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The purpose of this research will be compare and contrast the various laws that regulate the usage of marijuana for medical purposes in three American states namely Alaska, California and New Mexico

## Background

Several researchers contend that marijuana is perhaps one of the most commonly abused drugs. Reportedly, more than 60 million Americans use the drug occasionally or regularly. Even though this is as drug whose parts have been valued at one time or another, the marijuana legalization debate still graces the list of the some of the most heated debated of all time. Marijuana is banned in most countries but recent developments, particularly in light of the usage of the drug for medicinal purposes, have seen the drug being legalized in most countries, and more conspicuously, some states in America, though with stringent laws governing its usage.

## Method

Basically, the research will be based on secondary sources with a few primary sources that might be available on the topic. The research will involve sourcing for information on the medicinal laws governing the usage of marijuana in the three states and reviewing the information for similarity and differences. Additionally, the research will try to explore that various circumstances that led to the legalization of marijuana for medical purposes in these states. To make the research more panoptic and interesting, there will be need to include information about various court cases (if any) revolving around the usage of cannabis (natural or artificial) and the role that court rulings in such court cases played in the legalization of marijuana in the three states.

## Annotated Bibliography

United States., & United States. (2002). Marijuana: Early Experiences With Four States' Laws That Allow Use For Medical Purposes. Collingdale, Pa: DIANE Publ., Co.
With regards to the proposed topic, this resource will help in giving an account of how state medical marijuana programs are operating in Alaska. Inherently, the book canvasses the implementation of medicine marijuana laws in Alaska and other two states.
Boire, R. G., & Feeney, K. (2006). Medical marijuana law. Oakland: Ronin Pub.
This book will be useful during the compilation of information on the factors that led to the legalization of marijuana for medicinal in most U. S. states. The book is broad in scope and discusses why marijuana has not been openly regarded as medicinal drug.
Shohov, T. (2003). Medical use of marijuana: Policy, regulatory, and legal issues. New York: Nova Science Publishers.
Besides emphasizing on the conditions that one has to meet before being allowed to use marijuana for medicinal purpose, this book with be overly utile in the proposed papers as it gives a candid over view of how the number of peopled using marijuana for medicinal purpose has constantly been on the rise.
Holland, J. (2010). The pot book: A complete guide to cannabis : its role in medicine, politics, science, and culture. Rochester, VT: Park Street Press.
This book acknowledges that the Lynn and Erin Compassionate Use Act is perchance the major medicinal marijuana law in New Mexico. The book gives an overview of this laws inclusive of its scope, when it was enacted together with the amendments that the law has undergone ever since it was passed into being a law.
California State Laws. (n. d.). NORML. org - Working to Reform Marijuana Laws. Retrieved January 31, 2013, from http://norml. org/laws/ca
This article on a website managed by an organization called Norml talks about the medicine marijuana laws in California, one of the famously known states that have decriminalized marijuana usage.
Potter, B. A. (2010). The patriots handbook. Berkeley, Calif: Ronin Pub.
While acknowledging that Carlifonia was the first state to legalize marijuana for medicinal use, this book gives a detailed account of the Compassionate Use Act of 1996. The book, be reviewing this act will particularly utilitarian in comparing and contracting the medicine marijuana law in California and the other two states.
Shohov, T. (2003). Medical use of marijuana: Policy, regulatory, and legal issues. New York: Nova Science Publishers.

## This book introduces some more medicinal marijuana laws that can be compared and contrasted in the main research.

Goldstein, M. C., & Goldstein, M. A. (2001). Controversies in the practice of medicine. Westport, Conn: Greenwood Press.
Interestingly, this book gives a detailed account of the circumstances that led to the enactment of the first medicine marijuana law in New Mexico hence will equally be useful in completing the research project.

## References

Boire, R. G., & Feeney, K. (2006). Medical marijuana law. Oakland: Ronin Pub.
California State Laws. (n. d.). NORML. org - Working to Reform Marijuana Laws. Retrieved January 31, 2013, from http://norml. org/laws/ca
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