Assignment 2: Description of Task

**Assessment 2: Values clarification and issue analysis (Essay)**  
Total value: 45%, Due Date: **June 14 2022**, Word Count: 2000

Objective: Working individually, students articulate personal values and viewpoints, incorporate research into this reflection and address a contested ethical issue linked to a specific field of practice.

Instructions:  
For this assignment, students develop a position on a selected ethical issue of particular relevance to them.

***Ethical Issue;***

***All illegal drugs should be decriminalised and the government should move to a public and social health model to deal with addiction rather than a legislative/punitive approach.***

They reflect on the intersection with their standpoint including personal values, and consider what is required to exercise moral courage and reasoning about this issue.

Students can choose any ethical issue relevant to a specific field of social work practice. The ethical issue may be one that they have encountered in work or on  
placement, or embedded in one of the case studies we have considered this semester, or a topical issue in today’s society.

As this is an argumentative essay, students are required to:

* Take a clear position and make a strong series of logically ordered claims about the issue,
* Present reasons to support their claims including reference to relevant ethical theories, frameworks and standpoints, and present evidence, information or relevant research to support their claims and reasoning.
* Unpack and discuss theories relative to the issue, demonstrating a clear understanding of the ethical nature of the issue and relevant ethical theories.
* Having presented a compelling case for their position on this issue, students write a concluding section that describes what is required for them to exercise moral courage about this issue (in other words, to act on the issue knowing that it will be contested and potentially bring personal scrutiny).

*Marking Criteria:  
The assessment will be marked in accordance with the following criteria:*

1. Articulation of a clear position on a relevant ethical issue
2. Presentation of a series of logically ordered claims with reference to relevant ethical theories, frameworks
3. and standpoint
4. Strength of justification drawing upon evidence and information to support claims and reasoning
5. Depth of analysis about moral courage to enact this position
6. Clarity of expression
7. At least five relevant academic references
8. Correct APA 7 referencing.