

VOTE NO on Amendment 3: Pot turns things to POT!



POT'S SIDE EFFECTS:

CREATES ADDICTS: It is a highly addictive, Schedule 1 narcotic. Addiction is caused by the THC (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol) in the marijuana plant. More damaging to children/teens as THC damages brain cells vital to adolescent development.

DYSFUNCTION and DISEASE: causes schizophrenia, psychotic breaks-often violent, heart attack, stroke, impaired respiratory function, DNA changes passed on to children, as well as dependence, depression, suicidality, or decreases in IQ or memory.

SHATTERS COMMUNITIES and FAMILIES: Legalization of pot is associated surges of violent crime and assaults. THC use is also associated with severe injury or death as THC use is more common than alcohol use in serious or fatal car crashes.

UNENDING NATIONAL and COMMUNITY COSTS: ILLEGAL in all major countries after they learned the hard way: Great Britain, India, and Mexico reversed pot's legal status, 1800s-1920's, as insane asylums were the only option for those addicted or psychotic. China and Russia severely enforce all illegal drug laws.

GROWS BLACK MARKET/TRAFFICKING - WE PAY: The state decided who can compete in this market as Florida awarded only 5 licenses, growing the black market. Taxpayers will pay for the effects of the expanding black markets: community resources for rehab, police, emergency room visits; and the revolving door of: arrests-prison-rearrests-homelessness. Children suffer the most through neglect, abuse, violence, trafficking and homelessness. In contrast, the billionaires, medical establishment and politicians that funded this amendment will benefit financially.

Compiled by Cheryl Lynn Marie Tatreau, September 27, 2024, Details and Citations below

The loveliest trick of the Devil is to persuade you that he does not exist.

C. P. Baudelaire, The Genius Gambler

DETAILS & CITATIONS

The majority of citations are from, *Tell your Children: The Truth about Marijuana, Mental Illness and Violence*, Berenson, Alex, 2019.

CREATES ADDICTS

Marijuana is a highly addictive, **Schedule 1** narcotic. It is linked to epigenetic changes (DNA)

Schedule 1 narcotic, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA):

- The drug or other substance has a high potential for abuse
- The drug or other substance has no currently accepted medical treatment in the U.S.
- It has a lack of accepted safety for use under medical supervision

1994 National Institute on Drug Abuse: after tobacco and alcohol, cannabis accounted for more dependence than any other drug or drug group; Other Schedule 1 drugs: Heroin and LSD

Cannabis Use Linked to Epigenetic Changes, Study Shows (shown in other studies)

<https://www.sciencealert.com/cannabis-use-linked-to-epigenetic-changes-study-shows>

Not your high school weed:

Addiction is caused by THC (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol)

--THC content 0.5-3 % in 1960

--THC content 6-8% in 2024

Shatter, Wax edibles = 90% THC

<https://www.foodengineeringmag.com/articles/100479-new-shatter-and-thc-gummies>

CBD, in cannabis, is not addictive; also not clinically proven, but anecdotally may help pain

Can't make alcohol equivalence

"Tolerance of THC rises far more quickly than alcohol tolerance does. Usually 2.5 milligrams of THC are considered the equivalent of one drink. But regular marijuana users can use 100 milligrams or more daily, the equivalent of 40-plus drinks for a novice user, and still function. Berenson, Chapter 4, page 105.

Clinical trials:

There are NONE that show treatment effectiveness for any condition except for two small trials which showed some pain management benefit in aids and cancer wasting

Study Suggests Marijuana Use Damages Brain Immune Cells Vital to Adolescent Development

<https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/news/newsroom/news-releases/2023/10/study-suggests-marijuana-use-damages-brain-immune-cells-vital-to-adolescent-development>

DYSFUNCTION and DISEASE

Jim van Os, MD, Dutch psychiatrist/epidemiologist: 2002 study on cannabis/ psychosis found that pot could already be responsible for as much as 10% of psychosis in all its forms. An increase of .04 percent in psychosis would mean an extra 160,000 of those kids will suffer debilitating mental illness by 2040. Many thousands will commit murder and violent crime. This does not account for other mental health problems marijuana might cause, like depression or suicidality, or decreases in IQ or memory. Berenson, Introduction, pgs. XXXIV-XXXV

India 1904: Dr. George Francis William Evans, the superintendent of the Punjab Lunatic Asylum, reported, "There is a special form of mental disease met with in India usually classed as Toxic Insanity which seems to have a direct relation to the excessive use of hemp drugs ...The symptoms are almost entirely mental, among the large number I have now seen, unlike the results of alcohol, arsenic, etc. Berenson, Chapter 1, page 11

Cannabis and psychosis: revisiting a 19th century study of Indian Hemp and Insanity' in Colonial British India
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/psychological-medicine/article/abs/cannabis-and-psychosis-revisiting-a-nineteenth-century-study-of-indian-hemp-and-insanity-in-colonial-british-india/77F3491DCCD47F14CEB41DD88FBF7F79>

The Cannabis Craze: What You Need to Know
<https://www.westonaprice.org/health-topics/health-issues/the-cannabis-craze-what-you-need-to-know/#gsc.tab=0>

Cannabis Use and Psychosis: A Longitudinal Population-based Study (2002)
<https://typeset.io/papers/cannabis-use-and-psychosis-a-longitudinal-population-based-3too0qdfxr>

Cannabis Use and Outcome of Recent Psychosis
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/7725575_Cannabis_use_and_outcome_of_recent_psychosis

What is the mechanism whereby cannabis use increases risk of psychosis?
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/BF03033802>

Cannabis and Schizophrenia a Longitudinal Study of Swedish Conscripts 1987
[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(87\)92620-1/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(87)92620-1/fulltext)

The Environment and Schizophrenia: The Role of Cannabis Use
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15976013/>

Marijuana sharply increases the risk of heart attacks after smoking.
<https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/news/2024/smoking-cannabis-associated-increased-risk-heart-attack-stroke>

The Health Effects of Cannabis and Cannabinoids, National Academy of Medicine, 2017: Cannabis use is likely to increase the risk of developing schizophrenia and other psychoses; the higher the use, the greater the risk.
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28182367/>

SHATTERS COMMUNITIES and FAMILIES

"All four states that legalized in 2014 and 2015-Alaska, Colorado, Oregon and Washington-have seen sharp increases in murders and aggravated assaults; combined the four states saw a 35 percent increase in murders and a 25 percent increase in assaults between 2013 and 2017." *Berenson, Introduction, page XXXI*

***Violent Crime Surges by Double Digits in States the Legalize Cannabis-Pot Growing Gangs in Mexico, China, Armenia and Russia Turn Areas into a Wild West of Weed, Agents Say**
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12814623/Violent-crime-surges-legalize-cannabis-pot-gangs-Mexico-China-Armenia-Russia.html>

*assaults, robberies, rapes and murders; Most crimes are against children/women

Cannabis and the Violent Crime Surge
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9462911/>

Pot Linked to Violence

<https://cosmosmagazine.com/people/society/cannabis-and-mental-illness-link-to-violence/>

Continuity of Cannabis Use and Violent Offending Over the Life Course

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/297718566)

[297718566 Continuity of cannabis use and violent offending over the life course](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/297718566)

Violence and Cannabis Use: A Focused Review of a Forgotten Aspect in the Era of Liberalizing Cannabis

<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/psychiatry/articles/10.3389/fpsy.2020.567887/full>

Marijuana use and physical dating violence among adolescents and emerging adults: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis (dating violence is a correlate of pot use)

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28314193/>

Rehab difficult to find, expensive, with poor outcomes

<https://www.northpointrecovery.com/blog/how-much-does-drug-rehab-usually-cost/>

Study finds THC More Common than Alcohol in Serious or Fatal Car Crashes

<https://www.arkbh.com/blog/thc-more-common-than-alcohol-in-car-crashes/>

<https://drrichswier.com/2016/07/27/marijuana-driving-problems-escalating-and-more-bad-news/>

UNENDING NATIONAL and COMMUNITY COSTS: ILLEGAL

Non-medicinal pot is illegal in almost every country. Banned in Great Britain/India in 1800's due to users ending up in insane asylums. The Mexican government found that marijuana was one of the most pernicious manias of their people and not a medicine. On March 2, 1920 Mexico banned the sale of marijuana, along with cocaine and opiates. *Berenson, Chapter 1, page 5*

They already know better. Meanwhile, remember the US medical establishment told us opioids were not addictive. "Americans now die from drugs at three times the rate of people in the UK; the overdose rate in Canada is nearly as bad." *Berenson, page 118. This is due to their availability and our wealth.*

Lists legality of pot by country: No large countries

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legality_of_cannabis

GROWS BLACK MARKET/TRAFFICKING - WE PAY

Taxpayers will pay for the results of drug addiction: community resources for rehab; police; emergency room visits; the revolving door of arrests-prison-repeated crimes-homelessness. Children suffer the most through neglect, abuse, violence, trafficking and homelessness. Only the very wealthy and well connected will gain as licenses are given out by the states, sales are taxed, and politicians decide the crimes and sentencing.

Average Cost of Drug Rehab: <https://drugabusestatistics.org/cost-of-rehab/>

National Statistics on Relapse Rates for Various Addiction: <https://www.addictiongroup.org/resources/relapse-rates-statistics/>

Parental Drug Addiction and its Destructive Impact on Children

<https://www.drugrehab.us/news/parental-drug-addiction-children/>

Marijuana controlled by the rich and powerful won't stop black market

The pot lobby is funded by the US medical establishment (pharma and government agencies) and billionaires. Legalization leaders include: George Soros; Key lobbyist Ethan Nadelman funded by George Soros; John Morgan, CEO Morgan & Morgan; Peter Lewis, former CEO Progressive Insurance; George Zimmer former CEO, Men's Warehouse; Charles Koch; Richard Branson; Peter Theil; John Mackey

Harvard Study: Big Pharma, US Government Behind Opioid Epidemic

<https://thepeoplesvoice.tv/harvard-study-opioid-epidemic/>

Vote No on 3: Stop the Monopoly

<https://floridianpress.com/2024/09/monopoly-amendment-vote-no-on-3-ad-smothers-initiative-legalizing-recreational-pot/>

5 Prominent Business Leaders Who Support Pot Legalization

<https://www.fool.com/investing/general/2015/10/04/5-prominent-business-leaders-who-support-the-legal.aspx>

Boehner, former House Speaker, now a Pot lobbyist

<https://reason.com/2018/04/11/former-house-speaker-john-boehner-once-o/>

Ethan Nadelman: Soros funded Drug Czar

<https://drugpolicy.org/news/ethan-nadelmann-real-drug-czar/>

Committees in Support of Amendment 3

Committee	Cash Contributions	In-Kind Contributions	Total Contributions	Cash Expenditures	Total Expenditures
Smart & Safe Florida	\$90,221,872	\$219,535	\$90,441,407	\$62,414,654	\$62,634,190

Smart & Safe Florida is a PAC; little information on their site: <https://smartandsafeflorida.com/>

Top Florida Donors

Trulieve	\$82,891,800
Verano Holdings	\$ 3,500,000
Green Thumb Industries	\$ 2,250,000
Curaleaf	\$ 2,000,000

Narco Slaves: Migrant workers face abuse on Oregon's cartel-run, illegal pot farms

<https://abcnews.go.com/US/narco-slaves-migrant-workers-face-abuse-oregons-cartel/story?id=95069523>

Agents seize 100 pot-growing houses tied to Chinese criminals

<https://abc7news.com/agents-seize-100-pot-growing-houses-in-sacramento-pot-bust-marijuana-homes-seized/3309909/XXXiv>