

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1987-1988 8672

4654 HJUD HB 55



The
University of Mississippi

Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Physical Sciences Research Division
School of Pharmacy
University, MS 38677
(601) 232-9324



LINDA
ADAMS
A

September 14, 1987

Det. John McIntosh
Ketchikan Police Dept.
361 Main St.
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Dear Det. McIntosh:

Attached is an analysis report of the marijuana sample #87-3673 you sent to our laboratory on June 19, 1987.

The material has a profile typical of drug-type Cannabis - high Δ^9 -THC (4.38) coupled with little or no CBD content. The average Δ^9 -THC for whole plant material is approximately 2.5%, well below the THC percentage of this plant.

If you have any questions or if we can be of service to you again, please let me know.

Sincerely

Carol T. Abel
Laboratory Supervisor
NIDA Marijuana Project

CTA/kk1

Enclosure



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Judiciary
committee name

committee on recriminalizing pot, dated 10-24-87
bill/subject

Signed: Russell Luellen LLUELLYN
Testifier

Representing (Optional)
P.O. Box 8781 Ketchikan AK 99901

Address
225-1562

Phone No.

Name

Address

I am currently in the process of recovery from an active addiction

~~I am against recriminalization of pot for the following~~

to ~~me~~ pot. But I am still against the recriminalisation of pot. When I started using pot it was against the law but that never stopped me from trying and subsequently becoming addicted to it. Just as the law against minors consuming alcohol or smoking cigarettes never stopped me from trying either of these drugs. Rather than ~~not~~ spending what little money available to use to recriminalize and try to enforce this law I would rather see the money spent to educate the kids in are schools on the affect of the drug on the brain and Body.

I believe this would have a much greater affect in ~~stopping~~ stopping the young pepoles youse of this drug rather than giving them criminal records that could ruin there chances in the future at serten Job oportunities later in life. Also what if we do change the law and do catch minors or ~~adults~~ adults ~~in~~ in the posetion of pot we can't ~~in short it we had the money to do both then I~~

~~would suport the recriminalization of pot~~ forget that it is adictive. and Besides fineing them or giving them Jail sentences. what would we be doing with the real problem adiction.

In short I believe education is the only answer to the Drug & Aicihal Problem in our cuminity

Thank you

These are excerpts directly from the 1975 Ravin decision that are no longer valid and are in case it can be overturned.

Ravin v. State

Pg. 495

May 28, 1975

9. Constitutional Law

Right of privacy in the home must yield when it interferes in a serious manner with the health, safety, rights and privileges of others or with the public welfare.

14. Constitutional Law

The right of an individual to do as he pleases is not absolute and it can be made to yield when it begins to infringe on the rights and welfare of others. (Stated again on 509)

19. Health and Environment

When there is substantial doubt as to safety of a given substance or situation of public health, controls intended to obviate the danger will usually be upheld. (Stated again on 510)

500-

At some point, the states interest in safeguarding health, maintaining medical standards, and protecting potential life becomes sufficiently compelling to sustain regulations. One does not, the Supreme Court said, have an unlimited right to do with one's body as one pleases.

505-

Most marijuana available in the United States has a THC content of less than one percent.

506-

It appears that the use of marijuana, as it is presently used in the United States today, does not constitute a public health problem of any significant dimensions.

507-

Certain researchers cite evidence of an "amotivational syndrome" among long-term heavy cannabis users.....The National Commission concludes that long-term heavy users do not deviate significantly from their social peers in terms of mental functioning, at least to any extent attributable to marijuana use.....

Moreover, the Commission and most other authorities agree that there is little validity to the theory that marijuana use leads to use of more potent and dangerous drugs.

508-

The National Commission rejected the notion that marijuana is physically addicting. It also rejected the notion that marijuana as used in the United States today presents a significant risk of causing psychological dependency on the user.

509-

....It is conceivable, for example, that a drug could so seriously develop in its user a withdrawal or amotivational syndrome, that widespread use of the drug could significantly debilitate the fabric of our society. Faced with a substantial possibility of such a result, the state could take measures to combat the possibility. The state is under no obligation to allow otherwise "private" activity which will result in numbers of people becoming public charges or otherwise burdening the public welfare. But we do not find that such a situation exists today regarding marijuana.

510-

*64. We recognize that more potent forms of cannabis than marijuana are commonly used in other countries and are available on a limited scale here. However, studies of use patterns here do not indicate any great likelihood of a significant shift in use here to the more potent substances. If such a shift were to occur, then marijuana use could be characterized as a serious health problem.

511-

*The State has a legitimate concern with avoiding the spread of marijuana use to adolescents who may not be equipped with the maturity to handle the experience prudently, as well as a legitimate concern with the problem of driving under the influence of marijuana. Yet these interests are insufficient to justify intrusions into the rights of adults in the privacy of their own homes.

*We wish to make clear that we do not mean to condone the use of marijuana.

513-

And at least one state, Oregon, has already decriminalized possession of small amounts of marijuana.

FEB 11 1987

P.O. Box 7171
Ketchikan, Ak. 99901

Answer

February 9, 1987

Dear Rep. John,

I'm sending you a copy of an article in Time Magazine showing alternatives to jail sentences.

This reinforces some of the ideas I gave you at the community meeting.

I'm also enclosing some pamphlets on marijuana, pointing out the health hazards and how marijuana has changed in its potency dramatically since even 1975 when the Leavin Court decision became law.

Please let me know if I can furnish you with any other information.

Please share these items with the Judiciary Committee.

Sincerely,
Lynda Adams

APR 5 1988

A

659 Main St
Ketchikan ak
99901

Dear John -

I know that SB 32 is not in your Committee yet but since we will be out of state in April I am taking the liberty of sending you a copy of my letter to the Anchorage Daily News. It contains some information that puts marijuana use in perspective in history.

Please enter it in your records as a part of my testimony. Penalties for the sell must be * commensurate with the amount of pot possessed.

I also would like to urge the Judiciary Committee to pass HB 361 suspension of Minor's drivers license. This is a very valuable tool towards helping teenagers understand how important being drug free is.

HB 174 - Serving alcohol to minors in private homes is important. It gives a much needed message to parents of their responsibility.

Sincerely

Betsy J. Wilson

* More than \$100 - first offense - 103.

1000

403

March 29, 1988

Editor,
Anchorage Daily News
Anchorage, Alaska

Robert Wagstaff in his recent point of view on marijuana made some very inaccurate statements. Everyone who has kept up with the scientific work on the drug over the last ten years knows that marijuana has proven to have so many harmful properties that it does constitute a real danger to the mental and physical health of Alaska's citizens.

To rebutt his statement that history teaches marijuana is innocuous, I submit some information from Dr. Gabriel Nahas, M.D. Ph.D, who has done extensive research into the properties of cannabis, commonly called marijuana.

In the 13th century, hashish, the resin of the marijuana plant containing a THC content of 5-10%, was introduced into Egypt from India where it was used for religious ceremonies. The use of hashish became so prevalent and the results so devastating that the sultans and emirs made attempts to prohibit its' use.

In the 14th century it became such a problem that one emir ordered all cannabis plants uprooted and destroyed. Users of the substance were condemned to have all of their teeth extracted without benefit of anesthesia.

When Napoleon conquered Egypt in 1800 one of his officers noted "the mass of male population is in a perpetual stupor." Napoleon decreed that the use of chemicals be forbidden, managing at least to restrain his troops from using.

In 1925 Egypt asked the International Opium conference to place cannabis products in the same category as opiates. This meant rigid control of the hashish that had plagued the middle east for centuries. Egypt's delegate to the conference declared that "there is another product, which is at least as harmful as opium, if not more so, and that is hashish."

The World Health Organization reviewed the cannabis situation after its' founding in 1948 and concluded that the drug was dangerous from every point of view, whether physical or mental or social. In 1960 it recommended that cannabis, in all its' forms, did constitute a danger to health and a hazard to society.

In Morocco, where the drug has been used for centuries with similar problems to Egypt, about 40% of hospital admissions for acute psychoses are related to cannabis smoking.

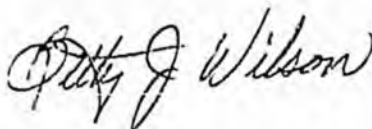
In other countries where this drug has been used for centuries, laws against use and dealing are the harshest in the world. Law makers saw what it did to their population. In Taiwan, Iran, Algeria and Turkey, smuggling or selling pot or hashish can bring long term prison sentences up to thirty years. In Burma, Bolivia, India, Iraq, and Kenya you can be slapped into jail 2-10 years for smoking it or having it in your house.

Today, with upgraded modern methods of growing cannabis indoors using grow lights and hydroponex methods, people are able to produce a product comparable to hashish, one name for this item is cannabis indica. It has a thick sticky resin with a high THC content.

Let us not let history repeat itself. Let us learn from these ancient countries and make marijuana completely illegal before it is too late. The privacy of one's own home is a convenient place to smoke your life into a stupor but can society afford to let people do this?

Please ask your represenatives to confirm what researchers, doctors and scientists know. The health of our children and adults is much more important than the opinions of lawyers or the political haggings of politicians.

Betty Wilson
659 Main Street
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901



FEB 29 1988

FEB. 24, 1988

DEAR CONGRESSMAN,

I UNDERSTAND THAT HOUSE BILL 55 WILL BE COMING TO THE FLOOR SHORTLY FOR A VOTE. THERE ARE SOME CONCERNS I HAVE ABOUT THIS PIECE OF LEGISLATION AND HAVE SENT A P.O.M. STATING IN BRIEF MY OPINION. SINCE THEN I REQUESTED THE LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS OFFICE TO GET ME COPIES OF THE RESEARCH THAT WAS USED TO JUSTIFY THIS ACTION BY THE CONGRESS. IT IS THIS RESEARCH I NOW CARE TO ADDRESS.

I HAVE HAD EXPERIENCE ON THIS SUBJECT MATTER IN YEARS PAST AND THOUGH I REVELLED AT THE ABSURDITY OF THE FINDINGS IN THE SENATE AND HOUSE BILLS, I HOPED THE RESEARCH PRESENTED TO YOUR BODY WOULD BE COMPLETE. I IMMEDIATELY FOUND IT WAS NOT. IN THE RESEARCH AGENCY MEMORANDUM DATED FEBRUARY 27, 1987, TO REPRESENTATIVE TERRY MARTIN REGARDING "FINDINGS ON MARIJUANA", THE FIRST PARAGRAPH SHOWED ME HOW THE SUBJECT WOULD AGAIN BE APPROACHED...INACCURATE AND BIASED. IT READS, "YOU ASKED US TO SUBSTANTIATE THE FINDINGS ON MARIJUANA INCLUDED IN HOUSE BILL 32. I HAVE ADDRESSED EACH OF THE FINDINGS INCLUDED IN THE BILL WITH THE MOST APPLICABLE RESEARCH AVAILABLE TO ME. WHENEVER POSSIBLE, I HAVE PRESENTED THE RESEARCH WITHOUT PARAPHRASING IT. AS YOU REQUESTED, I HAVE NOT INCLUDED ANY RESEARCH WHICH DISPUTES THE FINDINGS SET OUT IN THE BILL." HENCE THE BEGINNINGS OF MY OBJECTIONS! I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW A LEGISLATIVE BODY CAN MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION ON A BILL WITHOUT COMPLETE INFORMATION.

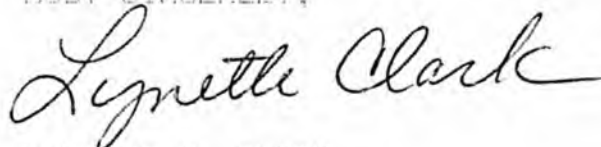
THEN, I READ THE RESEARCH AGENCY MEMORANDUM DATED MARCH 3, 1987, REGARDING "THE PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF MARIJUANA, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, ASPIRIN, AND SALT" AND LISTED UNDER CHRONIC EFFECTS, I QUOTE, "THERE IS NO SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE WHICH EXPOSES THE POSSIBLE LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF MARIJUANA. THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL STATED...WE AGREE WITH THE CONCLUSION THAT LONG-TERM HEAVY MARIJUANA USE WILL BE SHOWN TO RESULT IN MEASURABLE DAMAGE TO HEALTH, JUST AS LONG-TERM CHRONIC TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL USE HAVE PROVEN TO CAUSE SUCH DAMAGE. AT THIS TIME, HOWEVER, OUR JUDGEMENT AS TO BEHAVIORAL AND HEALTH-RELATED HAZARDS IS THAT THE RESEARCH HAS NOT ESTABLISHED A DANGER BOTH LARGE AND GRAVE ENOUGH TO OVERRIDE ALL OTHER FACTORS AFFECTING A POLICY DECISION." THE INFORMATION HERE LEADS ME TO BELIEVE THIS BILL IS NOT NECESSARY BECAUSE THERE IS LAW ALREADY IN PLACE.

TOGETHER ON PAGE SIX AND SEVEN OF THE RESEARCH AGENCY MEMORANDUM DATED DECEMBER 3, 1986 AND ON THE LAST PAGE OF THAT SAME DOCUMENT, I REALIZED WHAT THE STATE WAS SETTING IN MOTION...TO BE ABLE TO OVERTURN THE SUPREME COURT RAVIN

RULING! I AM ENCLOSED A COPY OF PAGE SIX AND SEVEN OF THAT MEMO AND SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION # 16, THE LAST PAGE OF THE SAME MEMO.

CONGRESSMAN, THE CONSTITUTION OF ALASKA IN ARTICLE I, SECTION 22 STATES " THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO PRIVACY IS RECOGNIZED AND SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED. THE LEGISLATURE SHALL IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION." I BELIEVE THIS BILL IS UNNECESSARY AND IF PASSED THE HOUSE MEMBERS WOULD BE VIOLATING THEIR OATH OF OFFICE. I AM NOT ADVOCATING THE USE OF MARIJUANA, I BELIEVE THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE SOLD, GIVEN, OR IN THE HANDS OF MINORS, BUT I DO BELIEVE WHAT AN ADULT DOES IN THEIR OWN HOME IS THEIR BUSINESS AND THEIR RIGHT TO PRIVACY " SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED." I URGE YOU TO VOTE NO ON THIS ISSUE AND TO VOTE NO ON ANY LEGISLATION OR RESOLUTION THAT PROPOSES TO" LIST" WHAT WE CAN DO IN OUR HOMES.

MOST SINCERELY,



LYNETTE M. CLARK
2521 OLD SYESEE HWY. N.
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99712

December 3, 1983

Page 6

Alaska Law

In *Ravin v. State*, the Supreme Court of Alaska held that the possession for personal use in the home by adults is protected by the right to privacy clause in the Alaska Constitution. Decriminalization of marijuana, however, applies only to the possession of marijuana in the home, as the *Ravin* case states. Possession outside the home in any amount is a criminal violation.

Under Alaska law, penalties for the possession of marijuana increase as the quantity involved increases. It is a criminal violation to possess up to one ounce of marijuana in a public area (AS 11.71.070). It is a class B misdemeanor to possess one ounce or more in a public area or to possess more than four ounces of marijuana anywhere (AS 11.71.060). According to Gayle Horetski, Assistant Attorney General with the Criminal Division of the Alaska Attorney General's office, AS 11.71.060 could apply to the possession of more than four ounces in a private home. Alaska statutes prohibiting the possession and distribution of marijuana are Attachment B of this memorandum.

Recriminalizing Marijuana

Recriminalizing of marijuana in Alaska could occur by amending the Alaska Constitution or by repealing existing legislation and enacting new legislation. If the Alaska Constitution were amended to exempt the possession of marijuana from the right to privacy clause, State statutes would still have to be amended in order to criminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana. If State statutes were amended to criminalize marijuana and the constitution were not amended, the amended statutes would probably be challenged under the *Ravin* decision.

Amending the Alaska Constitution requires a two-thirds vote of the legislature and a majority vote by the people (Article 13, Section 1 of the Constitution (Attachment C)). Ms. Horetski suggests that language to exempt the possession of marijuana from the constitutional right to privacy might be: "Rights embodied in this section do not extend to the possession of controlled substances (or marijuana)." In 1985, a Senate resolution was proposed to exempt the possession of controlled substances from the constitutional right to privacy (Attachment D).

December 3, 1986

Page 7

Amending State statutes would involve redesigning the structure of the current drug statutes. This would include the repeal of AS 11.71.070, amending statutes which specify penalties for possession of marijuana, and cross referencing statutes to amend all statutes that relate to marijuana. According to Ms. Horetzki, if the constitution were not amended to exclude marijuana from the right to privacy clause, statutes criminalizing marijuana could be struck down at the trial court level and the case would probably be appealed to the Supreme Court. According to a fiscal note prepared by the Attorney General's office, convincing the trial court to reverse the Ravin ruling would require that the prosecutor present scientific evidence that the effects of marijuana use are so injurious to a person's mental and physical health as to justify the legislative decision to prohibit the use of marijuana by anyone at any time.

On appeal, the Supreme Court could decide whether the State has proved that there is a "compelling State interest" in prohibiting the use of marijuana which outweighs an individual's right to privacy under the State Constitution. The fiscal note also stated that to prove a compelling State interest, the State must show that the legislature's consideration of the recriminalization of marijuana included extensive public hearings, debate on the merits of the recriminalization and discussions of the most recent studies regarding the physical, emotional, and social effects of marijuana usage.

* * * *

I hope this information is helpful to you. Please contact us if you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance.

PW

Attachments

ANCHORAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
3111 "C" Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

February 16, 1988

Dear Legislator:

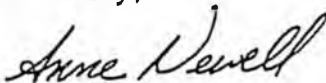
The Anchorage Police Department Employees Association supports the concept of the following legislation:

SB185 HB461	POLICE OFFICERS BILL OF RIGHTS Increased Penalties for Repeat Convictions of Theft and Concealment of Merchandise.
HB55/SB32 SB79	Marijuana Runaways
CSSB37 SB80	Fingerprinting of Minors Fingerprinting and Photographing Minors
CSSB27 SB28	Conspiracy to Commit Felony Forfeiture of Property
SB120	Minors on Probation Information in APSIN

We have targeted these bills because we deal with the issues they raise on a daily basis. As a police employees union we are concerned with the protection and safety of the public as well as safety of our police officers. This legislation provides us with excellent tools to carry out our jobs in a more effective manner.

If we were unable to talk with you here about these bills or other law enforcement or public safety issues, please phone us in Anchorage; Greg Hansen 786-8787, Joe Young 786-8663, Ann Newell 786-8887 or 337-7268. A.P.D.E.A. Offices at 3111 C Street, Suite 325, 561-1158

Sincerely,

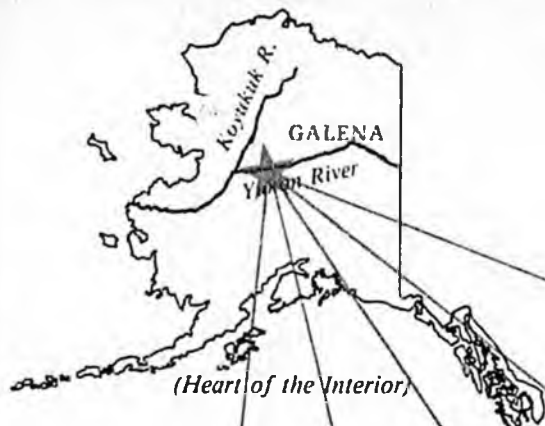


Anne Newell
A.P.D.E.A. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

AN/dt

Anne Newell
Says Thanks
for your work
to try to make
SB 32 a violation
Nancy

JAN 12 1987



GALENA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

GALENA, ALASKA 99741
PHONE (907) 656-1205

SUPERINTENDENT'S
OFFICE

January 7, 1987

Representative John Sund
P.O. Box V
Mail Stop 3100
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Sund:

The Board of Education for the Galena City School District is appalled at the free uncontrolled flowing use of controlled drugs including marijuana.

We are aware of the detrimental effect that drugs have on the education of students who use drugs and that schools are held accountable for the learning that should take place. Therefore, it is very important that those negative effects on learning be eliminated.

One of the big reasons that larger and larger numbers of students are failing in school is the use of drugs and marijuana.

Our School Board strongly encourages you to support stricter laws on possession, sale and use. Further, we would ask for your support laws that will facilitate the arrest and conviction of dealers.

We appreciate your positive attitude and support.

Sincerely,

Carole C. Huntington, President
Board of Education

CCH/elb
069/87

cc: School Board Members
Galena City School District

Considering the Alternatives

Crowded prisons spark less confining punishments

Jim Guerra sells cars today in Dallas. He used to sell cocaine in Miami. In 1984, after being robbed and even kidnaped by competitors, he decided it was time for a career change. He gave up drugs—and the drug trade—and headed out to Texas for a new law-abiding life. The old life caught up with him anyway. In December 1985 federal agents arrested him on charges connected to his Florida

Even as crime rates generally declined during the first half of the 1980s, inmate numbers tracked wild ballistics of their own, increasing by nearly 60%. The nation's prison population now stands at a record 529,000, a total that grows by 1,000 each week; new cells are not being built in matching numbers. While virtually everyone convicted is a candidate for prison, many experts believe perhaps half the in-



Instead of prison, Guerra was fined and sentenced to help a group that entertains the critically ill. The work may be admirable, but is a stint of public service the just deserts of crime?

mate population need not be incarcerated at all.

mate population need not be incarcerated at all. The dismal result is evident almost everywhere. Throughout the country, convicts have been crammed into existing facilities until their numbers have pressed against the outer limits of constitutional tolerance. Currently in 38 states the courts have stepped in to insist on, at the least, more acceptable levels of overcrowding. In Guerra's new home state of Texas, a federal judge earlier this month gave officials until March 31 to improve inmates' living conditions or risk fines of up to \$800,000 a

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Auto-blography: drunk-driver bumper sticker

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work. To make sure they comply, each wears a kind of futuristic ball and chain: a 4-oz. radio transmitter that is attached to the ankle with tamperproof plastic straps. The device broadcasts a signal to a receiver hooked up to the wearer's home phone, which in turn relays it to a computer at the probation department. If the wearer strays more than 100 ft., the computer spits out a note for the probation officer.

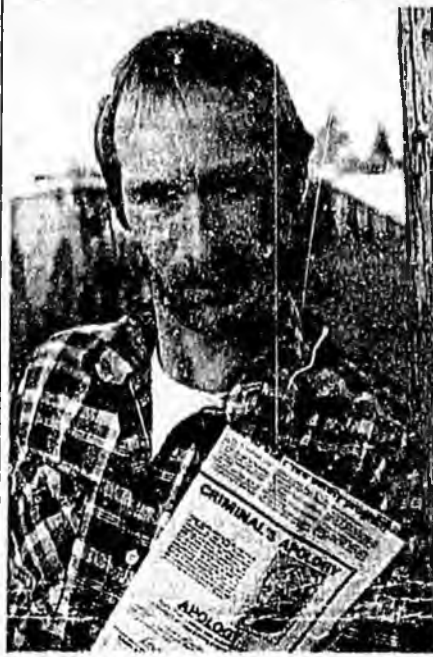
"They can't leave home without us," quips Donald Richberg, coordinator of the program. Following an initial outlay of \$100,000, the project has cost the county only about \$10 a day per probationer. The anklets have been tried in at least eight states since New Mexico introduced electronic monitoring in 1983. The cost accounting looks favorable, but technical gremlins have been showing up too, resulting in reports of false disappearances or failures to report real ones.

Until the high-tech methods are perfected, more conventional alternatives remain the most popular. About 30 states have funded "intensive probation supervision," in which participants are typically required to work, keep a curfew, pay victims restitution and, if necessary, receive alcohol or drug counseling. Instead of the usual caseload—the nationwide average is 150—a probation officer in such experiments oversees just 25 people. Even with the added staff expense, the programs still cost less than incarceration.

The experience of Robert Rusich, 29, a house painter in Mobile was typical. In 1984 he received a 15-year sentence for burglary. But an intensive probation scheme used in his state since 1982 eventually sent him back outside, and back to work, under strict supervision. A 10 p.m.-to-6 a.m. curfew was enforced during the first three months after release by at least one surprise visit each week from the corrections officer. There were three other weekly meetings, with restrictions eased as his time in the program increased. Living at home, as he was required to do for 2½ years, Rusich cost the state \$8.72 a day, less than a third the expense of keeping him in prison. The experience was a "lifesaver," says Rusich, who is now on parole.

Alabama and a number of other states also have a similar but more restrictive option: the work-release center, a sort of halfway house where offenders must live out their sentences. The system allows them to work, often at jobs found by the local government, but maintains more of the trappings of confinement, such as dormitory life and security checks. In Indiana, where there are ten such centers, offenders do prison time first, with the hope of work release as a carrot for good behavior. That method lets the state consider, through observation and psychological testing, which inmates are likely to succeed in the program. "We want to see how they'll perform," says Vaughn Overstreet of the department of corrections.

A few localities have resorted to the most low-tech deterrent of all: shame. Sarasota County, Fla., is trying the "scarlet let-



Lawbreaker Smith advertised his regret

ter" approach, by requiring motorists convicted of drunk driving to paste bumper stickers on their cars announcing the fact. In Lincoln County, Ore., a few felons have even been given a choice between prison and publishing written apologies, accompanied by their photographs, in local newspapers. Roger Smith, 29, paid \$294.12 to announce his contrition in two papers after a guilty plea growing out of a theft charge. A published apology "takes the anonymity out of crime," insists Ulys Stapleton, Lincoln County district attorney. "People can't blend back into the woodwork."

Do alternatives work? That depends on what they are asked to accomplish. If the goal is cost efficiency, the answer is a qualified yes. They often seem cheap enough, but there are concerns that they may actually add to the bill for corrections because judges will use them as a halfway measure to keep a rein on people who would otherwise go free in plea bargains. James K. Stewart, director of a Jus-



A high-tech manacle for house arrest
They hope he can't leave home without it.

tice Department research institute, contends that the cost to society of crimes committed by those not imprisoned must be factored in as well. For certain offenders, Stewart concludes, "prison can be a real, real cheap alternative."

If the goal is a society with fewer criminals, then firm judgments are even harder to draw. Criminology is a dispiriting science. Its practitioners commonly caution that no criminal sanction, no matter how strict, no matter how lenient, seems to have much impact on the crime rate. But prison does at least keep criminals off the street. Home confinement cannot guarantee that security. Some data, tentative and incomplete, do suggest, however, that felons placed on intensive probation are less likely to commit crimes again than those placed on traditional probation or sent to prison. Joan Petersilia, a Rand Corp. researcher, says the recidivism rate of such offenders is impressively low, "usually less than 20%." And many keep their jobs, she adds. "That's the real glimmer of hope—that in the long run these people will become functioning members of the community."

The benefits of alternatives will remain mostly theoretical unless more judges can be persuaded to use them. That may require changes in some mechanisms of government. For instance, fines are a crucial part of many alternative sentencing packages. But they frequently go unpaid. Courts and prosecutors are not good at collecting them, says Michael T. Barry of the nonprofit Castine Research Corp., which specializes in law-enforcement issues. He proposes that banks and credit companies be deputized to fetch delinquent fines, with a percentage of the take as their payment. "To make fines work as a sentencing alternative," he says, "they must be both equitable, based on a person's ability to pay, and collectible."

One essential for getting courts to consider alternative sentencing, says University of Chicago Law Professor Norval Morris, is to develop a publicly understood "exchange rate" between prison time and other forms of punishment, a table of penalties that judges can use for guidance on how to sentence offenders. "We should be able to say that for this crime by this criminal, either x months in prison, or a \$50,000 fine plus home detention for a year plus x number of hours of community service," Morris contends.

A similar table is already in use in Minnesota, where alternative sentencing has become well established since the 1978 passage of a law that limits new sentences to ensure that prison capacity is not exceeded by the total number of inmates. The crime rate has not increased, supporters boast. Other states remain far more hesitant. Still, the present pressures may yet bring a day when the correctional possibilities will be so varied and so widely used that prison will seem the "alternative" form of punishment. —By Richard Lacayo.
Reported by Anne Constable/Washington and Don Winbush/Mobile

John, 10-30-87
FYI from
Johnny
Sebek



Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

4007 B. RENTWOOD CIRCLE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
(907) 243-7574

REPRESENTATIVE
ALYCE HANLEY
DISTRICT 9, SEAT B

WHILE IN JUNEAU
BOX V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-4939

MEMBER
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
REGULATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Johnny Ellis, Co-Chair
Representative Niilo Koponen, Co Chair
House HESS Committee

FROM: Representative Alyce Hanley *A. Hanley*
Member, House HESS Committee

SUBJECT: Request for Hearing

DATE: October 29, 1987

I would like to formally request that our House HESS Committee schedule a hearing on House Bill 55 before we return to Juneau in January. Could this possibly be added to the agenda for the meetings scheduled on November 20th and November 21st? If not, will there be a HESS meeting scheduled in December?

Apparently the House Judiciary Committee had hearings on House Bill 55 last week in Ketchikan. That community appreciated the opportunity to be heard. In view of the fact that we have now received 28 resolutions, from all parts of the state, in support of House Bill 55, I believe a hearing in Anchorage is not only justified but an obligation of the House HESS Committee.

I would appreciate serious consideration of this request.

JOHN SUND, REPRESENTATIVE

2504 2nd Avenue

Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

(907) 225-5552

February 10, 1987

Ms. Candi Austin
P.O. Box 1206
Ward Cove, Alaska 99928

While in Juneau
P. O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4919

Dear Ms. Austin:

Thank you for taking the time to express your support for SB32.

I appreciate your concern for the health of our Alaskan youth and definitely share that concern with you. However, I am not sure that the recriminalization of marijuana is the answer to drug-free youth.

Our Supreme Court has stated that criminalizing marijuana in the home is a breach of our constitutional right to privacy. I hesitate to support a bill that could take us into a lengthy and costly court battle.


Moreover, I am a staunch believer in the right to privacy. Please don't misunderstand me. I agree with your intentions behind your support of SB32. I'm just not convinced that criminalizing marijuana in the home is going to give us the results we want -- meaning an answer to our youth drug problem.

I must also explain that our marijuana laws are far from liberal. It is already illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to have marijuana in the home. Possession of marijuana is now illegal in cars, anywhere in public and in the home in quantities over four ounces.

Dealing in marijuana is also illegal and is, I believe, the crime that we need to enforce. I find it difficult justifying our law enforcement officers spending time and energy tracking down marijuana in homes when the true crime is the dealers on the streets selling drugs to our children.

Again, I do agree with your intent. Please don't hesitate to contact me in the future regarding this or any other issue.

Sincerely,


John Sund
Representative

MAR 10 1987

TOGIAK CITY COUNCIL

P.O. Box 99
Togiak, Alaska 99678
(907) 493-5820

February 25, 1987

Representative John Sund
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Mr. Sund:

So recrimnalization of marijuana is out for Alaska. It seems the private rights of some are more important than the future generation of Alaskans.

Well, okay. Then how about if we look at the dope situation from a different approach. In Alaska, to sell alcoholic beverages, you must have a liquor license and in Canada you go to a state liquor store to buy liquor. Since marijuana is a drug, why not at least have it licensed so we can get it out of the hands of dope dealers and criminals.

Here in the village of Togiak, the kids pay \$10.00 for about \$.50 worth of marijuana in one tiny cigarette.

If the city here was selling the drug out of the clinic at the price of \$3.00 (\$1.00 cost, \$1.00 city tax, \$1.00 state tax) then the dope business could be taken out of the hands of the criminals and dope dealers who are ripping off all of us.

Representative John Sund, Page 2

Yes, all of us. They pay no taxes because they show no income. This also allows them to sit back on welfare, energy assistance, and food stamps so the state is already financing the dope business. Also, by charging such high prices for an addictive substance, our local economy is going up in smoke.

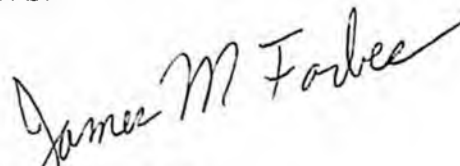
Another point which should be brought up is if the legislature is really concerned about peoples' rights is the quality of the marijuana. I think it should be tested for pesticides and other harmful pollutants. It should also be tested for impurities or more harmful drugs which may be mixed into the marijuana.

It seems to me if you legislatures can't make marijuana illegal, the least you can do is make it a controlled substance which is controlled by the state just like alcohol.

Sincerely,



Moses Kritz
Mayor



James Forbes
Local Resident

RESOLUTION # 6

RECRIMINALIZATION OF MARIJUANA

- Whereas, The Alaska PTA has a duty to protect the health, welfare, and public safety of children and youth; and
- Whereas, The educational leaders of Alaska recognize that there is a severe drug and alcohol problem in Alaskan elementary, junior and senior high schools; and
- Whereas, Alaska is the only state in the union with a permissive statute for personal possession of marijuana; and
- Whereas, The Supreme Courts of other states and the U.S. Supreme Court have upheld state statutes prohibiting the use and possession of marijuana; and
- Whereas, Current Alaska state statutes are not in conformity with federal drug enforcement laws controlling drug abuse; and
- Whereas, Representatives of 60 Alaskan high schools at the Alaska Association of School Governments' Annual Fall Conference, on October 18, 1986, unanimously passed a resolution to repeal the current marijuana law and make the drug in all its forms illegal in Alaska; therefore be it
- Resolved, That the Alaska PTA urge the legislature to repeal those sections of the Alaska Statutes which allow personal possession and use of marijuana and to support the recriminalization of marijuana.

For - FYI
Passed at
State PTA
in 1987
Burris

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALAKSA

RESOLUTION NO. 8711

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ URGING THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE TO REPEAL LAWS ALLOWING FOR THE PERSONAL USE OF MARIJUANA.

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska is eligible for certain Federal grants for control of narcotics; and

WHEREAS, the dangerous and grievous use of unlawful narcotics threatens the lives and well-being of many citizens of Alaska, especially, our young people; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Statutes allow for personal possession and use of amounts of contraband and dangerous substances that would otherwise be illegal under Federal and State laws; and

WHEREAS, these peculiar provisions of State law threaten the State of Alaska's eligibility for Federal funds for control of narcotics; and

WHEREAS, these provisions serve no useful purpose in a society that is outraged at the suffering and expense caused by drug abuse; and

WHEREAS, the right to privacy in the home in Alaska is a constitutional protection and that right can be protected by allowing the exception to be a lawfully obtained search warrant,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Valdez City Council urges the Legislature of the State of Alaska to repeal those sections of the Alaska Statutes which allow personal possession and use of marijuana and support the recriminalization of marijuana.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA this 17th day of February, 1987.

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

BY: John Devens

John Devens, Mayor

ATTEST:

BY: John Thorp

John Thorp
Acting City Manager

ALCOHOL VERSUS MARIJUANA
A COMPARISON OF THEIR EFFECTS ON THE HUMAN BODY

FROM: THE REAL MARIJUANA DANGER. Malcolm E. Smith. Suffolk House, Smithtown, N.Y., 242 pp.

ALCOHOL	V S	MARIJUANA
-----		Damages chromosomes
-----		Damages immune response
-----		Damages the brain 20 times as rapidly as alcohol
It takes 30 years before irreversible brain damage occurs.		It takes 3 years before irreversible brain damage occurs.
One out of 6 people will become addicted to alcohol.		Three out of 6 people will become addicted to marijuana.
One ounce of alcohol completely metabolizes to carbon dioxide and water within 12 hours.		One joint takes 30 days to be eliminated from the human body.
-----		Marijuana damages a person's ability to think 20 times more than alcohol.
Chronic and disabling health problems take 10 to 20 years to manifest.		Chronic and disabling health problems take 2 to 3 years to manifest.
Hallucinations occur in alcoholics in a far advanced idesease stage.		Hallucinations require only a small dose of marijuana and can occur, in some cases, every-time the drug is used.
It can be predicted with certainty what one ounce of alcohol will do to someone.		It is impossible to predict what one joint of marijuana will do to the user.
The alcoholic is sufficiently in tune with society to be defensive about his habit.		The marijuana user has so lost his sense of perspective that he feels there is something wrong with people who do not smoke.
-----		Young people develop psychogenic dependency on marijuana more quickly than with alcohol.

Dear *Representative Lund,*

A LINE ON POT

Dr. Ethel Sassenrath is the only scientist in the world to have done studies on the reproductive effects of long-term marijuana use on female rhesus monkeys and their offspring.

Rhesus monkeys break down the marijuana molecule in a way similar to humans, and their reproductive systems are similar to humans. The endocrine system, which controls the menstrual cycle, is virtually indistinguishable between the human and the female rhesus monkey.

Dr. Sassenrath gave her monkeys only one of the 61 known cannabinoids in marijuana--the famous THC. She fed the THC to the monkeys in a cookie every day for three to five years. Each received a dose sufficient to produce the same concentration of THC in its blood that a human would have who smoked one joint a day.

Remember, the pregnant monkeys were fed only one cannabinoid--THC. A pregnant human would be exposed to all 61 cannabinoids in a marijuana joint, making toxicity presumably greater.

Results can be summed up in one startling statistic. The reproductive loss was 44 percent for the THC-fed mothers and 12 percent for the undrugged mothers. Ten to 12 percent is a normal birth loss in a monkey colony, resulting from injury, infection, and other ordinary causes. In the case of the THC mothers, birth loss occurred from early spontaneous abortion, fetal deaths, still-births, and infant death just after birth.

There was not one THC baby who did not have some subtle developmental abnormality in one or more systems (nervous, cardiovascular or urinary) and/or placental abnormality. **In human studies, radioactively-tagged THC has been shown to accumulate in the placenta.** It also crosses through the placenta; consequently, when the pot-smoking mother gets high, so, presumably, does her developing baby. None of the following abnormalities were found in the control baby monkeys or in any of the 80 rhesus babies from non-drugged mothers in the primate colony who had died during the same period:

1. **Water on the brain.**
2. **Degenerative changes in cardiovascular structures, including the heart muscle and the umbilical vessels.**
3. **Acute kidney disorder in the recycling of the necessary parts of the nutrients of the blood, leaving only the waste.**
4. **Blockage of the canal through which the testes descend.**
5. **Dead tissue in the placenta.**
6. **Depletion of blood production of white blood cells in the lymph nodes to combat infections; depletion of the formation of red and white blood cells in the bone marrow--the center of cell formation.**

MORE

7. Change in the appearance of the liver cells, indicating a change in the metabolism of nutrients, in the making and recycling of proteins, and other vital functions.

8. Destructive inflammation of the brain. The veins are "leaky," letting more toxic wastes back into the brain; eventually this leakage compromises the basic function of the neurons in the brain.

9. Unusual pancreatic tissue in the the small intestine. The pancreas makes and releases insulin to control blood sugar and digests proteins and carbohydrates.

10. A kidney condition.

The THC baby monkeys that lived were exposed to THC not only through the placenta route prior to birth, but through the milk route while they were nursing. The behavioral differences were so noticeable that University students invariably picked out the THC baby among the control babies. The THC babies had similarities to the hyperactive child. They would race around the cage wildly. Their persistence and aggression turned play to harrassment to aggression.

They would also scream longer and louder than the control babies. They'd embrace harder and longer. They had higher levels of irritability, and all of them had some types of exaggerated behavioral qualities. The THC babies were not very popular with the others who tended to run away and hide when a THC baby started to rough-play.

There was another interesting factor. At the age of three months (two or three years old in human terms), the babies were given a visual attention test by Dr. Mari Golub, who specializes in detection of pre-natal drug effects on behavior of offspring. They were placed individually into a three-foot test box with peep holes. Then a "slide show" of indoor and outdoor scenes was put on for each monkey. The average control baby looked at each slide for two seconds before turning away. But the THC babies stared at the slide for an average of 30 seconds. Dr. Sassenrath has said that this type of delayed reaction to visual stimuli can be suggestive of central nervous system impairment and minimal brain damage.

In Dr. Sassenrath's study, the pregnant monkeys were exposed to only one of the 61 known cannabinoids in marijuana. Since researchers have shown that other cannabinoids are even more impairing to some organ systems than THC, the question must be asked, "**What might THC--and the other 60 cannabinoids--be doing to the developing fetus of the human pregnant woman who has used marijuana for several years and who smokes a joint a day during her pregnancy?**"

Sandy Spargo

Sandy Spargo/Safe Homes of Juneau/965 Goldbelt, Juneau, Alaska, 99801

Source: POT SAFARI by Peggy Mann, 1985.

Dear

Representative Smith,

One of the most exciting areas of brain research deals with the discovery of the right and the left hemispheres of the brain. Experts agree the right and left sides of the brain represent the most dramatic breakthrough in neuroscience research.

Each hemisphere has a distinctive mood and a mode of thought located in the cortex on both sides of the brain. There are therefore two separate consciousnesses in the brain.

They are kept regulated and working together by a subconscious control center located deep in the brainstem, that keeps the two hemispheres working together in harmony.

Zipped up, both hemispheres are in balance, consciousness of the right and the left sides of the brain work cooperatively. Mood is under control. The emotions are well regulated.

A recognized authority on the chemistry of the brain, Dr. Arnold Mandel, has offered a cogent explanation of how the THC in marijuana disrupts this balance. The THC strikes the mass of nervous tissue buried deep in the brainstem that keeps both hemispheres of the brain working together. THC causes the neural regulator to lose its grasp, and the right cerebral hemisphere breaks free.

The marijuana "high" makes one aware of this right hemisphere. It feels good and giddy. Consciousness is vague and diffuse, pleasantly happy and giggly.

As long as the blood THC levels are elevated, the person feels happy and alert. This persists for a few hours until the blood levels of THC fall. What happens then is a swing in mood to the consciousness of the left hemisphere that is not so manic or happy as the right.

The left hemisphere has a different kind of consciousness. People who have had their brain hemispheres anesthetized at different times, say that the left side is more serious than the right side. Its mental state, according to the person's personality, can be sad and melancholic, cold, anxious and paranoid. This is called the "low" state. Because most people want to feel better, they think of getting some more pot to get out of the left hemisphere and to get pleasantly intoxicated or "high" again.

Frequent pot use established a definite pattern of oscillation in prevailing temperamental traits; surging back and forth in a swing of mood; first to good feelings, mild mania, grandiloquence of the ego. Then, depending on the person, to sadness, dysphoria, melancholia, or to peevish irritation, anxiety feelings and a feeling of hostility towards others.

After even two or three years of mood oscillation, the hemispheres regularly swing uncontrollably back and forth so distressingly that the user becomes overly preoccupied with mood. This is the time he or she may turn to stronger marijuana, to hashish, or to stimulants like amphetamines to feel better. Alternatively, the user may turn to cocaine and even heroin to ward off feelings of discomfort and psychological incapacitation.

Eventually the brain, permanently "unzipped" suffers a loss of all spontaneous affect and a flattening of mood. Dr. Mandel believes that in the later stages of marijuana use, a structure deep in the brainstem called the raphe, is so chemically altered that it leads to permanent damage.

From his studies of heavy users, he observes how the habit leads to microchemical disorders, than to permanent scarring or "gliosis". This occurs in the system formerly regulating mood which is now functionally inert.

POT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR "UNZIPPING" THE CEREBRAL CORTEX OF THE BRAIN.

Sincerely,



Bobi Irani - Member National Federation of Parents for Drug Free Youth
7760 Glacier Hwy. Juneau, Ak 99801 789-2586

October 2, 1987

A LINE ON POT

Dear *Representative Sund,*

The September 1987 issue of the Drug Abuse Update published by Families in Action and the Scott Newman Foundation carried the following article on marijuana and adolescents that I would like to share with you.

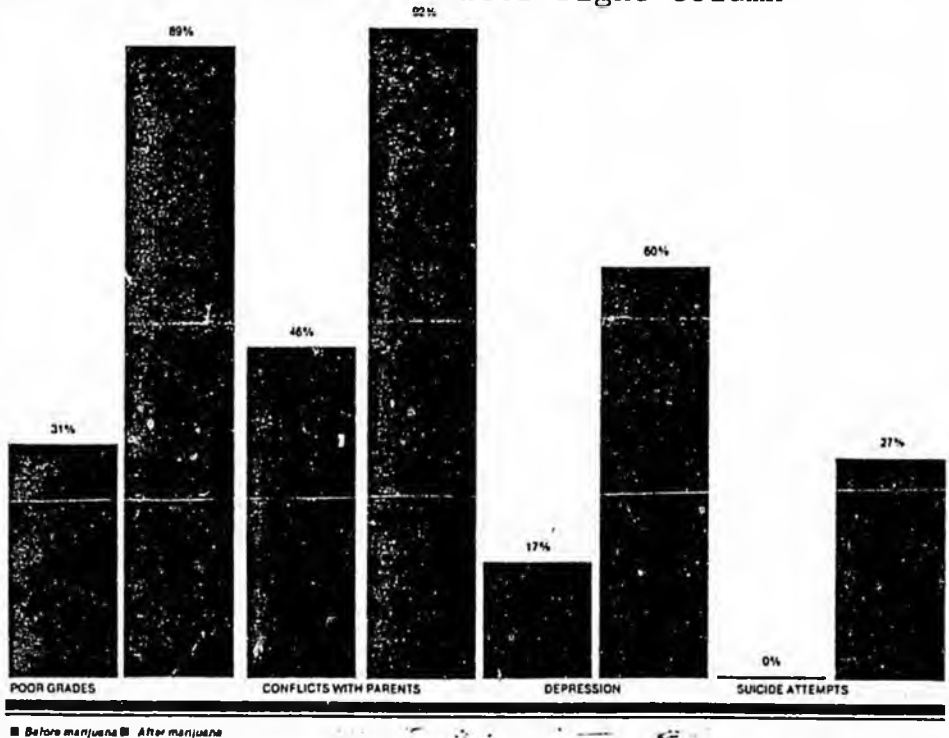
Adolescent marijuana use causes many problems. Richard H. Schwartz, M.D. and colleagues recently studied the psychosocial and behavioral effects of frequent marijuana use on adolescents. They evaluated 35 patients, ages 14 to 17, who were admitted to a drug treatment facility. All adolescents had smoked marijuana for at least four days each week for four consecutive months.

Family relationships and school attendance and performance began to deteriorate when use reached these levels. Behavioral effects included automobile accidents while intoxicated, average school grades of D or F, suicide attempts, running away from home and convincing a younger sibling to try marijuana. (See chart below)

On average it took parents up to a year to discover their child's drug involvement. Moreover, 17 percent of the adolescents studied say they were high during visits to health professionals and were proud of concealing it. (Clinical Pediatrics, Vol. 26, No 5 May 1987, pp 264-270)

TEEN PROBLEMS BEFORE AND AFTER MARIJUANA USE

before left column after right column



Sincerely,

Bobi

Bobi Trani
Safe Homes/Parents Against Drugs

Alaska State Legislature



REPRESENTATIVE BILL HUDSON

P.O. BOX V
Juneau, Alaska
99811
(907)465-3744 or 4991

COMMITTEES:
Transportation
HESS
Telecommunications
Fisheries
International Trade

October 2, 1987

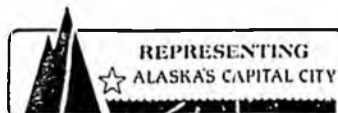
Dear Colleague,

Attached you will find information regarding much of the new-found data on marijuana. I believe it important enough to share with you and I'll deeply appreciate your taking the time to review it.

Respectfully,

Bill
Bill Hudson

BH/skp



September 21, 1987

Dear *Representative
Lund,* A LINE ON POT

"The Alaska Peace Officers' Association (APOA) supports recriminalizing marijuana." This position is taken from the Position Statements of the Alaska Peace Officers' Association Concerning Legislative Proposals before the Fifteenth Alaska Legislature, March, 1987.

"Alaska is the only state to have, in effect, legalized small amounts of marijuana--up to four ounces--for personal use. No other state has adopted a similar law. Using small amounts of marijuana legally stimulates trafficking of the drug, which is illegal. The existing statute, in effect, promotes illegal activity.

Possession of any quantity of marijuana is against federal law, while state law permits possession of small amounts. This creates confusion in the minds of the public. This dichotomy of federal law v.s. state law tends to breed disrespect for the law. As the Baltimore Sun editorialized in early 1984, 'Only in Alaska can you sit at home and smoke marijuana, secure in the knowledge that you are breaking federal law with the blessing of the State Supreme Court.'

Alaska's tolerance of marijuana has also inhibited the efforts of the U.S. to obtain agreements by foreign countries to crack down upon illicit drugs in their country. According to the Undersecretary for International Narcotics Affairs, Department of State, in a recent address in Anchorage, several foreign countries have questioned the sincerity of the U.S. regarding suppression of illicit drugs by calling attention to Alaska's legalization of small amounts of marijuana. This is significant, since the U.S. is a signatory nation to two international conventions concerning control of narcotics--the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 and the Psychotropic Substances Act of 1971, which include outlawing marijuana.

APOA considers the contradiction of federal and state law regarding marijuana, the increasingly effective health campaigns against smoking, and the public's proclaimed respect for the law, with state law permitting use, to be sending mixed signals to our youth. Either society condones drug use and smoking or it does not. Our collective position should be clear to our young people.

The Ravin decision leading to legalizing marijuana was based, in part, upon the finding that the state could show no clear and convincing public need to ban marijuana. Since then, more and more information from around the country shows increasing concern about the health aspects of smoking in general and marijuana in particular. The APOA believes that a clear and convincing health issue can now be made to support a ban upon marijuana use.

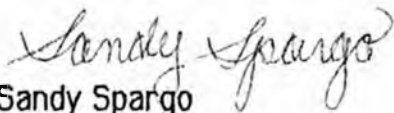
Over

The APOA knows of no police department that would undertake an intensive enforcement effort against persons possessing small amounts of marijuana, if possession would be recriminalized. Frankly, there are more urgent needs to be addressed. Therefore, we would support a citation, mail-in-bail approach, as is now used for most traffic infractions.

The APOA is more interested in consistency of our laws, clear and concise positions about marijuana for our youth, and other advantages of recriminalization than in a tough and unyielding enforcement program."

The Alaska State Legislature will be looking at House Bill 55 and Senate Bill 32 to recriminalize marijuana next January. The intent of the bills is to make possession of less than 1/2 pound of marijuana a misconduct in the sixth degree. This is a Class B Misdemeanor and is punishable from 0 to 90 days in jail and a maximum fine of \$1,000.

Sincerely,



Sandy Spargo
Safe Homes/Juneau
965 Goldbelt
Juneau, Alaska 99801

September 24, 1987

The Honorable Donald E. Young
House of Representatives
Congressional Delegation
P.O. Box 021247
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Despite Alaska State Law, marijuana remains an illegal drug in the United States according to Federal Law and International Law.

The United States Code Annotated, Title 21, Food and Drugs, 844. Penalties, (a) Simple Possession, states, "It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly or intentionally to possess a controlled substance unless such substance was obtained directly, or pursuant to a valid prescription or order, from a practitioner, while acting in the course of his professional practice, . . ." Marijuana is a controlled drug. It is not allowed to be bought nor sold, and yet Alaskan citizens are allowed to have four ounces per adult in the home. Four ounces equals approximately 120 joints.

The United States is a signatory nation to international conventions concerning the control of narcotics.

The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1953

The Psychotropic Substances Act of 1971

Both of these treaties outlaw marijuana. The Alaska Peace Officers' Association Position Statement supports marijuana recriminalization in Alaska. "According to the Undersecretary for International Narcotics Affairs, Department of State, in a recent address in Anchorage, several foreign countries have questioned the sincerity of the United States regarding suppression of illicit drugs by calling attention to Alaska's legalization of small amounts of marijuana."

At a 1925 International Opium Conference, Egypt and Turkey refused to sign any international agreement about opium and heroin, unless delegates at the Conference agreed to put cannabis (the hemp plant from which marijuana is derived) in the same "dangerous drug" category. All the delegates from all the cannabis-using countries went along with this demand.

An international treaty is the highest law of the land, and local and state governments cannot independently choose to disregard it, despite local political concerns. Local and national governments can vary the severity of penalties for drug possession. This has occurred in some states with the decriminalization of marijuana, substituting fines for incarceration.

OVER

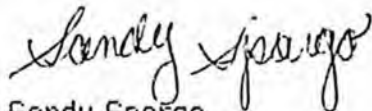
The Ravin decision leading to the legalization of marijuana within the home was based, in part, upon the finding that the State could show no clear and convincing public need to ban marijuana. This decision is 12 years old and is out-of-date. We need to modernize our law to reflect the research that has been done in the past 12 years. Dr. Carlton Turner, Director of the White House Drug Policy Office, states, "*There is no other drug used or abused by man which stays on in the body as long as cannabis. And there is no other drug--legal or illegal--which affects every major organ of the body. And every single cell in the body.*"

In the 1988 Legislative Session, the bills to make marijuana illegal in Alaska will again be considered. House Bill 55 remains in the House HESS Committee from the last Session, and Senate Bill 32 is in the Senate Rules Committee.

I am told by legislative sources that there are certain powerful legislators who are determined that these bills will not be passed.

Why is the power of a few individuals in the Alaska State Legislature more powerful than Federal Law and International Law?

Representative Young, communities of Alaska are asking our Legislature to make marijuana illegal in our State. Would you please help Alaska to come in line with Federal and International Law?



Sandy Spargo
Safe Homes of Juneau
965 Goldbelt
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Enclosures:

House Bill 55
Senate Bill 32
International Treaties
Resolutions Supporting Marijuana Recriminalization

cc: Governor Steve Cowper
House HESS Committee
✓ House Judiciary Committee
Senate Rules Committee
Arthur English, Commissioner of Public Safety
Myra Munson, Commissioner of Health & Social Services
Lynda Adams, Alaskans for Drug-Free Youth/Ketchikan

How to drug-proof your children

PEER GROUP PRESSURE: How can your children say *no* to their friends if you do not teach them to use independent judgment? Practice encouraging your children to be aware of their own preferences and interests, even if you disagree with some of their choices. Do everything possible to build your children's self esteem and confidence.

DEALING WITH EMOTIONS: As children reach adolescence they are experiencing for the first time strong emotions and they often are not sure how to control these feelings. Guide your children's fluctuating behavior by letting them know that feelings in and of themselves are not bad, nor are they permanent. What is important is how they act upon those feelings.

DEVELOPING AN IDENTITY: Many children turn to drugs when they feel overwhelmed by the demands of adjustment to young adult life. Gradually let them exercise more independence and assume responsibility while you provide emotional support and security. Let them begin to assume the consequences of their decisions; avoid casual or unwarranted criticism.

CURIOSITY: Plan to discuss a wide variety of topics with your children, including drugs. They are far more vulnerable if they are ill-informed on this subject. They should know your feelings and where you stand on important issues.

FUN: Young people seek adventure and drugs offer a very seductive "high" with little or no effort. Choose activities for your children outside the home that give them good feelings about themselves. Try to avoid turning their leisure time into duties and drudgery.

Your pediatrician understands the importance of communication between parents and their children as one of the better ways to prevent drug use. If communication becomes a problem, the pediatrician may provide the key to establishing lines of communication between children and their parents. Or, if you suspect your child is using marijuana or any other drugs, rely on your pediatrician for advice.

The American Academy of Pediatrics is an organization of 29,000 pediatricians dedicated to the health, safety, and well-being of infants, children and adolescents in North, Central and South America.

For additional copies, contact:
American Academy of Pediatrics
Department of Publications
141 Northwest Point Blvd.
P.O. Box 927
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

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Marijuana: Your Child and Drugs

American Academy
of Pediatrics



Who uses marijuana

Young people today must make decisions about drugs that no previous generation has had to make. And this means that parents, too, must learn to cope with the reality of a world in which drugs are readily available to their children.

Marijuana is the most widespread illegal drug used in this country. Society's acceptance of its use stems from inconclusive research conducted during the 1960's. Marijuana's reputation as a "safe" drug, combined with abundant supplies and societal messages to "do drugs", have contributed to its popularity among young people.

Marijuana use by teenagers apparently has peaked and slightly decreased in recent years. However, the age at which children begin experimenting with the drug has been steadily decreasing:

- more than 1/3 of all students will have tried marijuana before leaving ninth grade.
- Nearly 1/2 of all students will have tried marijuana before finishing high school.
- One of six high school seniors will have been a daily user at some time in their lives.
- At least one of twenty seniors will continue to smoke marijuana on a daily basis.

These statistics will vary from community to community and with socioeconomic status.

Medical experts are alarmed about these statistics and about the increasing potency of marijuana that is currently available. THC (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol) is the main mood-altering ingredient found in marijuana. When the drug became popular during the 1960's, the THC levels averaged .2%. Today, stronger strains of marijuana contain THC levels of at least 5%, making it 25 times more potent. Marijuana is no longer the "harmless little giggle" referred to by John Lennon in the 1960's.

Why children are at risk

Recent studies on the health effects of marijuana indicate that, far from the innocuous substance it was thought to be, it is a dangerous drug. Marijuana distorts the senses and causes motor-coordination difficulties. The effects can linger for more than 14 days. In this condition it is dangerous to operate a vehicle or to engage in sports activities. Pediatricians also are concerned about the developmental and social difficulties encountered by pre-teen and young adolescent users.

Young people are at especially high risk of psychological dependency because of their immaturity and vulnerability to peer group pressure. Pre-teens and adolescents are experiencing a complex and crucial growth period that easily can be damaged or retarded in the following ways:

- They are starting to form their own identity by disengaging from childhood attachments and parental controls to form new relationships and values. Marijuana can interfere with this process causing, among other effects, social withdrawal and a general lack of motivation.
- As mental development expands into the adult range of thought and comprehension, marijuana can impair the learning process causing short-term memory loss and a shorter attention span.
- They are experiencing heightened sexual awareness and developing a gender identity. Marijuana can disrupt this process causing severe sexual anxiety.

Pediatricians believe it is dangerous and detrimental for this high-risk group to experiment with any mood-altering drugs. While marijuana can offer a convenient escape from "growing pains", it also can prevent young people from learning how to become mature, independent and responsible adults. For these reasons pediatricians are opposed to the legalization of marijuana.

Stages of marijuana use

There are many reasons why children experiment with drugs. Some of the most common reasons are: peer group pressure, dealing with strong emotions, curiosity, rebellious behavior as part of developing a separate identity and simply to have fun. Many see marijuana as a rite of passage into adulthood and seem to condone its use as "just another part of growing up."

The basic attraction of marijuana is that it distorts the senses and produces a false sense of freedom and pleasure. It is this easy pleasure that gets children into trouble with drugs, leading the user to increasing levels and frequency of use.

Because adolescents are susceptible to drug abuse, medical experts view chemical dependency as a progressive and contagious disease among members of this group. They have identified three stages of drug use:

- Experimenting with mood-altering drugs. This stage is one of investigation and recreation. There is strong peer pressure to enter this stage. Users limit consumption primarily to weekends. There frequently is no behavioral change, except for covering up illicit activities.
- Actively seeking drugs. A threshold is crossed towards psychological dependence in which the drug is now used to produce good feelings during times of stress. Usage increases to midweek. Behavior begins to change and schoolwork may slip. Mounting problems at home and school may contribute to an increase in drug use.
- Preoccupation with drugs. There is a marked loss of control over the use of drugs and abstinence can cause stress. Because increased use is expensive, family possessions may be stolen and there may be trouble with the law. The user becomes more isolated and irritable.

Fortunately, most children never advance beyond the experimentation stage. Whether or not they do depends on their reasons for experimenting in the first place. The intervention by families and professionals can halt this process.

development. Heavy use may lead to lowered sperm count and motility, to increased abnormalities of sperm, and to impotence. The "amotivational syndrome" (characterized by lethargy, apathy, and goallessness) may be caused by depression of the central nervous system and deficiencies of sex and energy hormones.

FEMALES: Regular use affects the menstrual cycle, sometimes leading to lack of ovulation and decreased fertility (Smith, 1983). In adolescent girls, chronic exposure may delay onset of menstruation and vaginal cornification (Field, 1985). Atrophy of tissue in the ovaries and uterus and vaginal dryness have been reported in some users. Hormonal and menstrual disruptions may linger for some months after cessation of usage. Young girls are particularly vulnerable to these reproductive effects, for the complex process of sexual maturation takes several years for completion. Marijuana in combination with tobacco smoking and/or birth control pills may complicate the hormonal abnormalities.

FETUS: Marijuana chemicals can be toxic to the developing fetus, causing increases in miscarriages, stillbirths, and early postnatal deaths. A "fetal marijuana syndrome," characterized by lower birthweight and developmental anomalies, occurs 5 times more frequently than the "fetal alcohol syndrome" (Hingson, 1982). Exposed babies show problems in eye development and focusing that last for several years (Fried, 1986). Human and animal studies show changes in the sperm's transmission of the genetic code (Issidorides, 1979; Daltorio, 1986). In animals, birth defects occur in succeeding generations. There is growing concern that marijuana use may effect the genetic health of future human generations.

IMMUNE SYSTEM: Marijuana's depressant effect on cell-mediated immunity can lead to increased susceptibility to bacterial and viral infections, including sexually transmitted diseases such as *Herpes simplex* and *AIDS* (Juel-Jensen, 1972; Morahan, 1979; Cabral, 1985; Lopez-Cepero, 1986). The many contaminants in the dried plant material, such as aspergillus fungus and salmonella bacteria, may lead to complications of colds, pneumonias, and mononucleosis, as well as respiratory and intestinal disorders.

LUNGS: The high level of carcinogens in marijuana smoke and the method of deep inhalation cause researchers to predict an outbreak of respiratory cancers by the late 1980's. Combined smoking of tobacco and marijuana and use of bongs and powerhitters increase the respiratory dangers.

BEYOND THE GATEWAY DRUGS: COCAINE

Cocaine is rarely the first drug used; rather, it is added to a drug use pattern of marijuana smoking and

excessive drinking (Gold, 1986; Adams, 1986). The high cost and low potency of cocaine kept usage low and damage rare in the Seventies. Faced with a declining drug consumer market in the Eighties, the drug cartels developed a highly addictive, inexpensive form of cocaine, targeted at the smoking market.

Cocaine is an alkaloid extracted from the leaf of the coca bush. A powerful stimulant to the central nervous system, cocaine has mind-altering and energy-producing qualities similar to amphetamines. When snorted in powder form, cocaine changes brain chemistry and produces a surge of energy, euphoria, and alertness that lasts about 20 minutes. The drug then withdraws rapidly from the brain, making the user feel depressed, irritable, and fatigued. Though still infrequent, snorting cocaine can be deadly to susceptible people (through cardiac arrest, irregular heart rhythms, respiratory suppression, or seizures).

The coke "crash" reinforces the brain's craving for a repeated dose, to alleviate the distressing withdrawal symptoms. Higher potency and more frequent use change the mechanisms of biological drives in the brain. Cocaine use becomes a more powerful drive than the survival instincts of hunger, thirst, sex, and fight-flight. Hoping to produce a growing addict market, the drug cartels are flooding the U.S. with cheaper cocaine in smokeable forms (free-base, *basuco*, and "crack"). The "new" cocaine is tailor-made for marijuana smokers who move easily into a more powerful drug that fits into familiar social patterns and paraphernalia ("socially acceptable" pipes and cigarettes versus injection needles). Many cocaine smokers then progress to heroin smoking ("chasing the dragon"), in order to medicate their "wired-out" central nervous system.

CONCLUSION: Ninety-eight percent of cocaine and heroin users started with marijuana.

BY SHUTTING THE GATE ON GATEWAY DRUGS, THE U.S. WILL BLOCK THE ROAD TO COCAINE AND HEROIN ADDICTION.

DOCUMENTATION: Nahas and Patton, *Marijuana: Biological Effects* (1979); *Marijuana and Health*: National Academy of Sciences (1982); Report of Addiction Research Foundation and World Health Organization on . . . Cannabis Use (1981), plus special articles by named researchers which can be ordered by PRIDE.



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Drug Scene Update

PRIDE: DRUG SCENE UPDATE

OVERVIEW: After ten years of steadily increasing drug use among teenagers, a counter-trend began in 1980, as more young people turned away from drugs and sought a healthier lifestyle. The major factor in this encouraging trend was growing public awareness of the health hazards of marijuana and its role as the gateway into illegal drug use. In 1985, however, the decline in marijuana use stalled, as media coverage of the drug's negative effects faded. Public attention became focused on the dramatic emergence of smoked cocaine, or "crack." PRIDE believes that the most effective deterrent to "crack" use is sound and consistent *primary prevention of "gateway" drug use*. Youngsters who avoid the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana—the entry drugs—do not progress to cocaine, heroin, or any other drug use. For the sake of our children's health and safety, "LET'S SHUT THE GATE ON GATEWAY DRUGS!"

EPIDEMIC SPREAD: In 1960, less than 1% of American teenagers had ever tried marijuana or any other illicit drug. By 1980, over 60% had experimented with drugs. This 6,000% increase within 20 years was unprecedented in world history. Initially, marijuana use was confined to sub-cultural groups of young adults who were protesting perceived injustices in mainstream society. Gradually, in the face of ignorance about the health effects of marijuana and controversies about law enforcement, usage expanded to mainstream America. The average age of first use dropped from 19 to 12. By 1980, pot-smoking had become a "normalized" rite of passage into teenage social life. "Partying" meant getting high on drugs and alcohol, and over 40% of teens became "social" or regular users. Ten percent of high school seniors were stoned every day. Among high school dropouts, truants, and uncooperative students, daily use was estimated at 25 to 50%. These young drug users carried their habits into the work force and the military, causing a decline in economic productivity and national security.

The commercialized drug culture depends upon an expanding economic market of young consumers. Thus, it broadcasts a "drugs are fun" message in youth-oriented movies, music, TV programs, magazines, and T-shirts. The most effective counter-message to the illegal drug merchandisers is sound health information. INFORMED parents and citizens can reverse the drug epidemic.

CURRENT USAGE: In 1985, some 61% of high school seniors admitted trying an illicit drug. Fifty-four percent used marijuana (down from 60% in 1979), and 40% used other drugs (vs. 37% in 1979). Current marijuana use declined from 37% to 26%, while daily use dropped from 11% to 5%. Despite the significant 7-year decline, the U.S. figures are still the highest in the developed world. More

youngsters are indeed saying NO to drugs, but those who say YES to experimentation are increasingly at risk, because of increased supplies of high-potency marijuana, cocaine, and "designer" drugs. Stimulant use remains high (30%), a trend associated with increased advertising and availability of diet pills, study aids, and "look-alike" drugs. Media glamorization contributed to the doubling of cocaine use (to 17%), a figure that will increase as supplies grow and prices drop.

STEPPING STONES OF ABUSE: Tobacco smoking is a major pre-disposer to marijuana smoking. Eighty-one percent of teenage smokers also try marijuana, versus only 21% of non-smokers. After underage consumption of beer and wine, the movement to hard liquor is associated with marijuana use. Marijuana continues to be the gateway to illicit drug use. Sixty-seven percent of marijuana users progress to other drugs, while youngsters who do not smoke pot rarely try other drugs (98% abstinence rate). Stimulants, especially in the form of diet pills, are beginning to play a gateway role among young girls.

HEALTH EFFECT OF GATEWAY DRUGS

TOBACCO: Cigarette smoking is the largest preventable cause of death in the U.S. It is linked with cancers of the lungs, throat, and bladders, and with emphysema, bronchitis, and heart disease. The younger the age of initiation to smoking, the greater the chances of serious health impairment. Nicotine is one of the most addictive chemicals known, and cigarette dependency one of the most difficult drug habits to break. Of youngsters who experiment with only 5 to 10 cigarettes, nearly 85% will become habituated smokers.

ALCOHOL: Of adults who drink, some 7 to 10% will become chronic alcoholics, generally within 15 to 20 years. Adult alcoholism is increasingly recognized as an inherited or metabolic disease, rather than a character disorder. Of juveniles who drink, the odds for alcoholism are 2 or 3 times as high. The increased vulnerability is caused by metabolic and neurological immaturity. Until full physical maturity is reached, usually between 19 and 23 for girls and boys respectively, the young body does not metabolize alcohol effectively. Lack of completely organized brain systems and fully developed body mass make the still-growing adolescent more vulnerable to alcohol toxicity and dependence. Imbalances in hormonal and hypothalamic function—which are associated with typical adolescent traits of impulsivity, volatile mood swings, and risk-taking—are exaggerated by alcohol.

Alcohol abuse by inexperienced teenage drivers is the number one cause of death. Sexual problems of premature and unprotected intercourse, as well as venereal disease, are associated with teenage intoxication. Regular drinking contributes to the developmental disruption called "chemical immaturity," in which

chronological adults remain emotional adolescents.

MARIJUANA: The increasing potency in commercially cultivated marijuana is associated with more rapid and serious deterioration of mental and physical health. Delta-9-THC content has risen from an average 1% to 4%, with California-style *sineмила* escalating to 14%. Marijuana intoxication has lingering effects on psychomotor function, long after the "high" has worn off. The complex actions of the 421 known chemicals in the plant and the long-lasting effects of the 70 lipid soluble *cannabinoids* are responsible for the system-wide biological impairment observed in marijuana abusers. Periodic release by cell membranes and recirculation of cannabinoids contribute to the cumulative effects and delayed toxicity of longterm usage. Urine testing reveals cannabinoids still present after six weeks of abstinence by heavy users.

BRAIN: High potency marijuana is linked with increasing incidents and panic reactions, paranoia, flashbacks, and toxic psychoses. Clinicians in several countries report significant increases in marijuana-related mental illness (Rydberg, 1986). Heavy use can reduce blood flow in the brain and cause severe memory impairment. In some cases equivalent to senile dementia (Tunvig, 1986; Stuart, 1981). Biopsies of drug-exposed monkey brains reveal enlarged ventricles and tissue atrophy, similar to the widened synapses and chemical clumping reported earlier in humans and monkeys (Sassenrath, 1983; Heath, 1980; Campbell, 1971). The first autopsy studies of human brains from longterm users reveal micro-lesions and depleted proteins in neurons, which are strikingly similar to those in clinically depressed suicide victims (Issidorides, 1986). Chemical over-stimulation of brain pleasure centers and cumulative sedation of the central nervous system may explain the emotional flatness (anhedonism) observed in heavy users. Teenage slang descriptions of abusers as "burnouts" and "air heads" are unfortunately accurate.

ENDOCRINE FUNCTION: Many chemicals in marijuana effect hormonal function, some through action on the hypothalamus and pituitary and others through absorption into reproductive tissues. The fetus and adolescent are most vulnerable to these complex and unpredictable effects because of the rapid cellular changes they are undergoing.

MALES: Heavy marijuana use decreases testosterone production, sometimes leading to deficient pubertal development (Copeland, 1980; Diamond, 1986). A stereotypical "wasted" physique is observed in some teenagers who are heavy users: narrow shoulders; lack of muscle development in arms, chest, and buttocks; reddened, heavy-lidded eyes; facial pallor; some feminization of facial or genital development. The estrogenic action of *cannabis pirans*, chemicals found in much Colombian marijuana, may aggravate problems of sexual

Recognizing the Marijuana Abuser

1. Decrease in school performance
2. Fatigue, lethargy and recurrence of non-specific illnesses
3. Amotivational Syndrome
4. Low tolerance for frustration and authority
5. Hostile
6. Mood swings
7. Personal hygiene deterioration
8. Truancy
9. Depression, self-centeredness, manipulative behavior and lying
10. Denial syndrome
 - a.- refusal to believe adverse impact of one's use
 - b.-refuse to take responsibility for one's actions
11. Family strife
12. Withdrawal from family
13. Change in friends
14. Secretive
15. Loss of interest in sports, church and extracurricular activities
16. Embraces and defends drug culture philosophy
17. Change in music preference to heavy metal and punk rock

Marijuana Paraphernalia

Pipes

Bong - water pipe for cooling smoke in order to be able to inhale more

Cigarette rolling papers

Eye drops

"Roach" clip - any device that will hold a marijuana joint until smoked to very end

Plastic baggies - to hold marijuana supply

Stash Cans - Beverage cans disguised to hold marijuana supply
Weight scale - various sizes

Why do Young People use Drugs?

1. Because "everyone is doing it." Adolescence is a period when peer pressure is particularly effective.
2. To follow the example of a role model such as, an older brother or sister, a parent, a teacher. Anyone using marijuana or other drugs is setting a bad example.
3. To escape from family problems or from some of the especially troubling aspects of adolescence.
4. In response to cultural and media pressures. Popular songs, magazines, books, T-shirts, and posters can give "do-drugs" messages.
5. Because they think it's fun and can make them feel good.
6. Because they are not aware of the harmful effects of drug use.

Sources

1. Drugs, Drinking and Alcohol - Dr. Donald Ian McDonald
2. Laboratory Detection of Marijuana Use - Dr. Richard Schwarz and Richard H. Wikes, PhD.
3. American Lung Association
4. American Council for Drug Education
5. Department of Health and Human Services

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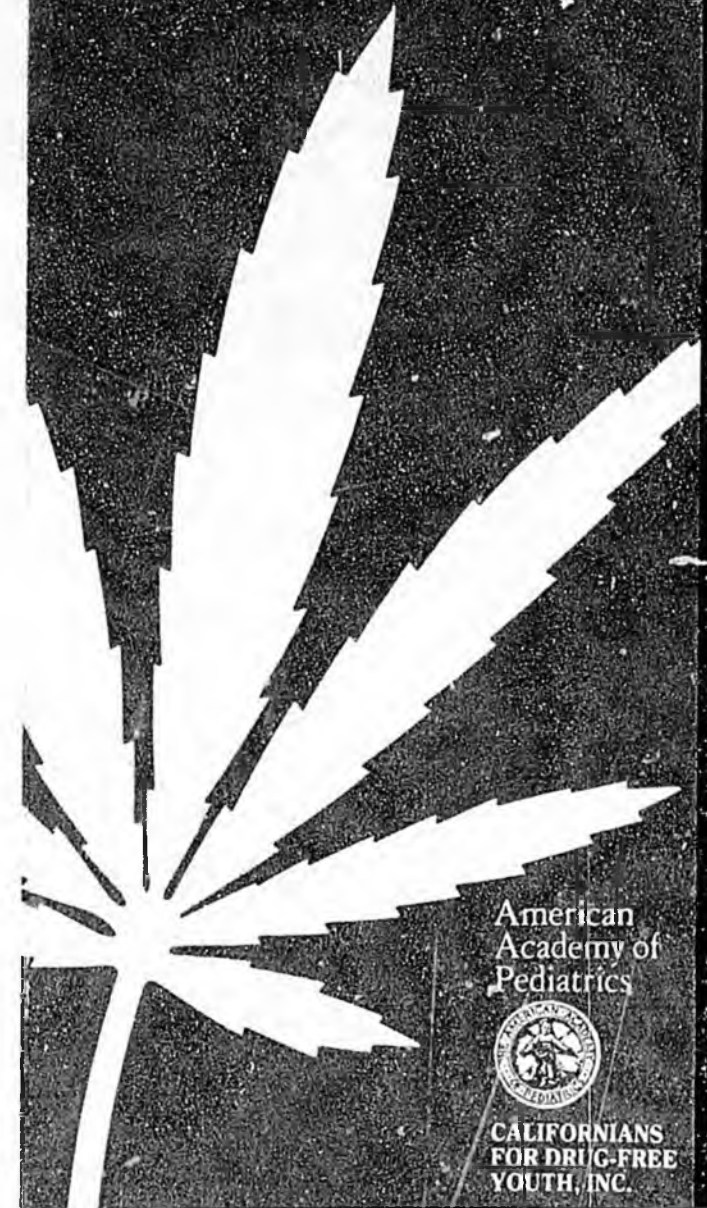


How Much Do

You Really

Know About

Marijuana?



American
Academy of
Pediatrics



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What is Marijuana?

A crude product from the plant *cannabis sativa*. It contains at least 421 known chemicals. Sixty-one (61) of these are cannabinoids which are psychoactive (affecting mind or behavior) and only found in marijuana.

When smoked or burned, these 421 known chemicals convert to over 2,000 chemicals — which can enter the body.

Hashish, or hash, is resin from the leaves and flowers of the marijuana plant.

How is It Used?

Marijuana is most commonly inhaled from "smoking" it in the form of a cigarette or from a pipe.

What is THC?

(Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol)?

The main mind altering ingredient in marijuana. It is the cannabinoid which is most responsible for the "high," and the one about which we have the most information. However, all the cannabinoids which have been studied to date have been shown to be harmful to the body.

What makes THC Unique?

1. *Long Biological Half Life of 3—6 Days* - It takes about 1 month or more for all of the THC to be cleared from the body after smoking one joint. If one uses marijuana once or twice a week or more, the THC accumulates in the tissues and will take even longer to cleanout once use is stopped. It takes 3 months of total abstinence to detoxify from marijuana.

2. *Fat Soluble* - It has a very strong affinity for fat cells and will accumulate in organs with a high proportion of fat, namely the brain and reproductive organs.

In which Organ System does THC cause Significant Effects?

Central nervous system (Brain)

Respiratory system (Lung)

Immune system

Cardiovascular system (Heart)

Reproductive and endocrine system (Testes and Ovaries)

Immediate Effects

When marijuana is smoked, a feeling of euphoria or "high" is experienced within 10—30 minutes, and usually lasts for 1—2 hours.

Adverse Effects on Driving Skills

Judgement

Coordination

Perception

Research shows that these skills are impaired for at least 4—6 hours after smoking a single marijuana cigarette, long after the "high" is gone.

Effects of Recurrent Marijuana Use on the Brain

1. Decreased short-term memory
2. Decreased attention span
3. Decreased motivation
4. Decreased ability to reason
5. Decreased reaction time
6. Decreased talking ability
7. Decreased visual perceptual task performance
8. Arrested development

Effects of Recurrent Marijuana Use on the Lungs & Bronchi

Increased Irritation

Inflammation

Narrowing or partial obstruction of airways

Interference with normal tissue growth and the division of cells in the lungs

Increased respiratory infections

Scientists believe that marijuana can be especially harmful to the lungs because users often inhale the unfiltered smoke deeply and hold it in their lungs as long as possible. Therefore, the smoke is in contact with lung tissues for long periods of time, which irritates the lungs and damages the way they work.

Marijuana is approximately 15 times more irritating (harsh) than tobacco (One joint is equal to approximately ¾ of a pack of cigarettes). One joint has 50% more cancer causing agents.

Effects of Recurrent Marijuana Use on the Immunity System

Mild suppression of immunity function - reversible when usage is stopped.

Increased susceptibility to infections - especially respiratory.

Effects of Recurrent Use on the Cardiovascular System

Marijuana use leads to as much as a 50% short-term increase in heart rate and can decrease the blood supply to the heart. It can cause chest pains and may contribute to heart disease. Individuals with heart conditions should never use marijuana.

Effects of Recurrent Use on Reproductive and Endocrine Systems

Male

1. Decreased testosterone (male hormone)
2. Decreased size and weight of prostate and testes
3. Decreased sperm production and production of abnormal sperm

Female

1. Decreased female hormones
2. Irregular menstrual periods
3. Alters ovarian function
4. Crosses placenta into the fetus (fetal marijuana syndrome)
5. Accumulates in breast milk

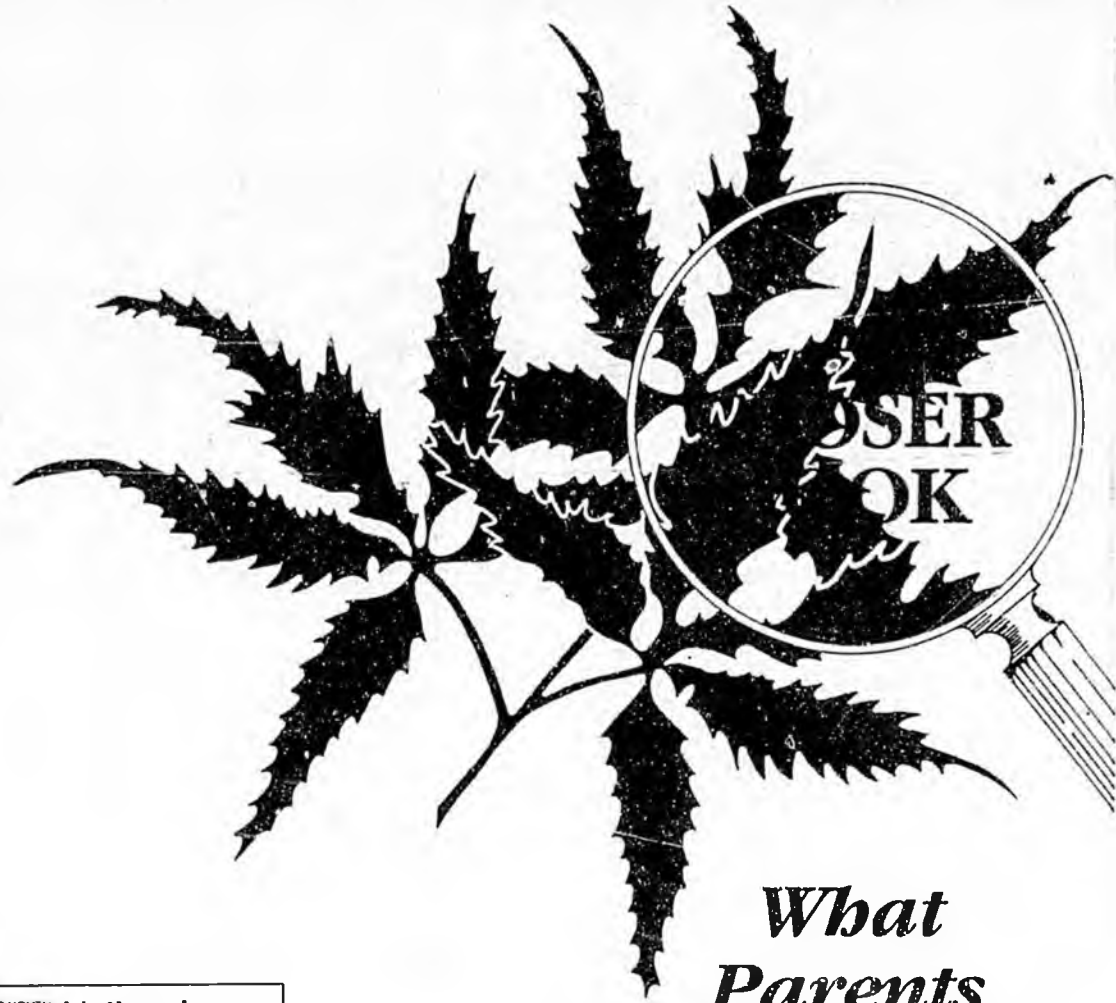
Is Marijuana Addictive?

YES! Using the modern definition of an addict as one who keeps a minimal quantity of drug in his/her bloodstream at all times, and one who needs the drug to function (whether or not one realizes it), marijuana is addicting. Because of the long ½ life of THC, using only once or twice a week is enough to keep the drug in one's bloodstream at all times.

Laboratory Test for Marijuana Use

Marijuana can be detected in the blood and urine. Screening is done by EMIT URINE TEST for marijuana, which must be specifically requested. The urine remains positive for 5 days or longer after last usage. It can also be used to monitor compliance during treatment. When someone is being monitored during rehabilitation, a urine test can detect marijuana use, but there is no substitute for observing the individual on a day-to-day basis for behaviors that may suggest marijuana use.

MARIJUANA



*What
Parents
Must
Learn*

What Parents Must Learn About Marijuana

Many teenagers often refer to marijuana as a natural, harmless weed. Yes, marijuana is natural and it is a weed, but research shows that it is far from being harmless. In fact, it is the most chemically complex of all the illicit drugs.

■ What is Marijuana?

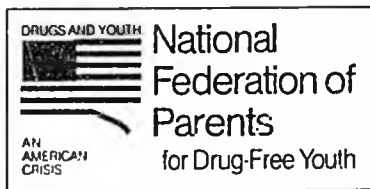
Marijuana (also called pot, grass, reefer, herb, or weed) comes from the *Cannabis sativa* plant. This plant is divided into three types: the fiber type, which is used to make rope and paper; intermediate, which produces neither good fiber nor, in its unrefined state, potent marijuana; and the drug type, which is most often used by teenagers today.

Typically, the marijuana used in cigarettes (joints) is made from the drug type—a mixture of leaves, small stems, and the flowering tops of the Cannabis plant. Other parts of the plant are also intoxicating. Hashish (hash) is a green, dark brown, or black sticky juice that is extracted from the plant and pressed into cakes or slabs. It is also smoked to produce a high. Hash oil, a tarlike substance usually smoked in small amounts on tobacco or marijuana cigarettes or in small glass pipes, is another extract of the plant. It may be even more potent than marijuana.

■ How Does Marijuana Affect the Body?

In the 1970s, marijuana was thought to be harmless. This prompted pro-marijuana groups to call for decriminalization and even legalization of marijuana. Its "harmlessness" was based on inconclusive studies, plus the fact that the number of smokers was far less than today's and the strength of marijuana was much lower. Today, there are many researchers, psychiatrists, psychologists, doctors, drug counselors, educators, and former users who testify to its dangers.

Evidence now shows that marijuana contains 421 chemicals, including delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the one which produces most of the "high." When marijuana is smoked, the burning causes its 421 chemicals to turn into 2,000. When



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the body tries to metabolize them, hundreds more are produced. Recent studies have shown that after one use of the drug, 10 to 30 percent of the THC consumed still remains in the body up to 30 days. Continued use results in further accumulation in the body's fatty tissue. This accumulation, especially in high concentrations, can destroy body cells.

Marijuana smokers usually experience:

- reddening of the eyes
- dryness in the mouth and throat
- decreased body temperature
- increased heart rate
- a sudden appetite

In addition, the THC in marijuana affects the hormones that control sexual development, fertility, and sexual functioning in both sexes. In males, marijuana lowers testosterone, the principal male sex hormone; decreases sperm count; causes abnormalities in the sperm; and, in a few cases, enlarges the breasts. In females, marijuana disrupts the menstrual cycle, in some cases causing failure to ovulate. A large number of women smoking marijuana have offspring that show altered visual responses, marked tremors, and a high-pitched cry like that of newborns of heroin and methadone addicts.

Recent studies by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) show that the drug impairs short-term memory, alters sense of time, and reduces the ability to perform tasks requiring concentration, swift reactions, and coordination. High doses may cause image distortions and hallucinations.

While marijuana may not directly cause mental problems like many other drugs, it appears to bring to the surface emotional problems and can trigger even more severe disorders. People suffering from depression and other emotional disturbances who use marijuana often experience a worsening of the problem. Over 5,000 people seek professional help every month for problems related to marijuana use.

Perhaps the most disturbing effect of marijuana use is its possible interference with growing up. As research shows, the effects of marijuana can interfere with learning by impairing thinking, reading comprehension, and verbal and arithmetic skills. Researchers also believe that the drug may interfere with the development of adequate social skills and may encourage a kind of psychological escapism. Teenagers need to learn how to make decisions, to handle success, to cope with failure, and to form their own values and beliefs. By providing an escape from "growing pains," marijuana prevents teens from maturing and developing independence and responsibility.

■ What Can You Do?

Drug use by one family member affects every other family member to some degree. As a result, many parents adopt their own methods of coping with the problem. However, many of these coping behaviors are insufficient and do not restore family cohesiveness. To achieve the best results, parents must acknowledge that a drug problem exists, provide examples of the pain and suffering it has caused within the family, and unite in an unwavering effort to help the drug user overcome the problem.

Although some teenagers can extricate themselves from drug dependence, it is unlikely that such a resolution will occur without some professional help. Therefore, if you suspect that your teenager is using marijuana, seek guidance from a counselor experienced in drug rehabilitation or a minister, psychologist, or physician knowledgeable about drug dependency.

In addition, call the parents of your teenager's friends and discuss how each of you can help raise drug-free children. This parent group phenomenon is being called the most successful

drug prevention method available. Discussion should evolve around setting limits for appropriate behavior for your teenagers and defining consequences for violations of those limits.

Remember, the drug problem can only be solved by taking away the customers. This begins in the home. Drug prevention in the 1980s is not easy work, but it can be done.

■ Did you know . . .

- of the teenagers who smoke marijuana, one in three becomes a daily smoker
- sometime between the ages of 12 and 14, nearly every American teen is faced with the choice of whether or not to smoke marijuana
- nearly 60 percent of all high school seniors surveyed have smoked marijuana at least once; one in 18 smokes marijuana daily
- the younger the marijuana smoker, the heavier and more persistent the use will be
- more than one in every five students has admitted having problems as a result of smoking marijuana
- of the 421 chemicals in marijuana, 103 of them are terpenes which are very irritating to the lungs
- newborn babies exposed to THC, through their mother's use of marijuana, had some subtle developmental abnormality
- today's marijuana can be about 14 to 20 percent stronger than marijuana used in the 1960s
- surveys conducted by NIDA show that 60 to 80 percent of marijuana smokers questioned indicated that they sometimes drive while high

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How does marijuana affect the lungs?

Scientists believe that marijuana can be especially harmful to the lungs because users often inhale the unfiltered smoke deeply and hold it in their lungs as long as possible. Therefore, the smoke is in contact with lung tissues for long periods of time, which irritates the lungs and damages the way they work. Marijuana smoke contains some of the same ingredients in tobacco smoke that can cause emphysema and cancer. In addition, many marijuana users also smoke cigarettes; the combined effects of smoking these two substances creates an increased health risk.

Can marijuana cause cancer?

Marijuana smoke has been found to contain more cancer-causing agents than is found in tobacco smoke. Examination of human lung tissue that had been exposed to marijuana smoke over a long period of time in a laboratory showed cellular changes called metaplasia that are considered precancerous. In laboratory tests, the tars from marijuana smoke have produced tumors when applied to animal skin. These studies suggest that it is likely that marijuana may cause cancer if used for a number of years.

How are people usually introduced to marijuana?

Many young people are introduced to marijuana by their peers—usually acquaintances, friends, sisters, and brothers. People often try drugs such as marijuana because they feel pressured by peers to be part of the group. Children must be taught how to say no to peer pressure to try

drugs. Parents can get involved by becoming informed about marijuana and by talking to their children about drug use.

What is marijuana "burnout"?

"Burnout" is a term first used by marijuana smokers themselves to describe the effect of prolonged use. Young people who smoke marijuana heavily over long periods of time can become dull, slow moving, and inattentive. These "burned-out" users are sometimes so unaware of their surroundings that they do not respond when friends speak to them, and they do not realize they have a problem.

How long do chemicals from marijuana stay in the body after the drug is smoked?

When marijuana is smoked, THC, its active ingredient, is absorbed by most tissues and organs in the body; however, it is primarily found in fat tissues. The body, in its attempt to rid itself of the foreign chemical, chemically transforms the THC into metabolites. Urine tests can detect THC metabolites for up to a week after people have smoked marijuana. Tests involving radioactively labeled THC have traced these metabolites in animals for up to a month.

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Marijuana



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Public Health Service
Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration

What is marijuana?

Marijuana (grass, pot, weed) is the common name for a crude drug made from the plant *Cannabis sativa*. The main mind-altering (psychoactive) ingredient in marijuana is THC (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol), but more than 400 other chemicals also are in the plant. A marijuana "joint" (cigarette) is made from the dried particles of the plant. The amount of THC in the marijuana determines how strong its effects will be.

The type of plant, the weather, the soil, the time of harvest, and other factors determine the strength of marijuana. The strength of today's marijuana is as much as ten times greater than the marijuana used in the early 1970s. This more potent marijuana increases physical and mental effects and the possibility of health problems for the user.

Hashish, or hash, is made by taking the resin from the leaves and flowers of the marijuana plant and pressing it into cakes or slabs. Hash is usually stronger than crude marijuana and may contain five to ten times as much THC. Hash oil may contain up to 50 percent THC. Pure THC is almost never available, except for research. Substances sold as THC on the street often turn out to be something else, such as PCP.

What are some of the immediate effects of smoking marijuana?

Some immediate physical effects of marijuana include a faster heartbeat and pulse rate, bloodshot eyes, and a dry mouth and throat. No scientific evidence indicates that marijuana improves hearing, eyesight, and skin sensitivity.

Studies of marijuana's mental effects show that the drug can impair or

reduce short-term memory, alter sense of time, and reduce ability to do things which require concentration, swift reactions, and coordination, such as driving a car or operating machinery.

Are there any other adverse reactions to marijuana?

A common bad reaction to marijuana is the "acute panic anxiety reaction." People describe this reaction as an extreme fear of "losing control," which causes panic. The symptoms usually disappear in a few hours.

What about psychological dependence on marijuana?

Long-term regular users of marijuana may become psychologically dependent. They may have a hard time limiting their use, they may need more of the drug to get the same effect, and they may develop problems with their jobs and personal relationships. The drug can become the most important aspect of their lives.

What are the dangers for young people?

One major concern about marijuana is its possible effects on young people as they grow up. Research shows that the earlier people start using drugs, the more likely they are to go on to experiment with other drugs. In addition, when young people start using marijuana regularly, they often lose interest and are not motivated to do their schoolwork. The effects of marijuana can interfere with learning by impairing thinking, reading comprehension, and verbal and mathematical skills. Research shows that students do not remember what they have learned when they are "high."

How does marijuana affect driving ability?

Driving experiments show that marijuana affects a wide range of skills needed for safe driving—thinking and reflexes are slowed, making it hard for drivers to respond to sudden, unexpected events. Also, a driver's ability to "track" (stay in lane) through curves, to brake quickly, and to maintain speed and the proper distance between cars is affected. Research shows that these skills are impaired for at least 4-6 hours after smoking a single marijuana cigarette, long after the "high" is gone. If a person drinks alcohol, along with using marijuana, the risk of an accident greatly increases. Marijuana presents a definite danger on the road.

Does marijuana affect the human reproductive system?

Some research studies suggest that the use of marijuana during pregnancy may result in premature babies and in low birth weights. Studies of men and women who use marijuana have shown that marijuana may influence levels of some hormones relating to sexuality. Women may have irregular menstrual cycles, and both men and women may have a temporary loss of fertility. These findings suggest that marijuana may be especially harmful during adolescence, a period of rapid physical and sexual development.

How does marijuana affect the heart?

Marijuana use increases the heart rate as much as 50 percent, depending on the amount of THC in the cigarette. It can cause chest pain in people who have a poor blood supply to the heart—and it produces these effects more rapidly than tobacco smoke does.

“WE’RE TEACHING OUR KIDS TO USE DRUGS”



The drug-education courses offered in our nation's schools too often carry this incredible message: If you do drugs “responsibly,” it's okay. It's *not* okay. And it's time we told our kids the truth

BY PEGGY MANN

SOPHOMORES in the health class of a Lancaster, Pa., high school were totally absorbed as a smooth-voiced narrator for the filmstrip *Marijuana Update: Its Use and Abuse* extolled the medicinal qualities of the plant, tracing its use back to the Late Stone Age. “Throughout history,” he stressed, “man has been a drug user. For at least 5000 years cannabis has supplied one of his favorite intoxicants.” Then he described pot's pleasurable effects: “the euphoric


feeling of relaxation, contentment, inner satisfaction; the sensations of floating beyond reality.”

The 55-minute cassette contained only 105 seconds on pot's possible ill effects, and it claimed that “the role of cannabis in causing them has not yet been confirmed.” The final 19 minutes of the film were devoted to promoting legalization of marijuana, echoing the platform of the “pro-pot” National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML).

“Obviously,” said one indignant

15-year-old, "everything I've been told about pot is wrong. Now I am going to try it."

This filmstrip currently is sold for \$179 by Guidance Associates, Inc., a large and respected producer of audio-visual materials for schools. *Marijuana Update*, released in 1975, has never been updated to reflect current knowledge about the dangers of pot.



During a recent presentation to a group of sixth graders, a nationally known health educator declared, "Any drug can be used in a positive manner." Typical of many mis-educators, he lumped medications and illegal drugs together; for example, he listed aspirin on the blackboard as "might be a narcotic or a barbiturate," followed by "angel dust (PCP) is an analgesic" (a pain reliever). Not surprisingly, when he asked "How many of you are drug users?" all the sixth graders raised their hands.

His further instruction included these phrases: "Heroin can be used in a bad way or a good way. It is the person who is misusing the drug—the drug itself is not bad."

National Tragedy. These are not isolated cases. Far more isolated are reports of schools that are doing an effective job in the drug-education area. Says Congressman Charles Rangel (D., N.Y.), chairman of the House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control, "We have a national tragedy on our hands in drug education."

In August 1986, Sen. Paula Hawkins (R., Fla.), then chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Children, Family, Drugs and Alcoholism, held hearings on the impact of drug education. Hawkins cited the book *Chocolate to Morphine*, published by Houghton Mifflin in 1983 and co-written by Andrew Weil, longtime advisory-board member of NORML. The book's first sentence indicates it is written for teen-agers. But, Hawkins noted, "The publisher says it is also quite popular with school counselors and professionals." She then read from several paragraphs:

"Question your parents about the drugs they use. If you can convince them that your drug use is responsible, you may be able to allay their anxiety. Drugs are fascinating because they can change our awareness. Occasional snorting of cocaine in social situations is probably not harmful."

"With drug use running rampant," Hawkins asked, "why are our children being exposed to such garbage?"

Why, indeed, since the kids themselves are demanding facts. In 1977 and every two years since, the National Gallup Youth Survey has asked youngsters ages 13 through 17 to name "the biggest problem facing people your age." Each year drug abuse has been No. 1. Another eye-opening survey, this one of 500,000 children in grades 4 through 12, was published by *Weekly Reader* last spring. When

asked to circle "the *one* thing you think is most important for schools to do to fight drugs," the top answer was: "Teach us the facts."

Instead, what *are* we teaching kids? Most programs focus on three main messages:

1. "Responsible use." Children are taught they should use drugs "responsibly," the implication being that experimental or occasional use is not harmful. Yet the annual National High School Senior Survey has shown since 1975 that one-third of occasional pot smokers become daily users at some point in their lives, and, of seniors who currently smoke pot at all, about half use one or more additional illegal drugs. (Virtually no non-pot smokers are regular users of any other illegal drug.)

2. "It's your decision." Two decades of societal permissiveness toward drug use are reflected in the conclusion that you must decide for yourself whether or not to use drugs. In what other area do we tell kids that it's *their* decision whether or not to break the law?

3. "Do drugs." Some books and other materials used in schools contain virtual commercials for illegal drugs. For example, the three books on drug abuse most commonly found in school libraries today are *Chocolate to Morphine* and *The Natural Mind*, both by Andrew Weil, and *Licit & Illicit Drugs* by Edward M. Brecher and the editors of Consumer Reports, published by Little, Brown in 1972.

What adventurous youngster

would *not* want to try mescaline or LSD, for example, after reading in *Licit & Illicit Drugs* (page 337) that mescaline users have found its "most spectacular phase comprises the kaleidoscopic play of visual hallucinations in indescribably rich colors . . . the 'seeing' of music in colors or the 'hearing' of a painting in music." Page 364 describes a 1960s study finding LSD valuable as "a therapeutic tool, a road to love and better relationships . . . a door to religious experience . . . a release from anxiety or troubles."

"Little Change." Otto Moulton is considered by most leaders of the national parent movement for drug-free youth to be the nation's foremost expert on information generated by the drug culture. He has visited hundreds of schools in over 40 states. In each town or city, he checks school and public libraries, as well as bookstores. "In 1979," he says, "the drug information was almost invariably incorrect, outdated and/or actually promoting drug use. Today little has changed. Some of the bad material has been updated. But most schools are not about to throw out materials they have already paid for, especially when they don't know where reliable material can be found, or, in many cases, *even what it is.*"

In 1987 Beverly Kinard, founder and president of HOPE (Helping Other People Educate), surveyed 100 chain bookstores in cities and towns from San Francisco to Boston. She found only one store with one

good curricula. We expect to have this guide ready by September 1988."

Why must we wait until September 1988 for new guidelines, which may or may not then be acted upon? Especially since, while we wait, an already appalling situation is growing worse. With millions of dollars available to schools through Department of Education grants, "curricula" entrepreneurs have been flooding the marketplace with bad advice. Notes Carla Lowe, co-founder of Californians For Drug-Free Youth, and a consultant on drug abuse to the State Department: "Many school districts are buying new materials without knowing whether they're good or bad. Accurate information about the harm drugs do is the best weapon we have. But we're shooting ourselves in the foot."

What to Do? Along with the \$200 million allocated this year to the Department of Education, the 1986 Omnibus Anti-Drug Abuse Act established the Office of Substance Abuse Prevention (OSAP), with a \$41.5-million budget. Part of OSAP is the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, with its own hefty budget and a mandate to disseminate to schools information on drug-abuse education provided by the Department of Education. Says Section 4144 of the act: "Any materials produced or distributed with funds made available under this subtitle shall reflect the mes-

sage that illicit drug use is wrong and harmful."

Over a year has passed since the law was enacted. Yet, as Congressman Rangel points out, "the act has received no priority. A list of recommended resources could be compiled in a few weeks by the National Clearinghouse and distributed free of charge to all schools, school departments and boards of education. This would be the simplest, most useful and cost-effective step we could take at once to better the drastic situation of drug education in our schools."

Secretary of Education William J. Bennett has announced a public-service campaign to help "slam the door" on drug use in our schools. To learn more about the campaign, and to ask about the availability of effective anti-drug materials, call the Department of Education's toll-free number, 1-800-541-8787.

Meanwhile, it is urgent that the National Clearinghouse take immediate steps to distribute a comprehensive list of accurate, up-to-date books, films and other materials with a *no-use* message. Such resources exist, and many schools are eager to learn about them. A law mandating that the government disseminate information about these materials has been in place for over a year. Let's not waste any more time in getting this list to schools, teachers and educators all across the nation.

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Some Recommended Anti-Drug Materials

- A booklet listing drug-prevention resources is available from Committees of Correspondence, Dept. RD, 57 Conant St., Danvers, Mass. 01923. (617) 774-2641. Cost, including postage and handling, is \$5.
- Boy Scouts of America offers a four-color, 24-by-36-inch body chart showing how illegal drugs affect body organs. Drug Abuse Task Force, S200, Dept. RD, 1325 Walnut Hill Lane, Irving, Texas 75038-3096. Cost: \$5.
- *What Works: Schools Without Drugs* is a 77-page booklet produced by the Department of Education and available free from Schools Without Drugs, Dept. RD, Pueblo, Colo. 81009.
- Just Say No Foundation provides free information on setting up a program in your area: Just Say No Foundation, Dept. RD, 1777 N. California Blvd., Walnut Creek, Calif. 94596. 1-800-258-2766; in Calif., 415-939-6666.
- Medical Education Research Foundation publishes *Marijuana: The Myth of Harmlessness Goes Up in Smoke*, an 8½-by-11-inch illustrated booklet plus teacher's guide. Address: 1100 Waterway Blvd., Dept. RD, Indianapolis, Ind. 46202. Cost: \$2.50.
- PRIDE (Parents' Resource Institute on Drug Education) offers an anonymous student survey (already taken by over 850,000 students) on drug-use prevalence. PRIDE's computer compiles the data for school administrators. An excellent tool to galvanize schools and communities. Cost: 56¢ per student. Write for free information: PRIDE, 100 Edgewood Ave., Suite 1002, Dept. RD, Atlanta, Ga. 30303. 1-800-241-7946.

book containing up-to-date information on drugs. She found *Chocolate to Morphine* in all the bookstores. Several teachers told her that they used the "suggestions" at the end of the marijuana section for class instruction. These include: "Define what benefits you want from pot" and "set limits on usage."

Why Wait? In America today the "Just Say No" message is being heard loud and clear from the White House on down. Even rock groups, those former promoters of the do-drug message, are beginning to clean up their act, as are movies, television and radio.

In October 1986 the President

signed into law the Omnibus Anti-Drug Abuse Act, which among other things provided \$200 million for fiscal 1987 and \$250 million each for fiscal 1988 and '89—all so the Department of Education could help the states rid their schools of drugs. Most of the fiscal year '87 money has been distributed, and much of it is already available at the school-district level.

But what is actually being done? Says William Lennox, director of the Department of Education's Drug Abuse Policy Oversight Staff: "In November 1987 we will set up a committee to make on-site visits to schools in order to develop criteria for

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO:

T. Seand
House Judiciary

FROM:

Roberta J. Rodgers
P.O. Box 154
Douglas, Ok. 99824

MESSAGE:

I do believe marijuana should not be
allowed as a legal street use drug, only as a
pain reliever for terminally ill patients under
doctors care.

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HB ⁵⁵229 ~~HOMICIDE BY ABUSE~~ MARIJUANA BILL

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO:

John Seward.
House Judiciary

FROM:

Maria Rogers

5921 Serial

Juneau, 99801

MESSAGE:

I would like to see more women
made illegal in Alaska.

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PREPARED TO GOVERNOR COMPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: JOHN SUND
House Ind. Comm.

FROM: SIGRON E. McDowell
3345 Tongass - 6
TUNEAU, AK 99801

MESSAGE:

YES - RECRIMINALIZE MARIJUANA
SUPPORT JFC

(50 WORDS OR LESS)



I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE



I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO:

John Sund

House Judiciary

FROM:

James Rogers

5921 Sunset St

Juneau AK 99801

MESSAGE:

I support making marijuana possession

and use illegal.

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HR 229 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

X

I SUPPORT THE NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD TO COMBINE COURTS BY JTC

X

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: John Sand

FROM: Dave Jackson
P.O. Bx 32274
Jacksonville, FL 90507

MESSAGE: Something must be done, we cannot
allow this action to continue. Our
children can not be allowed to grow up
in an environment that teaches them physical
harm is ok. Remember they are our future legislators

 I support House Bill 55 and Senate Bill 32, making marijuana illegal

 X I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

 I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: John Sund

FROM: MRS. SHARROW

8236 ASPEN AVE.

JUNEAU, AK 99801

MESSAGE: IT WOULD BE TO THE BEST INTEREST
OF OUR CHILDREN FOR OUR STATE AND
COUNTRY TO TAKE A FIRM, BOLD STAND
TO PREVENT, PROTECT, PREVENT HARM
TO OUR CHILDREN. VIOLATORS SHOULD NOT

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

BE GIVEN GENTLE
SENTENCES BY FAR.

___ I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

___ I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO:

John Sand

FROM:

MRS. Ann Mattson

1125 Slim Williams Wy

Juneau, Ak. 99801

MESSAGE:

Please pass HB 229. Our children
need protection and when there are

no punitive incentives not to abuse

children the abuse will continue. We

must show that we value their lives as much
as ours. (50 WORDS OR LESS)



I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE



I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PAGE 4 PREPARED TO GOVERNOR COMPER BY JTC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: House Judiciary
John Sund

FROM: Barbara Pecanich
P.O. Box 868
Douglas, AK 99820

MESSAGE: Children cannot defend themselves;
it is up to the state to protect our
children

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COOPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: John Sund

FROM: Lisa Laurin

P.O. Box 210475

Anke Bay, AK 99821

MESSAGE:

murder is murder, regardless of age

Especially when it involves a defenseless

child, that is heinous. Stronger

measures should be taken!

(50 words or less)



I SUPPORT HB 229 - HOMICIDE BY MURDER



I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COMPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: John Sund

FROM: Chris Bechtel

2519 Scott Dr.

MESSAGE:

IF a child is Beaten to the point of Death
it is murder, & should be treated as a
Murder. Children are important to this
Society, & they are the next Generation &

Abused Children are ashamed they have no control/
(50 WORDS OR LESS) over the Situation. over

I SUPPORT HR 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COMPER BY JFC

God says it would be better that a millstone
be tied around your neck & thrown in the sea, than to
hurt one little one. Children are important, anyone
who willfully hurts a child ending in death, should
lose theirs

P.O.M. DETATCH

TO: John Sund
House Judiciary Comm

FROM: David Mc
9811 Torrey
Jensen, Oh.

MESSAGE:

It is time to start thinking
about the rights and protection of the
innocent victims of violence. Our judicial
system tends to protect the violent in society.

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

(P.S. I know this doesn't
do any good!!)

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: JOHN SUND

FROM: Virginia Waleczek

MESSAGE:

Please get these bills passed
A.S.A.P.

(50 words or less)



I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE



I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PAGES 1-10 LIMITED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO:

John Sund
House Judiciary -
Capital Bldg - 400

FROM:

John Wilcox
1991 Lemon Co Rd
Sumner AK 99581

MESSAGE:

Get these Bills Passed
out of this Committee & into
the Floor for Action.

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COMPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO:

J Sund
House Judiciary

FROM:

Arlene Fial
PO Box 32396
Juneau, AK 99803

MESSAGE:

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

V I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMEOWNERS BY ARREST

V I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGES TO REP. HUDSON, JOHN SUND, HOUSE JUDICIARY MEMBERS, AND ALL LEGISLATORS AND THE HONORABLE STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR taken at Nugget Mall Juneau, Alaska February 13 and 14, 1988

- I. POM'S in Support of HB 229, Homocide by Abuse.....Total 150
- 2. POM'S in Support of legislation package presented to Governor by Justice for Children*.....Total III
- Total POM'S HB 229.....261
- 3. POM'S in Support of HB 55 and/or SB 32 to recriminalize marijuana.....Total 135

Dear Legislators and Governor Cowper:

Approximately 400 people took the time to stop and talk to us in regards to child abuse and drugs in Alaska. They also took the time to fill out a POM addressing these two issues. Shock and disbelief was the first reaction of most when told of the over whelming number of child abuse cases in this state. Why has a bill addressing the murder of innocent children killed by abuse set in a committee all year? Why doesn't Alaska have a Juvenile Finger Print Law to help law enforcement do it's job? And why, for the sake of everyone in this state is Alaska the only state in the Union not to have a Conspiracy Law? These three bills are now in House Judiciary. We urge your support in behalf of these bills. The people of Alaska are tired of the Child Abuse and Drug Abuse that runs rampant in our State.

THANK YOU

Misc. HJOD
File

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: All legislators

FROM: Arden Adams

4329 Tulsa Blvd

Jenew, AL 36801

MESSAGE:

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: all legislators

FROM: Tawnya Ungerman

9236 Emily Wy.

Juneau, Alaska

MESSAGE: I support H.B. 229

Homicide By Abuse

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: All Legislators

FROM: Terry Starnes
P.O. Box 210528
Orlando Bay, Ala

MESSAGE: _____

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

X
X

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: Allegator

FROM: Jamnia Bajanski

Box 37756

Seward, AK 99803

MESSAGE: I support H.B. 229

Homicide By Abuse

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: ALL
Legislators

FROM: Donald T. Kennedy
Box 34666
Juneau 99803

MESSAGE: I Support HB 229
Homicide By Abuse

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: All Legislators

FROM: Julie Norton
555 Hemlock
Juneau 99801

MESSAGE: Fight all laws concerning child
abuse in all forms - physical or emotional.

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: all Legislators
& Cowper

FROM: Truman Scroggins

MESSAGE:

I feel like you people aren't
been passing the right bills but
you sure have passed ones that
have put a line on making a
living for your cut backs.

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I | SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE should be a ^{min. of} ~~10~~ 10 yrs

 | SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: All legislature
Governor and
Whom ever else

FROM: Thelma Scroggins
2555 Mendenhall Ln Rd #41/2
Juneau AK 99801

MESSAGE: I feel you, as the people who make the
laws need to protect our children. My child Estepah
still can ~~see~~ tell any judge what ~~is~~ happen
She may be only five but she knows
what happen to her. Abuser get away scott free.
Why is that. (50 WORDS OR LESS) An Abuser my take a life. That's

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE not fair.

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COOPER BY JFC

TO: Legislators

FROM: Bob Pelloni

Box 34478

Jensen AK 99503

MESSAGE: Our children are more valuable
than the wild game in the state.
we need more protection for the kids

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

X I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

X I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COOPER BY JFC

TO: All Legislatures

FROM: Lolanda Cavanaugh
Box 34325
Juneau, AK 99803

MESSAGE: _____

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COOPER BY JFC

TO: All Legislators

FROM: Willis Cavanaugh
Box 34325
Juneau, AK 99803

MESSAGE:

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: All Legislators

FROM: Carol Pollock

Box 34478

Juneau, AK 99803

MESSAGE: I think it is unforgivable that Fish & Game
is more protective of the Wildlife than our
Legislature is for our children. Our laws to
protect children need to be made stronger.

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COMPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: TERESA M. SCHWARTZKOPF

PO BOX 34478

JUNEAU AK 99903

MESSAGE: I FIND IT HUMILIATING THAT JUNEAU
IS MORE RESPONSIVE TO ANIMAL
ABUSE THAN CHILD ABUSE. IT SHOULD
MAKE THE RESIDENTS ASHAMED TO BE
CALLED HUMANS!

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

I SUPPORT HR 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE.

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: Governor
all legislators

FROM: Jay West
4005 Spruce Ln
Sumner, WA 99301

MESSAGE: Please, go against drugs don't let
a kid kill themselves. I'm in 7th grade
at grade Howard Hayden Middle School
and a lot of kids at school do take

drugs please help them. I call
parents don't let them to die please help

I support House Bill 55 and Senate Bill 32, making marijuana illegal

I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE

I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: Governors
and all
legislators

FROM: Julie West / 11th grade
4005 Spruce Lane
Juneau Alaska 99801

MESSAGE: Please go against anything to do with drugs.

- I support House Bill 55 and Senate Bill 32, making marijuana illegal
- I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE
- I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DISPATCH

TO: All Legatures

FROM: Jenny
Thompson,

MESSAGE:

- I support House Bill 55 and Senate Bill 32, making marijuana illegal
- I SUPPORT HB 229 HOMICIDE BY ABUSE
- I SUPPORT LEGISLATION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO GOVERNOR COWPER BY JFC

P.O.M. DETAIL

TO: OHIO SUND - ALL FROM: CLIF Bready
LEGISLATIVE
HOUSE JUDICIARY

MESSAGE:

RE-CRIMINALIZE MARIJUANA 1cc!

(50 WORDS OR LESS)

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