MARIJUANA: MAN-MADE DISASTER

Gateway to Other Drugs

- Marijuana a powerful neurotransmitter works on the same receptor system in the brain as heroin.²
- Marijuana primes the brain to seek stronger drugs.2
- Marijuana users are more likely than non-users to use heroin and abuse pharmaceutical opioids.¹⁴

Marijuana and the Brain¹³

- Causes and exacerbates: Addiction,
 Depression, Psychosis,
 Schizophrenia, Hallucinations
- Psychotic breaks / Violent acts / Anxiety
- Loss of memory, perception, motor skills
- Mental degeneration

Drugged Driving

- Driving tests show marijuana impairs reaction times, divided-attention tasks, lane-position variability (weaving), peripheral vision, cognitive function & coordination.¹
- 1 of every 8 traffic fatalities in Colorado are marijuana related (+32% increase). 10
- Marijuana driving deaths doubled in one year after legalization in Washington. 11
- For every 1 marijuana-user death,
 .7 innocents die (pedestrians, bicyclists, passengers, etc.) ⁵
- Combining marijuana with alcohol increases impairment up to 8 times. ¹



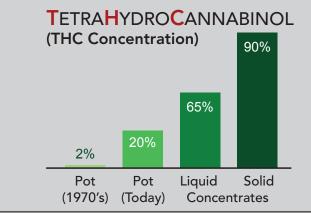
Think Marijuana is harmless? You don't know POT!

POTENCY:

Marijuana (a.k.a. Cannabis) today is

10-40x stronger than 40 years ago

THC (the mind-altering chemical in marijuana that gets a user high) is a hallucinogenic drug. It is stored in fat tissue and is slowly released back into the blood stream keeping that THC in the body for many days, even weeks after the pot is used. This THC continues to negatively affect memory and emotional processing, organs and bodily systems.³



TITT

Teen Use/Users

- Increases dramatically wherever marijuana is legalized. 12
- Causes irreversible IQ loss up to 8 points and higher likelihood of Amotivational Syndrome.⁸
- 1 in 6 teens who try marijuana will become addicted.7
- Heavy Users are less likely to graduate.9
- 7x increase in suicide attempts. 9
- Big Marijuana's goal teen users today become lifetime consumers tomorrow.

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Fetal Risk

Marijuana use during pregnancy crosses the placental and blood/brain barrier and increases the baby's susceptibility to: 4

- Lower birth weight
- Addiction later in life
- Birth defects & cancers
- Problem solving, attention and learning difficulties later in life Studies show genetic changes in offspring of heavy users.⁶

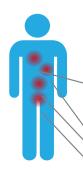


SOURCES: 1- R Hartman, M Huestis "Cannabis Effects on Driving Skills", Clin Chem 2013. 2- Dr. Forest Tennent and NIDA. 3- R Holmes MD, Florida Alliance for Drug Endangered Children "Health Consequences of Using MJ: Effects on Infants, Children and Young Adults" 4- E. Fride, J Neuroendocrinol. 2008; 20:75-81 & EC Blume -UNC, Cancer Causes Control. 2006 June 17, (5):663-9. 5- Fatality Analysis Reporting System, 2014 & 2015, National Highway Safety Transportation Administration. 6- E Sassenrath, UC Davis Primate Research Ctr and Neuropsychopharmacology, 2014 May 39 (6): 1315.23. 7- NIDA, "The Science of Drug Abuse and Addiction", by Dr. Nora Volkow referencing Monitoring the Future Study, 2010. 8- Dr. M. Seal, Melbourne University, APP article, "MJ causes brain damage", August 2012. 9- E Silins, et al 2014, "Young Adult Sequelae of Adolescent Cannabis Use - an Integrative Analysis" Arendt et al 2006; Kvitland et al 2016; Clark et al 2014. 10- Rocky Mountain HIDTA, 2015. 11- AAA "Driving under the in Influence" Foundation for Traffic Study, May 2016. 12- US Dept. Health & Human Services - SAMSHA 13- Dr. B Madras, Professor of Psychobiology, Dept of Psychiatry, Harvard School. 14-"Cannabis Use and risk of Prescription Opoid Use Disorder in the US" Olfson, Wall, Liu, Blanco, September 2017.



Heavy marijuana use is linked to downward social class mobility, anti-social behaviors, and relationship conflict.⁷ Less than 1% of all state prisoners are in jail for simple possession.¹⁷





Physical Health Impacts

LUNGS: Smoke from marijuana contains 4-5x the toxins, irritants & carcinogens as tobacco smoke; 20 times more ammonia. 9 Increases likelihood of HEART ATTACK IMMUNE SYSTEM is weakened Negatively impacts REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM 6 DEATH RATE 4x higher than non-users. 13



Crime

- 50% of men and 30% of women arrested for any crime test positive for marijuana.⁴
- 70% of inmates are addicted to drugs and/or alcohol.¹
- Guns and other weapons are common at both large and home cultivation sites.

Butane Hash Oil (BHO)

- Increases THC potency to 90+%11
- Causes severe "high."
- As dangerous to make and consume as meth
- Easily causes **explosions and fires** in neighborhoods where it is cooked.
- AKA dabs, wax, budder, shatter, and solid THC concentrate.



- THC liquid concentrate is used in "Vaping" devices (aka e-cigarettes); creates a cancer-causing aerosol with no smell.
- Candy, brownies, soda, gummies, etc. containing THC can be very potent; cookies with 1000mg of THC each are available.
- Vaping and Edibles are favorite ways for youth to ingest marijuana (THC).
- Neither THC liquid nor solid concentrates (BHO) are overseen by any regulatory body – no quality controls, no limits on potency, or limits on contaminates (pesticides, herbicides).



Marijuana is Big Money

(but not for the community)

- One plant can bring \$2,000 to \$4,000 annually to a grower/distributor.
- Black Markets still thrive after legalization.8
- Tax revenues from pot sales do NOT cover increased crime, health care or addiction services. Revenues are projected to be less than .003% of total CA state tax revenue.²
- Cost of law enforcement increases, not decreases with legalization.¹⁶
- CA already has 50,000 illegal cultivation sites that supply 60% of marijuana to the US.³

Marijuana is NOT Earth-Friendly ¹⁰

- 1 plant uses 6 gallons of water per day.
- Streams diverted to grow sites kill plants & animals downstream.
- Poisons and illegal fertilizers contaminate streams and forests. ¹⁵
- Carbofuron is illegal but commonly used at grow sites - ¹/₈t can kill a 300 lb. bear.¹⁵



Is Marijuana really Medicine?

The Federal Food and Drug Administration confirms that whole plant marijuana and THC oils are NOT medicine.

- Components may have medicinal value, i.e. CBD (Cannabidiol)⁵

- To protect the public, the FDA testing and approval process determines drug safety, dosing efficacy, side effects, potency, duration, interactions, etc.
- Pot shop "baristas" who recommend this psychoactive drug make medical conditions worse (e.g. PTSD, pediatric seizures, glaucoma and even pain).



"First, Do No Harm"

Marijuana is harmful

¹⁴ OPPOSE MARIJUANA USE

American Medical Association
American Cancer Society
American Epilepsy Society
American Academy of Pediatrics
American M.S. Society
National Eye Institute
American Lung Association
and others

SOURCES: 1 - T Coates, Atlantic Monthly, "The Case for Reparations", June 2014. 2 – State of California 2015-2016 Full Budget, Alcohol tax revenue. 3 - Senator Mike McGuire & Asm Mike Wood, 2015. 4 - CASA - Behind Bars II - Research Project. 5 - NFIA – National Families in Action, 2015. 6 - VK Cortessis MSPH PhD 2012. 7 - UC Davis study, March 2016, "Persistent Cannibis Dependence ... A Longitudinal Cohort Study." 8 - Washington Post, April 14, 2016, "Dozens arrested in Denver-area pot raids targeting exporters." 9 - Dr. B Madras, Professor of Psychobiology, Dept of Psychiatry, Harvard School. 10 - California Fish & Game Warden Association, 2010. 11 - Keith Graves, PD - Graves & Associates. 12 - U.S. Dept. Health & Human Services - SAMSHA. 13 - Callahan et al, Dr. Bertha Madras 14 - American Medical Association Claims 15 - www.silentpoison.com http://www.silentpoison.com 16 - Colorado and California Police Chiefs Association 17 - "Who's Really in Prison for Marijuana" - ONDCP