# Recreational Marijuana Legalized

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English 2H

# Research Questions

Here you will be seeing what are some of my questions toward this research paper.

Maybe it's my age for why I believe marijuana shouldn't have been legalized because of all the

ignorant people that I already see at school.

- 1. What Impacts will be made by advertising marijuana?
- 2. Who will be most targeted for consuming cannabis? And Why?
- 3. What ways does pot negatively affect you?
- 4. What are some the small benefits(but not really) of cannabis?
- 5. What are some of the many side affects of consuming marijuana?

# **Background**

It has officially been declared in California that marijuana(cannabis) is now legal due to the pass of proposition 64. For many decades the plant marijuana had remained illegal. Until the year 2016, many young ignorant adults had the decency to vote yes on this proposition. My view toward this topic is that marijuana should not have been legalized. The main reason for this is because marijuana users have abnormal brain structure and poor memory and as the user keeps on using marijuana their brain mainly the memory is being damaged. In addition to having a damaged brain users also suffer with a chronic addiction to marijuana and it will only get worse. Some marijuana users may argue that marijuana has many benefits. However they are wrong because although it may have benefit it still carries many negatives.

Driving under the influence of marijuana is dangerous for those intoxicated and those who are near the ones intoxicated. In The New England journal of Medicine, it is clear that "marijuana can impair your judgement coordination that can lead to unsafe driving and accidental injuries". This is true because blood THC concentration levels are being affected negatively. This evidence shows that now with the legalization of marijuana the number of accidents that involve users of marijuana will increase extraordinarily. Furthermore a need for increased monitoring and public education and for setting limits for drivers' THC levels will now be needed in the states that legalized marijuana.

## Rationale

The reason for me focusing on the legalization of marijuana is because of how young teens brains stop developing due to their use of marijuana. For past centuries teens and young adults have been able to acquire marijuana illegally which by no means was hard for them to get their hands on. Back then when marijuana was an illegal possession it was used heavily. Now that it is legal for adults above the age of 21 to consume it, I believe it will become more simple for teens to get their hands on marijuana. This brings shock to me because teens will have a mindset of being useless to society. So hopefully this blog will make you rethink the use of marijuana.

# <u>Limitations and Assumptions</u>

The one of very few limitations of this research project is essence of time. There would be greater research if there was more time to accomplish more parts of a real research paper. An assumption I can make related to my research paper is that propaganda against the use of marijuana will be strong throughout these years of recent legalization of the drug marijuana. Throughout our modern society kids will be exposed to this drug at a younger age and accept it more freely. I wish I could go into further detail with this project but due to my lack of time i will not be able to.

## <u>Argument</u>

Although it marijuana now be legal in some states it is still a very intoxicating drug that has some very harsh effects. Effects that make people commit serious crime that can change a person's life forever with incarceration. In the state of Colorado officials say "Marijuana legalization has led to an increase in crime and fatalities all over Colorado "("Is Marijuana Responsible for Colorado Crime Increase?" *Snopes.com.*). Just like any other drug, marijuana makes you take ignorant decisions that can result in a fatal death of a human being. communities no longer can be listed as being as safe. Hospitals are filled with patients who were hurt for driving under impaired senses due to their recent usage of marijuana. "Crime is up," said Denver police spokesman Sonny Jackson(The Denver Post, John Ingold). With the increase of crime the amount of patrol of officers also had to increase.

If our states are making decisions to legalize certain drugs we do not know what other drugs may want to be legalized next. Maybe crystal meth? crack cocaine? There already is many articles stating their absurd reasons for the legalization of all drugs. An example is The Weeks post stating "if the goal is to minimize harm — to people here and abroad — the right policy is to legalize all drugs, not just marijuana." (Yes, Even Heroin." *The Week*). The amount of consumed drugs will sharply increase. And the amount of death due to consumption of drugs will also

drastically rise. More people will become addicted to certain drugs such as, crack cocaine and crystal meth.

# Counter Argument

Although there are many negatives from the legalization of marijuana their are a couple of positives from the legalizing of the drug marijuana. One benefit is the healthier regulations marijuana. Agencies such as the BMCR "The newly created agency was tasked with establishing "a licensing and regulatory framework for the commercial cultivation, manufacturing, transportation, distribution and sale of medical cannabis in California," according to the state. If dispensaries received state licenses in addition to their local licenses, they could operate as for-profit businesses and not just non-profit collectives, according to NORML, a pro-legalization advocacy group. "(Murphy, Rosalie. "A 'Massive Undertaking' as California Races to Regulate Marijuana so Legal Sales Can Begin Jan. 1."). Having agencies do tasks such as checking if the marijuana is laced will prevent many accidents. Potheads will be able to worry less of how edgy their dealer may appear.

Another slight benefit from the legalization of recreational marijuana is the heavy tax that will be placed on it. According to The LA Times "Prop. 64 would slap a 15% excise tax on recreational marijuana." (LA Times. "Don't Make Marijuana California's Cash Cow."). Putting that tax on marijuana will benefit the high rate of homeless in downtown LA or funds for public

school. Although the state of California will be known for having marijuana as their cash cow.

Furthermore CNN Money states "In California, \$1 billion a year is the high end of the estimate from the state Legislative Analyst's Office. The low end is the high hundreds of millions."(CNN Money, "Legalized Marijuana Votes: Tax Jackpot or Pipe Dream?"). There is many departments that one billion dollars can go towards funding.

## Plan of Action

- Alternate Solutions There are three things that I think can be done to make regulate marijuana more strictly.
- 2. There can be a new proposition that can make recreational marijuana illegal once again.

  This is a viable solution due to the fact if it can be made legal. The damage that recreational marijuana has done has been seen and now can be brought back to its original position. The crime rate will be reduced in the states that have legalized it,
- 3. Employing companies, colleges should receive incentive to do do random drug test in order to maintain their jobs. By doing Realizing that marijuana can never be taken away from its people it becomes necessary to threaten the the things they want such as a their job. Knowing that smoking marijuana can threaten the job the have.
- 4. If minors are caught with the substance of pot the punishment should be more sever that it already is. Implementing harsher punishment should strike more fear into the youth that

will make their future farther away from marijuana. Such punishment include large incarceration periods.

# Optimum Solution

The solution that I believe that will bring the biggest impact is the random drug test that universities and companies will do for a tax reduction. This will appear like a good option for many companies and will be in there odds for expenses. Addition to this doing urine checks is not very complicated to do which makes it very practical for universities and companies. This solution will take a good 5 years to begin and data will be seen in increments of five.

# <u>Implementation</u>

Who will be involved in this action?

-The few states that legalized recreational marijuana will offer the random drug test to Universities and employing companies.

What will be the consequences of not passing the drug?

-The company or University should fire them from the company or school. Addition to getting kicked out they will be reported to the police to go to trial.

Where will the random drug test begin?

California will be the first state to take trail of the random drug test. Although these test will not be a requirement of companies and universities but it will be strongly suggested by the government including a back tax.

when will these test be taken?

These test will be taken randomly throughout the year of the companies and universities that accept the random drug tests

why will these test be done?

These tests will be done to minimize the horrid use of marijuana and punish those who do use it.

How will these test impact our society?

Those who cannot follow the rules of their school or company will suffer a punishment of getting fired or getting suspended from the school.

#### Challenges

The only real challenge than runs against this is that there will be no companies or universities that will not accept this proposition of random drug test.

# Summary of the Solution

Throughout history it has been seen that you can not make it impossible for someone acquire something they are not supposed to. Although you can take away what they need to get that special something, in this case marijuana. If companies were to have these random drug test

people will not consume recreational marijuana because they will be scared to lose their jobs or college tuition if it also applies to universities. Think of it as taking the getaway car from someone robbing a bank. You can't stop them from robbing the bank but you can stop them from getting away. In recognition of companies doing these drug tests they will receive a back tax toward their company. In this way both sides win. Less people consume marijuana and companies get a tax reduction.

## Final Thoughts

Although many of us anti drug people wish that marijuana did not go legal. To many addicts of marijuana, they need marijuana as much as they need water to live. Using this drug as much as drinking water can leave remorse scars within your body that cannot be undone. I have seen many lives destroyed and hurt because of their addiction to pot. Sadly the legalization of marijuana will keep on occurring throughout the rest of the states of U.S.A..

Overall researching is a annoying task that i feel i could not do without the internet. Sadly I wish to never do this task again throughout the rest of my life but that will not occur. Although I didn't enjoy these tasks much I learned a couple things that will prepare me for my future life in college. I do not understand how older generations did their research without having the internet. It seems it cannot be done without it.

This blog project took over a span of almost a year. The reason being is that we stopped working on it. It would have been better if we would have continued it constantly and got it over with. My favorite part of this blog project was the podcast it was a very entertaining to do. I would have enjoyed to add more podcasts to my project.

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#### Public Service Announcement

Topic: Marijuana

# History Background

- Marijuana is one of the most used drugs in high school
- When intoxicated with marijuana one hallucinates
- It has been legalized in California and many other states

## Demographics

- The people who will be most impacted will be the youngest generations due to the fact that they will rely that marijuana has always been legal
- The very few states that legalized marijuana will have a increase in population due to all the potheads that will move to these states
- Although marijuana is already is consumed at many colleges the quantity of pot will increase as well

## Causes and Effects

- As tobacco companies advertise their products so will marijuana and kids will want to consume marijuana
- Due to the inevitable use of marijuana the U.S.A. realized their is nothing it could do to stop the consumption of marijuana so might as well put a tax on it

## Impact

- Society will now think that although marijuana is legal in a few states that people will
  want to accept to having people smoking marijuana in public
- The economy will have a delivered increase in the taxation of marijuana
- People who we have major respect for such as politicians will be able to consume pot

Propaganda Poster

