

Scientist Spotlight – Carl Hart



[Dr. Carl Hart](#) is a neuroscientist and Professor of Psychiatry and Psychology at Columbia University. His research is focused on understanding factors and circumstances that influence decisions concerning drug use. He is also a veteran, an author, and an activist, and has testified before the U.S. Congress and around the world as an expert witness on psychoactive drugs. Using evidence-based arguments, he advocates for drug policy reforms that are informed by science.

Dr. Hart has appeared on multiple podcasts, radio, and television shows and has been featured in several documentary films, including the award-winning “The House I Live In.”

Video – In this 19-minute video, Carl Hart describes how he became interested in studying substance use disorder, how his understanding of substance use disorder has changed over time, and how science should impact drug policy:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C9HMifCoSko>

After watching the video above, please answer the following questions and submit your answers (without the text of the questions) to the submission link on the assignment page:

1. Explain how Carl Hart’s background influenced his decision to study substance use disorder.
2. Describe one of Carl Hart’s experiments on substance use disorder.
3. How has Carl Hart’s understanding of substance use disorder changed over time?
4. What did you learn about the types of people who do science by watching this video?
5. What was most interesting or surprising about this video?
6. What is a question you have after watching this video?