

# Legalization of marijuana

Law



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Daniel Faybyshev Period 8-9 6/11/12 " Legalization of Marijuana" Although to many it may seem as though marijuana is a harmful substance that poisons our nations youth, marijuana has the potential to open many new doors in economics, medicine, security and more. Marijuana should not be as easy to obtain as walking into a convenience store and buying a pack of gum. However, the use of cannabis should be a choice left up to responsible people of age who can make their own wise decisions. Marijuana should be extremely regulated.

With that said, Marijuana can be hugely beneficial. Tax revenue could significantly increase with the legalization of marijuana because of its huge popularity. Forty-two percent of America's population has tried marijuana at least once. Keep in mind this is while it is illegal and harder to obtain than it would be if it were legal. An estimated forty to one-hundred billion dollars in revenue could be collected if taxes that are put on tobacco and alcohol products were to be put on marijuana.

Legal marijuana production would create jobs both domestically and globally. Locally, dispensary shops would create numerous legitimate jobs for people. Globally, producers all around the world including South American countries, Middle Eastern countries, and African countries would have new job opportunities involving the production of cannabis sativa. Marijuana can help aid in the reduction of global unemployment and jumpstart our economy. Marijuana has been clinically proven to treat and sometimes cure many diseases that unfortunately plague the human body.

It can act as an effective painkiller and it can replace harmful generic opiate-based painkillers such as oxycodone and hydrocodone that are known for

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being extremely addictive and highly abused drugs that can severely harm the body if taken more than prescribed. Marijuana is just the safer alternative. Also, marijuana can successfully treat anxiety disorders and depression because the main chemical in Marijuana, THC (tetrahydrocannabinoid) acts as an anti-anxiety and an anti-depressant. In many cases Marijuana can treat insomnia.

In conclusion Marijuana has numerous medical benefits and I believe it is a shame that its medicinal powers cannot be taken advantage of just because the government believes it should be illegal. Medicinal Marijuana offers hope to many people who suffer from disease. Another reason marijuana should be decriminalized, is to ultimately create a safer environment for the general public. Because of the high demand for marijuana the black market has taken upon itself to mass-produce and distribute it to the world.

Along with the manufacturing and distribution of drugs come numerous other illegal activities to support it. Guns are given to those who are involved with drug trafficking. From the growers all the way to the local dealers people are carrying guns. Also, other more dangerous drugs are sold to fund the production and distribution of marijuana. Prostitution is also used as a way of funding the production of cannabis. Gang violence is also prevalent with the distribution of marijuana because rival gangs often compete for territory on which they sell their product.

Legalizing marijuana would lessen if not eliminate essential components of the black market. It is a valid and reasonable point to make by those who oppose the legalization of marijuana that marijuana is a dangerous substance. Unfortunately the use of marijuana does have some negative side

effects. Although they are minimal they are still present. Despite its many wonderful benefits marijuana is still a drug and still alters the way the mind and body function.

However, the fact of the matter is that we live in an imperfect world and in an imperfect world certain sacrifices must be made for stability to be maintained within a society. The negatives of Marijuana cannot compete with benefits that would come about with its legalization. Gaining a stable economy, advancements in medicine and safe streets for the public are just a few of the many reasons that are worth the few minor negative affects it may have on those who will use it.