Leary calls LSD 'sacrament'

By John Foran

"The only abuse of drugs is the control of drugs by other people," said Dr. Timothy Leary at the Harvard Law School Forum Friday night in Harvard's Lowell Lecture Hall. "The only control is self-control."

At its second meeting of the 1966-1967 season, the Forum's guests discussed LSD: Methods of Control. The participants were Dr. Timothy Leary, of the Castillian Foundation and former Harvard professor, and Dr. Norman E. Zinberg, assistant professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School.

An overflow crowd attends

The lecture hall, which seats nearly eighty hundred people, was not nearly large enough to accommodate the huge turnout. An overflow crowd was sent to an other hall nearby to hear the forum via a public address system.

Leary was basically concerned with the distinction between a man's nonsensical rights and his social rights. "What I feel or believe or experience," stated Leary, "is my business, and what I do is all our businesses; and reward or punish me according to whether I play the game well—ethically and rightly—or unethically."

"LSD a sacrament"

As Harvard is a secular institution, he noted, his group is a religious institution. This group views LSD as a sacrament rather than an experiment in thrill. "There's one uneasy borderline between what is external and what is internal, and this borderline is defined exactly by the same organs and the skin and the introduction of external things within my own body. Consciousness is altered by physical events and physical objects, which impinge upon my sense organs, or which I introduce into my body."

"Now the name traditionally given to external objects or processes which change you internally is sacrament. Sacraments are the visible and tangible techniques for bringing you close to your own divinity."

Leary's belief is that "the realm of God is the human body. The Gates of Eden are the senses. The perimeter of Heaven is your own skin. The Temple is your body."

"The language of God is not English or Latin; the language of God is cellular and molecular."

What is without, then, belongs to God. What is within, then, belongs to God.

Low recogznized

Leary said he recognizes that man's external affairs must be controlled by laws; however, "anything that affects your senses . . . is your business. If you want to kill yourself through nicotine or cyanide, it's your business." According to Leary, men everywhere (Please turn to Page 15)