


Session 9

The Great Marijuana Debate

November 14, 2018


In this class we'll debate the pros and cons of legalizing recreational marijuana. I have assembled some interesting links for your perusal. I will add more and try to organize it in the next weeks.

Feds vs States, Cole memos: <http://www.bostonglobe.com/opinion/editorials/2018/05/13/cash-only-pot-shops-court-disaster-feds-must-step/2QHn5YpSYLpzUIZvisz8IL/story.html> 
(<http://www.bostonglobe.com/opinion/editorials/2018/05/13/cash-only-pot-shops-court-disaster-feds-must-step/2QHn5YpSYLpzUIZvisz8IL/story.html>)

Head of dea refuses to answer marijuana as bad as heroin:

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/06/21/michele-leonhart-dea-crack-heroin-marijuana_n_1615270.html  (https://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/06/21/michele-leonhart-dea-crack-heroin-marijuana_n_1615270.html)

New England Journal of Medicine: Pros and Cons of medical marijuana for chronic pain:

<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMcld1808149?query=TOC> 
(<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMcld1808149?query=TOC>)

National Academy of Sciences Report on Health Effects of Cannabis and Cannabinoids:

<https://www.nap.edu/read/24625/chapter/1>  (<https://www.nap.edu/read/24625/chapter/1>)

[A Middle Aged House Dad Addicted to Pot](#)

<http://%20https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/06/opinion/sunday/marijuana-addiction.html>

“Weed Wars” Netflix documentary abt large medical marijuana facility

“Cash crop” documentary abt Calif Emerald Triangle

21% of Massachusetts residents used marijuana in past 30 days:

https://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2018/06/21_percent_of_mass_residents_u.html 

https://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2018/06/21_percent_of_mass_residents_u.html

50% 18-25 years

22% Americans use marijuana, 14% use monthly: [http://maristpoll.marist.edu/wp-](http://maristpoll.marist.edu/wp-content/misc/Yahoo%20News/20170417_Summary%20Yahoo%20News-Marist%20Poll_Weed%20and%20The%20American%20Family.pdf)

[content/misc/Yahoo%20News/20170417_Summary%20Yahoo%20News-](http://maristpoll.marist.edu/wp-content/misc/Yahoo%20News/20170417_Summary%20Yahoo%20News-Marist%20Poll_Weed%20and%20The%20American%20Family.pdf)

[Marist%20Poll_Weed%20and%20The%20American%20Family.pdf](http://maristpoll.marist.edu/wp-content/misc/Yahoo%20News/20170417_Summary%20Yahoo%20News-Marist%20Poll_Weed%20and%20The%20American%20Family.pdf)  [\[content/misc/Yahoo%20News/20170417_Summary%20Yahoo%20News-\]\(http://maristpoll.marist.edu/wp-content/misc/Yahoo%20News/20170417_Summary%20Yahoo%20News-Marist%20Poll_Weed%20and%20The%20American%20Family.pdf\)](http://maristpoll.marist.edu/wp-</u></p></div><div data-bbox=)

[Marist%20Poll_Weed%20and%20The%20American%20Family.pdf](http://maristpoll.marist.edu/wp-content/misc/Yahoo%20News/20170417_Summary%20Yahoo%20News-Marist%20Poll_Weed%20and%20The%20American%20Family.pdf)

[http://www.businessinsider.com/marijuana-justice-act-marijuana-legalization-bill-introduced-in-](http://www.businessinsider.com/marijuana-justice-act-marijuana-legalization-bill-introduced-in-house-2018-1)

[house-2018-1](http://www.businessinsider.com/marijuana-justice-act-marijuana-legalization-bill-introduced-in-house-2018-1)  [http://www.businessinsider.com/marijuana-justice-act-marijuana-legalization-bill-introduced-](http://www.businessinsider.com/marijuana-justice-act-marijuana-legalization-bill-introduced-in-house-2018-1)

[in-house-2018-1](http://www.businessinsider.com/marijuana-justice-act-marijuana-legalization-bill-introduced-in-house-2018-1)

<https://jewishjournal.org/2018/07/05/chai-times-jews-debate-legalization-of-recreational-pot/> ↗
(<https://jewishjournal.org/2018/07/05/chai-times-jews-debate-legalization-of-recreational-pot/>)

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2018/07/23/has-the-u-s-reached-a-tipping-point-in-marijuana-legalization/?utm_term=.5f751a7a8647 ↗
(https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2018/07/23/has-the-u-s-reached-a-tipping-point-in-marijuana-legalization/?utm_term=.5f751a7a8647)

Power of the alcohol lobby on the NIH: <https://www.statnews.com/2018/04/02/nih-rejected-alcohol-advertising-study/> ↗
(<https://www.statnews.com/2018/04/02/nih-rejected-alcohol-advertising-study/>)

Boehner benefits from weed; blacks are in prison for using it:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/04/19/opinion/boehner-marijuana-blacks-prison.html> ↗
(<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/04/19/opinion/boehner-marijuana-blacks-prison.html>)

Israeli study: Seniors, medical marijuana: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29398248> ↗
(<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29398248>)

Complementary New Yorker article: <https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/how-seniors-joined-the-cannabis-craze> ↗
(<https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/how-seniors-joined-the-cannabis-craze>)

Cannabis as potent anti inflammatory: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2828614/> ↗
(<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2828614/>)

Cannabis safer than opioids for elderly with pain:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180213111508.htm?>

[_ke=b2N1cm1lQGdtYWlsLmNvbQ%3D%3D](#) ↗

(https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180213111508.htm?_ke=b2N1cm1lQGdtYWlsLmNvbQ%3D%3D)

CBD for chronic pain: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2503660/> ↗

(<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2503660/>)

2400 drugs grandfathered without FDA review:

<https://pink.pharmaintelligence.informa.com/PS006918/FDAs-LIST-OF-DRUGS-MARKETED-WITHOUT-APPROVED-NDAs> ↗ (https://pink.pharmaintelligence.informa.com/PS006918/FDAs-LIST-OF-DRUGS-MARKETED-WITHOUT-APPROVED-NDAs)

<https://compoundingtoday.com/Compliance/FDAPre1938Drugs.cfm> ↗

(<https://compoundingtoday.com/Compliance/FDAPre1938Drugs.cfm>)

US govt on cannabinoids: <https://patents.google.com/patent/US6630507B1/en?q=Cannabinoids&q=Antioxidants&q=Neuroprotectants&oq=Cannabinoids+as+Antioxidants+and+Neuroprotectants> ↗ (https://patents.google.com/patent/US6630507B1/en?q=Cannabinoids&q=Antioxidants&q=Neuroprotectants&oq=Cannabinoids+as+Antioxidants+and+Neuroprotectants)

<http://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2018/05/04/can-mass-marijuana-industry-help-heal-communities-devastated-war-drugs/yDwTF9OOO35qbZVBKeo2CO/story.html> ↗

(<http://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2018/05/04/can-mass-marijuana-industry-help-heal-communities-devastated-war-drugs/yDwTF9OOO35qbZVBKeo2CO/story.html>)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2015/07/21/upshot/is-there-anything-actually-medical-about-medical-marijuana.html> ↗ [_ \(https://www.nytimes.com/2015/07/21/upshot/is-there-anything-actually-medical-about-medical-marijuana.html\)](https://www.nytimes.com/2015/07/21/upshot/is-there-anything-actually-medical-about-medical-marijuana.html)

400 page report on marijuana: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/07/upshot/its-time-for-a-new-discussion-of-marijuanas-risks.html> ↗ [_ \(https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/07/upshot/its-time-for-a-new-discussion-of-marijuanas-risks.html\)](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/07/upshot/its-time-for-a-new-discussion-of-marijuanas-risks.html)

Cbd oil: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/medical/what-is-cbd-oil--and-should-you-use-it/ar-BBJLbTz?li=AA51YJ&ocid=spartanntp> ↗ [_ \(https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/medical/what-is-cbd-oil-%E2%80%93-and-should-you-use-it/ar-BBJLbTz?li=AA51YJ&ocid=spartanntp\)](https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/medical/what-is-cbd-oil-%E2%80%93-and-should-you-use-it/ar-BBJLbTz?li=AA51YJ&ocid=spartanntp)

Referral from Geoff Rellinger: Sanjay Gupta CNN 4 part series on Pot vs Pills, MN 2500 opiate addicts got off with pot:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wTMCAwPbnwM>

https://www.bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2018/06/24/marijuana-addiction-real-and-rising-health-officials-say/16QBOWue6GKm1z2eZ5ajxL/story.html?p1=Article_Related_Box_Article ↗ [_ \(https://www.bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2018/06/24/marijuana-addiction-real-and-rising-health-officials-say/16QBOWue6GKm1z2eZ5ajxL/story.html?p1=Article_Related_Box_Article\)](https://www.bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2018/06/24/marijuana-addiction-real-and-rising-health-officials-say/16QBOWue6GKm1z2eZ5ajxL/story.html?p1=Article_Related_Box_Article)

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2018/06/29/percent-mass-residents-consumed-marijuana-past-days/XvyfXlIjy82S9HQv8mDd2IL/story.html> ↗ [_ \(https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2018/06/29/percent-mass-residents-consumed-marijuana-past-days/XvyfXlIjy82S9HQv8mDd2IL/story.html\)](https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2018/06/29/percent-mass-residents-consumed-marijuana-past-days/XvyfXlIjy82S9HQv8mDd2IL/story.html)

[mass-residents-consumed-marijuana-past-days/XvyfXlIjy82S9HQv8mDd2IL/story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2018/06/25/first-marijuana-derived-drug-approved-will-target-severe-epilepsy/?utm_term=.e886deb97053))

CBD wins FDA approval now needs DEA rescheduling: <https://arstechnica.com/science/2018/06/fda-approves-first-marijuana-derived-drug-and-it-may-spark-dea-rescheduling/?amp=1> ↗

(<https://arstechnica.com/science/2018/06/fda-approves-first-marijuana-derived-drug-and-it-may-spark-dea-rescheduling/?amp=1>)

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2018/06/25/first-marijuana-derived-drug-approved-will-target-severe-epilepsy/?utm_term=.e886deb97053 ↗

(https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2018/06/25/first-marijuana-derived-drug-approved-will-target-severe-epilepsy/?utm_term=.e886deb97053)

CBD might help psychosis: <https://www.inverse.com/article/48505-can-cbd-treat-psychotic-symptoms>

↗ (<https://www.inverse.com/article/48505-can-cbd-treat-psychotic-symptoms>)

https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2018/06/26/marijuana-use-legal-why-can-employers-fire-people-for-using-off-hours/fFR00XCy4l0p4d3jfSTLqJ/story.html?s_campaign=breakingnews:newsletter ↗

(https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2018/06/26/marijuana-use-legal-why-can-employers-fire-people-for-using-off-hours/fFR00XCy4l0p4d3jfSTLqJ/story.html?s_campaign=breakingnews:newsletter)

<https://www.zerohedge.com/news/2018-07-02/nevada-traffic-deaths-plunge-10-following-marijuana-legalization> ↗

(<https://www.zerohedge.com/news/2018-07-02/nevada-traffic-deaths-plunge-10-following-legalization>)

[marijuana-legalization](#)

Twins study shows no effect on IQ: <http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2016/01/twins-study-finds-no-evidence-marijuana-lowers-iq-teens> ↗ (<http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2016/01/twins-study-finds-no-evidence-marijuana-lowers-iq-teens>)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4747759/> ↗

(<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4747759/>)

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/the-teenage-mind/201303/marijuana-and-intelligence> ↗

(<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/the-teenage-mind/201303/marijuana-and-intelligence>)

8 point IQ reduction: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/travisbradberry/2015/02/10/new-study-shows-smoking-pot-permanently-lowers-iq/#6782f6fd2f5b> ↗

(<https://www.forbes.com/sites/travisbradberry/2015/02/10/new-study-shows-smoking-pot-permanently-lowers-iq/#6782f6fd2f5b>)

Marijuana helps inflammatory bowel disease: <https://www.popsci.com/inflammatory-bowel-cannabis#page-3> ↗ (<https://www.popsci.com/inflammatory-bowel-cannabis#page-3>)

Weed not harmless: <https://www.vox.com/platform/amp/science-and-health/2018/8/20/17759820/marijuana-addiction-cannabis-use-disorder-legalization> ↗


(<https://www.vox.com/platform/amp/science-and-health/2018/8/20/17759820/marijuana-addiction-cannabis-use-disorder-legalization>)

Atlantic article: <https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2018/08/americas-invisible-pot-addicts/567886/>  (<https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2018/08/americas-invisible-pot-addicts/567886/>)

Nearly 30% of marijuana users have use disorder: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26502112> 
(<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26502112>)

Is pot a gateway drug? Legalize it so users won't have to interact with pushers who sell cocaine, meth or heroin?

Cannabis as an exit drug: <http://sponsored.bostonglobe.com/weedmaps/cannabis-the-exit-drug/> 
(<http://sponsored.bostonglobe.com/weedmaps/cannabis-the-exit-drug/>)

Interesting reasons for DEA denying rescheduling of medical marijuana in 1992:
<https://www.dea.gov/about/history/1990-1994%20p%2067-76.pdf> 
(<https://www.dea.gov/about/history/1990-1994%20p%2067-76.pdf>)

Documentary about guy who ran medical marijuana facility: *Lynching Charlie Lynch on netflix*

Massachusetts US Atty on marijuana: <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2018/07/10/elling-outlines-marijuana-enforcement-priorities/Avizz7rJi42F9XXZUabMML/story.html> 

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2018/07/10/elling-outlines-marijuana-enforcement-priorities/Avizz7rJi42F9XXZUabMML/story.html>

NEJM Rationalizing Federal and State marijuana policy

<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1804408?query=TOC>

[\(https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1804408?query=TOC\)](https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1804408?query=TOC)

DEA won't approve new grow operation <https://www.statnews.com/2018/07/27/dea-new-marijuana-suppliers-for-research/> [\(https://www.statnews.com/2018/07/27/dea-new-marijuana-suppliers-for-research/\)](https://www.statnews.com/2018/07/27/dea-new-marijuana-suppliers-for-research/)

Distribution of more than 5 grams to a minor doubles the 5 year \$250,000 felony penalty:

<http://norml.org/laws/item/federal-penalties-2> [\(http://norml.org/laws/item/federal-penalties-2\)](http://norml.org/laws/item/federal-penalties-2)

CBD being rescheduled? <https://www.forbes.com/sites/mikeadams/2018/07/10/is-dea-being-forced-to-reschedule-the-cbd-compound/#7326c34b1810> [\(https://www.forbes.com/sites/mikeadams/2018/07/10/is-dea-being-forced-to-reschedule-the-cbd-compound/#7326c34b1810\)](https://www.forbes.com/sites/mikeadams/2018/07/10/is-dea-being-forced-to-reschedule-the-cbd-compound/#7326c34b1810)

Epidiolex should be rescheduled by sept 23, but CBD may not be <https://newfrontierdata.com/marijuana-insights/dea-rescheduling-epidiolex-not-yet-cannabis-cbd/> [\(https://newfrontierdata.com/marijuana-insights/dea-rescheduling-epidiolex-not-yet-cannabis-cbd/\)](https://newfrontierdata.com/marijuana-insights/dea-rescheduling-epidiolex-not-yet-cannabis-cbd/)

CBD triples survival in mouse pancreatic cancer model:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/daviddisalvo/2018/07/31/study-cbd-from-marijuana-plus-chemotherapy-triples-cancer-survival-rates-in-mice/> ↗

(<https://www.forbes.com/sites/daviddisalvo/2018/07/31/study-cbd-from-marijuana-plus-chemotherapy-triples-cancer-survival-rates-in-mice/>)

3.8% of global population uses cannabis, US 13%:

https://www.unodc.org/doc/wdr2016/WDR_2016_Chapter_1_Cannabis.pdf ↗

(https://www.unodc.org/doc/wdr2016/WDR_2016_Chapter_1_Cannabis.pdf)

Prevalence by country: https://www.unodc.org/wdr2017/field/Booklet_3_Cannabis_market.pdf ↗

(https://www.unodc.org/wdr2017/field/Booklet_3_Cannabis_market.pdf)

Legalization in US makes mexican marijuana unprofitable; shift to poppies:

<http://www.latimes.com/world/mexico-americas/la-fg-mexico-marijuana-20151230-story.html> ↗

(<http://www.latimes.com/world/mexico-americas/la-fg-mexico-marijuana-20151230-story.html>)

More detailed US usage and market size: <https://www.cnn.com/id/36179677> ↗

(<https://www.cnn.com/id/36179677>)

<http://oas.samhsa.gov/nsduh.htm> ↗ (http://oas.samhsa.gov/nsduh.htm)

Link betw schizophrenia and cannabis: <https://gizmodo.com/a-genetic-study-using-23andme-data-finds-link-between-s-1828630114> ↗ (https://gizmodo.com/a-genetic-study-using-23andme-data-finds-link-

[between-s-1828630114\)](#)

Preparation

Please pick a side: pro or con legalization of recreational marijuana and do some reading. We will have some breakout sessions in class for you to meet with your side and organize your arguments.

Additional Resources

List resources