

MARIJUANA HAS CHANGED.

Potency has gone from 1/2 to 2% THC to 20 to 30% in smoked form, and up to 96% as Butane Hash Oil (BHO) extracts and oils which are used in edibles and vaping. Edibles are sold in quantities and potency that have proven lethal. Vaping, with no smoke or odor, is the new threat for inflicting mental and physical harms including addiction, particularly to adolescents. No longer a "soft" drug, the adverse impacts have risen in relation to the potency. The greatest harm is BRAIN DAMAGE.

BRAIN DAMAGE RUINS LIVES:

BRAIN DAMAGE from fat soluble marijuana results in permanent structural and chemical changes causing impaired memory, motivation, maturation and cognition. Heavy adolescence use has resulted in loss of IQ by an average of 8 points by mid-adult-hood. Quitting use as an adult is unlikely to reverse the damage. The brain isn't fully developed under age 25. The adolescent brain is much more vulnerable to harm. Brain damage during adolescence can have life-long consequences.

THIS IS NOT A WAR ON DRUGS, BUT A BATTLE TO PROTECT THE BRAINS OF OUR YOUTH.

The human brain holds our humanity—how we think, feel, and act. With our minds we learn, create, compose, connect and remember. We love, feel empathy, sorrow and loss. We care for others and give unconditionally. Our reward is the essence of our humanity. We are united in the defense of our most vulnerable. The brightness of our shared future depends on our promise and commitment to protect and defend the mental health of our youth.

MENTAL AND PHYSICAL ILLNESS. Marijuana is associated with psychosis, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and major mental illness. It can induce psychosis in vulnerable people. Because marijuana stays in the body longer than any other drug, it can cause testicular cancer, strokes, heart attacks and bronchitis in vulnerable individuals. Roughly 30% of people are considered vulnerable. Jails nationwide are full of mentally ill people who can't work, waiting for non-existent beds in mental institutions. Marijuana use is associated with lower graduation rates, higher unemployment and greater reliance on public assistance.

PSYCHOTIC EPISODES – Numerous people are experiencing psychotic episodes owing to the high THC content in marijuana. Voices tell them to do heinous acts of murder, and/or commit suicide. Marijuana has been a factor in most mass



murders, including Tucson, Aurora, Boston Bombers, Chattanooga and more. Eddie Routh killed American Sniper Chris Kyle and friend after a morning smoking pot. A 23 year old mother in Ohio decapitated her 3 month old baby. Numerous people have committed suicide.

ADDICTION – Recent information (JAMA Psychiatry Oct 21,2015) indicates addiction to marijuana has risen from 9% to 30.5% in current (past year) users. Addiction is a life-long condition that enslaves people, escalates crime, diminishes academic achievement and productivity and ruins entire families. Most of the 122 Americans who die every day of overdose of other drugs, started their drug journey with marijuana.

BIRTH DEFECTS – Children prenatally exposed to THC are more likely to show gaps in problem-solving skills, memory, and ability to remain attentive. (NIDA) Even low concentrations of THC can have profound and long-lasting consequences for brain and behavior of offspring. Marijuana use during pregnancy or breast feeding is associated with adverse consequences for the child which can persist well into adulthood.

TRAFFIC FATALITIES DOUBLE – One in eight (12.6%) of drivers in America are impaired by marijuana to varying degrees. Traffic deaths owing to drugged driving now rival

alcohol (40%), with marijuana being the predominant drug. Traffic fatalities owing to marijuana impairment have doubled in states that allow marijuana for any reason. Marijuana mixed with alcohol escalates the problem by eight times.

BATTLE FOR THE PLANET



This bladder holds 500,000 gallons of water diverted from streams, a 1 day supply for this pot plantation. One marijuana plant consumes 6 gallons of water per day, averaging 1 to 5 lbs of produce at 1200 joints per lb. Pot plantations in California, all producing marijuana under the guise of medicine, are diverting water from streams causing irreparable damage to ecosystems that are categorized as "globally outstanding." In rural

and residential communities, the stench from marijuana is ruining the quality of life and diminishing property values. To serve the insatiable appetite of 8% of Americans who want to get high, and provide an easy buck for people who don't care about the social of economic impact they impose of the other 92%, America is suffering enormous damage to the brains of our youth, and to our precious natural resources. It has to stop, or we have no future as a nation.

We Encourage You To Learn More About Marijuana www.drugabuse.gov / stoppot2016.com / POPPOT.org tbac.us / #stoppot / CALMca.org / IFBC.us

Donations can be made to TBAC, P.O Box 459, Lincoln, CA 95648 or on-line at tbac.us.



"If a child reaches age 21 prior to smoking, abusing alcohol or using drugs, they virtually never will." (Califano, CASA)

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Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of our children and planet. We pray for your love and protection for both so they may grow and flourish.