

Who's *Really Using Marijuana?*

Available state data from medi-pot registrations show that less than 10% of card holders are cancer, HIV/AIDS, or glaucoma patients.



typical *patient*

atypical *patient*



Well over 90% of registered marijuana users complain of other ailments including headaches and athlete's foot.

Many of the users are underage. For example, in one California city 12% of medi-pot cardholders are younger than 21.



What *Really* Are The Consequences?

Marijuana use by youth had been declining, but the spread of marijuana as a medicine perpetuated the illusion that the drug isn't harmful and has led to an increase in its use.



A 2009 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration report indicates that more people are driving on weekend nights under the influence of marijuana (8.3%) than alcohol (2.2%).



Substance abuse costs American businesses approximately \$81 billion annually in lost productivity, absenteeism, poor job performance and accidents.

What's *Really Ironic About Smoking?*



Smoked tobacco contains at least 70 chemicals and compounds that cause cancer, and there is no “risk-free level of exposure” to tobacco smoke. Lung cancer killed 158,683 people in 2007 in the US.

Smoking Marijuana is much more harmful than smoking tobacco. Gram for gram, marijuana contains more cancer causing agents and higher levels of ammonia, hydrogen cyanide and nitric oxide than tobacco.



There are no medicines that are smoked.

What's *Really Medical* About Marijuana?



Doctor prescribed medication is dispensed by a pharmacist and FDA approved. This type of medication includes proper dosage and possible side effect warnings.



Because marijuana lacks FDA approval, it cannot be prescribed by a doctor or dispensed by pharmacies, and its dosing is impossible to regulate. Marijuana is frequently sold at pot shops by people with no medical training.

In some states such as California and Colorado there are more pot shops than Starbucks coffee shops.



Who's *Really* Paying For Marijuana?

By far, the most compelling economic argument against the taxation of marijuana is the skyrocketing health care and societal costs due to the expanded level of marijuana use generated by legalization and relaxed attitudes toward drugs.



Federal and state governments spend over \$250 billion a year because of substance abuse and addiction.



For each dollar in alcohol and tobacco taxes and liquor store revenues that federal and state governments collect, they spend nearly \$9 towards the consequences of substance abuse and addiction.

What *Research Should Be Supported?*

Most major health & medical organizations, including the American Medical Association, support cannabinoid research,



but these same organizations reject raw marijuana as a medicine. The Institute of Medicine concluded there is no future for smoked marijuana.



Research that supports the medical efficacy of cannabinoids is generally not conducted using raw marijuana. The hope for marijuana's use in medicine lies in its chemical compounds (cannabinoids), not in its raw form.



What's *Really* An Ounce Of Marijuana?

Marijuana legalization typically allows
the possession of up to 1 ounce of usable marijuana
and six plants at any given time.



One ounce of marijuana rolls 60 to 120 joints.
One plant can produce up to 80 ounces of marijuana,
which could equal as much as 9,600 joints.
Is this trafficking or medicine?

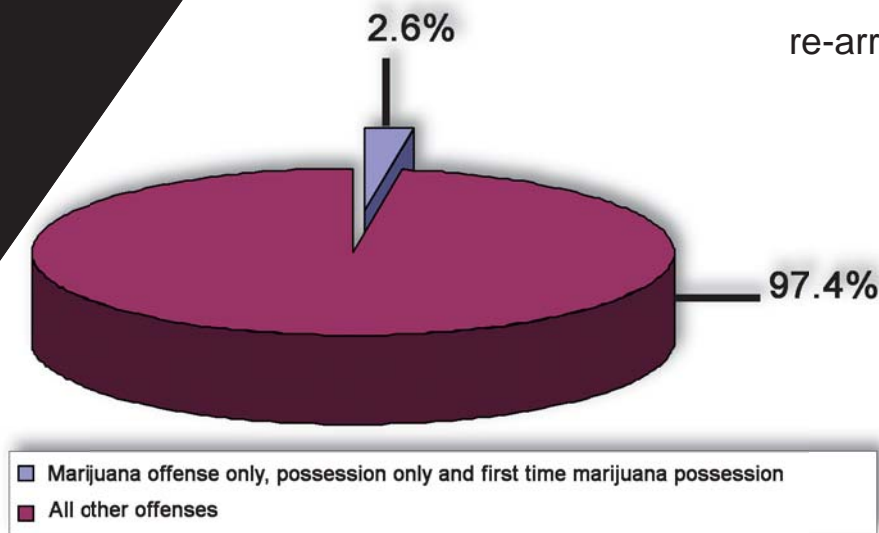


Who's *Really In Prison For Marijuana?*

Most first time marijuana offenders for simple possession go through alternative sentencing such as drug court where they can be leveraged into treatment instead of being incarcerated.



state prisoners



75% of graduates from drug court are not re-arrested for at least two years after completing the program.



When viewing this chart, consider that many of those prisoners pled down from more serious charges and that the true incarceration rate for simple marijuana possession is negligible.