

Putting The Legalizers To The Pinocchio Test

Parents Opposed to Pot's mission is to bust the myths about marijuana. Below, we tackle the lies told by marijuana promoters by shedding light on the truths. Informed parents and their children should learn these truths to counter the most popular lies.



1. It causes death.

The most frequent types of deaths are suicide, murder, traffic fatalities, child abuse deaths, and organ failure from Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome (CHS).

3. Marijuana is Addictive.

Since denial is a characteristic of addiction, marijuana addicts often don't know they're addicted. The older studies showed an addiction rate of 9% for adults and 17% for teen who smoked pot. They do not account for the high THC pot of today. Recent studies show that about 30% of current users in the U.S. have Cannabis Use Disorder.

5. Marijuana was not banned because of racism.

Massachusetts banned it in 1911, long before Harvey Anslinger worked to ban marijuana around 1930. Anslinger is the pot industry's excuse to accuse those who are opposed to legalization with racism. It is an accusation that doesn't hold up to scrutiny. California banned in 1913 and New York in 1914. Mexico banned it in 1920.

7. Taxation is not a reason for Marijuana Legalization.

According to Andrew Freedman, former head of the Colorado marijuana program, "You do not legalize for taxation. It is a myth. You are not going to pave streets. You are not going to be able to pay teachers.". Indeed the tax on marijuana is about 1/2 of 1 percent of the entire state budget.

9. Marijuana is not a viable Social Justice issue.

Youth pot use leads to dropping out of school and lower economic success. These well-established facts are confirmed by studies and anecdotal evidence. Pot advocates are really lying to the public and to the minorities. States that have legalized marijuana have the highest rates of homelessness. Furthermore, in Denver, Seattle and Los Angeles, the pot businesses tend to locate in poor communities with the least clout. Since marijuana use is associated with school dropouts and downward mobility, minority groups have the most to lose with the legalization of marijuana.

2. Marijuana Is NOT safer than alcohol.

The percentage of adults age 21 and over who use marijuana in the U.S. is roughly between 10% and 13%, vs. 65% who use alcohol. Around 10-15% of drinkers have a substance use disorder, vs. 30% of marijuana users who have Cannabis Use Disorder. If people use marijuana to the extent they use alcohol, the damage will surpass the damage caused by alcohol.

4. Reefer Madness is not an invention

A subset of the population develops psychosis and schizophrenia from using marijuana. No one has figured out who it is and or what the genetic markers might be. Estimates vary, but those susceptible to cannabis induced psychosis range from 3% (with the marijuana of the 70's) to 25% of the population (with the marijuana of today). With dabbing, edibles and other forms used today that rate may go up to 50%. How do we know who can become mentally ill from using marijuana? The truth is we don't know until it happens.

6. Criminalizing of marijuana possession is not routine...

...or sought after by police. It is, however, used in evidence for other crimes and as a plea bargaining chip. It would be highly unusual to be searched merely for a joint in the pocket or a backpack. New York City formerly used a "stop-and-frisk" policy to hold back crime, but no longer follows that policy. When California voted to legalize pot last year, no one was in jail for low level marijuana possession.

8. Black Markets Don't go Away.

Former Colorado Attorney General Cynthia Coffman said: "The criminals are still selling on the black market....we have plenty of cartel activity in Colorado (and) plenty of illegal activity that has not decreased at all." A former prosecutor told us, "Drug dealers are not intimidated by marijuana legalization. On the contrary, they are emboldened by it."

10. Big Pharma is Not Driving Opposition to Marijuana Legalization.

The strongest opposition to marijuana comes from the families whose loved ones have been harmed by it. Senator Cory Booker takes more money from Big Pharma than any other Democratic Senator and votes in their favor. He also is the Senate's biggest advocate for "medical" marijuana. Today's pot is genetically altered to increase hallucinogenic content and is remarkably different from the weed of the 1970s.



Parents Opposed to Pot bursts the "bubble of the marijuana hype" and counters the false narrative that marijuana is harmless. We know that no amount of marijuana, especially in its current high-THC forms, can be proven safe.
poppot.org @PoppotGroup

Scan here to read this article and for resources.

