

**not something that happens to us
but something we do & choose to do**

an ability that can be trained & learned

Terms: „Rausch“

how it works

altered susceptibility/
responsiveness

+

de-synchronisation:
stacked moments

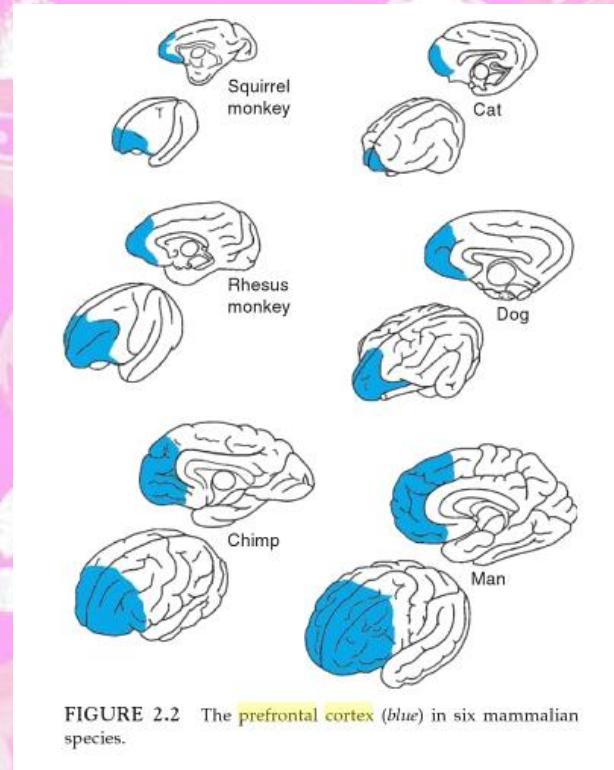
Terms: „Addiction“

- **German: "Sucht" – pejorative**
- **used to label persons as "addicts" ("Süchtige"), as fundamentally different personalities**
- **leads away from viewing most people as dependant most of the time**

Terms: „Addiction“

- “der abhängige Rausch” - everything people do, everything they produce & everything they can imagine, can be a trigger for Rausch, for sexual excitation, & for dependance
- dependency on wage-labor & being ruled → more need for intoxication & stupefaction, met by new Rausch commodities

Rausch & domination



- before: more autonomous individuals
 - one key capability: Rausch

Rausch & domination

- **repression: against „false“ Rausch**
 - selective bans & controls
 - personalisation & demonization
- **incorporation: managing & channelizing**
 - „outlet customs“, „The Society of Spectacle“
 - „drying out“ by „right“ Rausch (labor drugs, focus, „flow“)

Invention of the addict

- **20th century capitalism shifts focus to consumption:
produces dependent consumers = addicts
(permanent subscribers to certain Rausch or medicinal commodities, treatment, substitution)**



Invention of the addict

- **addict = ideal customer:**
 - will do anything & pay any price to get the commodity; has a very hard time to quit
 - appears to be only treatable/suppliable by pharmaceutical-therapeutic industry, or disciplinable by the police



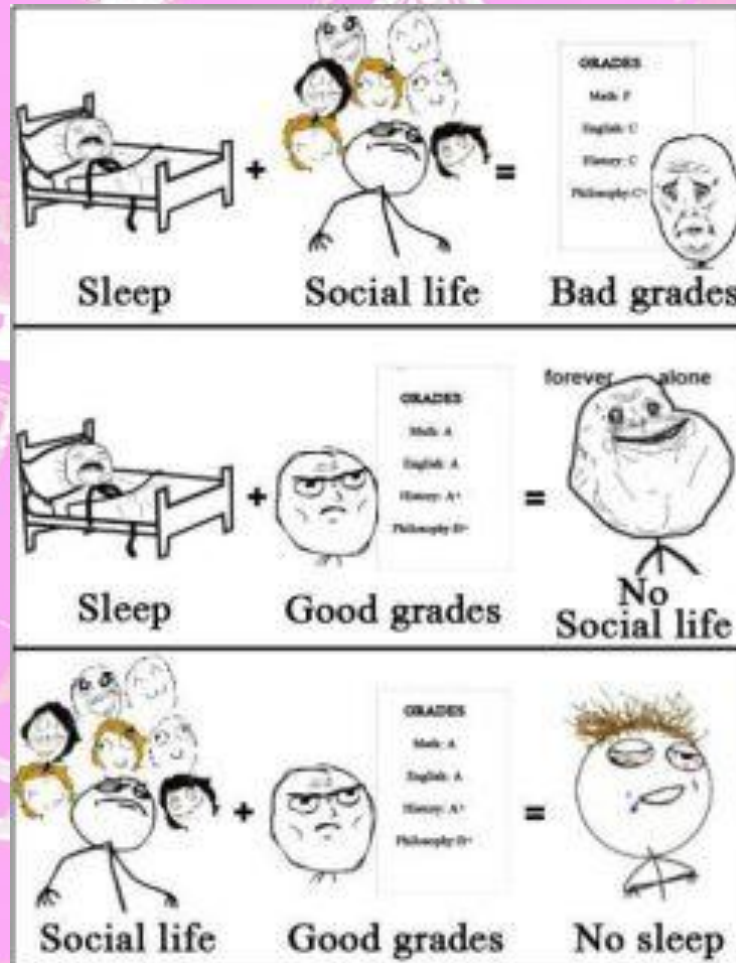
Invention of the addict

- **“new addictions”:**
 - reaction to similar conflicts with living conditions (*top*: working, looks, gaming)
 - attempt to get along (stay busy/attractive) or to escape (really or just imaginarily)
- **extension of concept of addiction**
 - could widen/obsolete the very idea
 - in reality pathologizes more people more of the time (still along the line of fitness for work)

Invention of the addict

- **every behavior, action, thing, every form of substance use that a dependency can attach itself to also occurs without that dependency**
- **activities that systematically produce certain kinds of dependency: (wage) labor**
 - **repetition**
 - **heteronomy resp. external determination of aims**

Invention of the addict



Invention of the addict

- **problem is reality of life not the trigger**
- **other reasons for dependancy than the dependancy on wage-labor:**
 - **every problem that seems unsolvable, every hardship that seems inevitable can cause a dependancy**
 - **so can the Rausch-inherent pursuit of boundaries, of the edge, of the possible that some people lose themselves in**

Too often, too much

- **challenges are met by increased Rausch**
- **permanent crises cause permanent Rausch**
 - too often: dependancy
 - too much: psychosis

Questions

- **How to change that reality of life?**
- **What's at stake for whom?**
- **Has the “War On Drugs” really failed in stabilizing capitalism & domination?**
- **How to learn Rausch? And what to learn from it?**
- **How to make it accessible for the especially anxious, harassed and exploited?**

