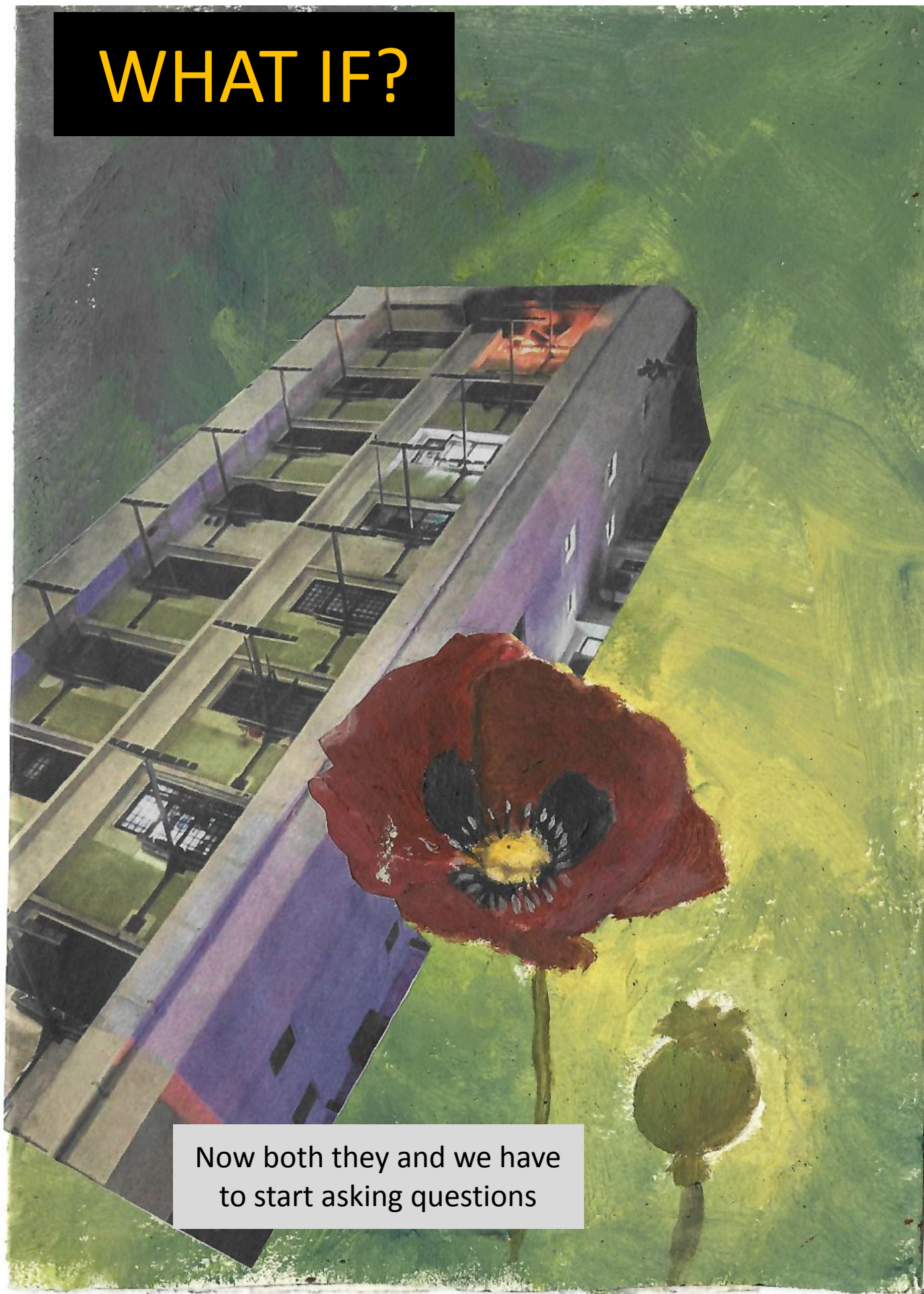


WHAT IF?

Now both they and we have
to start asking questions



EVERYONE HAD DIFFERENT RELATIONSHIPS WITH DRUGS AND THAT'S OKAY?

After my girlfriend left me, I began heavily using meth; I wanted to seek help from clinics but couldn't afford it. I eventually started using meth IV, and it got bad

I began using marijuana at 15, got caught in NS and was sent to the detention barracks. It did not make me regret my choices and I continued to consume marijuana openly, spoke up about the benefits of it and got caught a second time. Fast forward to present day, I still speak highly of marijuana.

to the point of needing to seek help at the hospital. I was caught the second time and sent to DRC.

THE INDIVIDUAL WAS UNABLE TO SELF-REGULATE AND LOOKED FOR EXTERNAL SUPPORT, BUT WAS DENIED IT, AND THEY FELL DEEPER INTO AN UNHEALTHY DRUG RELATIONSHIP

THE INDIVIDUAL ASSESSED THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH DRUGS TO BE HEALTHY, AND THIS DID NOT CHANGE WITH POLICING

I started with ecstasy at 16. I used marijuana

I started with ecstasy at 16. I used marijuana functionally for winding down, but had severe difficulties managing ice, especially with injecting. I lost 25kg & realised it could kill me. I managed to go for rehab in Thailand & my situation is now more stable.

THE INDIVIDUAL RECOGNISED WHICH DRUGS THEY COULD HAVE HEALTHY AND UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS WITH, SELF-REGULATED BY SEEKING REHAB AND SUPPORT GROUPS

After my first DRC conviction, I didn't interact with drugs for slightly more than 2 years. I started using again to help me work, and was about to get engaged and a promotion, when I got a knock on my door from CNB, and I tested positive for use 7 months prior.

THE INDIVIDUAL HAD A MODERATED RELATIONSHIP WITH DRUGS PRIOR TO THE INTERVENTION

... HEALTH WASN'T ABOUT THE OBJECT BUT OUR RELATIONSHIP TO IT?

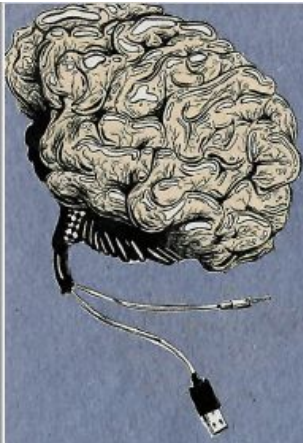
Activities that, at times, are grounding & life-giving can cause mental, emotional and physical stress in unhealthy amounts.

HEALTH & HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS COULD BE A SPECTRUM. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WHAT MAY BE VIEWED AS 'HEALTHY' BY SOME COULD BE VIEWED AS 'UNHEALTHY' BY OTHERS, AND VICE VERSA. SOMETHING COULD ALSO BE CONCURRENTLY BOTH.

Multiple dimensions of health need to be considered (e.g., physical, mental, emotional) but the less tangible often get sidelined.

WHAT IF IT'S POSSIBLE TO HAVE HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS WITH DRUGS?

"We shouldn't feel shame over such things"



Objects traditionally viewed as unhealthy - like alcohol



can be healthy consumed in regulated amounts



In excess, even traditionally healthy activities - like exercise and clean eating - can become unhealthy



A LAWN IS NATURE UNDER TOTALITARIAN RULE

... EVERYONE HAD ACCESS TO CHOICES?

OUR CURRENT SYSTEM OF CRIMINALISATION IS FOUNDED ON THE NOTION THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE 'RIGHT' PATH AND EVERYONE SHOULD CONFORM TO THAT PATH, REGARDLESS OF INDIVIDUAL VIEWS, BACKGROUND OR SITUATIONS

THOSE WHO HAVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH DRUGS

ARE DEEMED TO NEED REHAB AND ARE GIVEN RESTRICTED PATHS,

REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY WANT OR NEED IT, AND OF WHETHER IT WORKS FOR THEM

As with all kinds of individual-centred wellness, no singular form of rehab will work for everyone and not everyone can or should be expected to have the exact same relationships with drugs.

If individuals were given access to choice, they could self-determine their relationship with drugs - medical or recreational - and decide if, when and the kind of support they need and want.

Simultaneously, individuals who would otherwise have had **safe and unproblematic** relationships with drugs

have had their lives **interrupted** by intervention, or **polarised** by state narratives turned toward more extreme attitudes of use.

This isn't a security oversight. The area is still protected, but here the barriers have been seamlessly designed into the landscape

