

Preface

This book provides a general overview of the current knowledge base regarding behavioral inhibition and its etiology, from genetic and neurobiological underpinnings to social factors that influence its development. Importantly, it also focuses on how this research may be used to design more targeted and potentially more effective drug abuse prevention interventions, given the critical role that inhibition plays in pathways to drug abuse. The idea for this book originated from a symposium entitled “Neural and Behavioral Mechanisms of Inhibitory Control: Implications for Drug Abuse Prevention,” which was held at the annual *Society for Prevention Research (SPR)* conference in Washington DC in May 2009. Several of the speakers at that *SPR* symposium (Jentsch, Fillmore, Lejuez, Yurgelun-Todd, and Lynam) have contributed chapters to this book based on their work. *SPR* has been instrumental in advancing the translation of basic neurobehavioral research into practice and policy.

All too often, basic research and prevention practice occur in a parallel fashion, rather than in an integrated cross-cutting fashion. It is important for multi-level and comprehensive research to be based on two-way communications so that basic researchers understand the problems in the field of prevention, and that practitioners are apprised of new advances in the laboratory. In the absence of an understanding of etiological mechanisms in inhibitory dyscontrol, preventive interventions are likely not to exert as beneficial effects as are possible. The overall goal for such translational efforts is to enhance and more appropriately target evidence-based interventions. This goal was epitomized in 2010 when the theme selected for the *SPR* conference held in Denver, Colorado was entitled “Cells to Society: Prevention at all Levels.” This book reflects an attempt to build on that theme.

This book is intended for a wide audience, including researchers, practitioners, policy scientists and makers, and trainees at the graduate and advanced undergraduate levels. The contributors across the chapters represent experts chosen from an array of disciplines, including genetics, neuroscience, psychiatry, psychology, sociology, family studies, and health communication. We are grateful for

their substantive contributions and appreciate their effort to provide the types of insight that are needed to move the field forward. Hopefully, some of this written word will translate into improving the lives of adolescents at risk.

Lexington, KY
Baltimore, MD
Lexington, KY

Michael T. Bardo
Diana H. Fishbein
Richard Milich

Inhibitory Control and Drug Abuse Prevention
From Research to Translation

Bardo, M.T.; Fishbein, D.H.; Milich, R. (Eds.)

2011, XIV, 335 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-1-4419-1267-1