

June 3, 1987

Conrad Swartz, M.D., Ph.D.
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Dear Connie,

Thank you for sending me the videotape of your unusual interview on the demasculinizing and cardiac effects of chronic alcohol use. To the long list of other reasons which I have dutifully expressed to the students about the hazards of alcohol use, I can now add these data. The argument that alcohol use contributes to myocardial infarction is another compelling one for the anti-alcohol lobby.

Two decades ago, similar questions about demasculinizing effects were raised about cannabis use, mainly by Gabriel Nahas. I have often wondered whether these reports have merit. Is there any data on cannabis use and myocardial infarction? A question to Costas Stefanis at the University of Athens may encourage a parallel study in chronic cannabis users.

I am so glad that I am not an alcohol user, and when I told Martha about your findings, she was also pleased.

Keep up the good work. My best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry