



MARIJUANA

BATTLE FOR THE BRAIN

MARIJUANA HAS CHANGED dramatically from the old days when pot was ½ to 2% THC (psychoactive ingredient), considered a soft drug, and primarily just made one giggle and lazy. The normal potency today in smoked form runs in the 20 to 30% range. Extracts like Butane Hash Oil (BHO) run to nearly 100%. The adverse impacts on those who consume cannabis have risen proportionately. The greatest impact is **BRAIN DAMAGE**.

BRAIN DAMAGE RUINS LIVES:

LOSS OF IQ BY UP TO 8 POINTS. Fat soluble marijuana causes permanent structural and chemical changes causing impaired memory, motivation, maturation and cognition. Quitting doesn't reverse the damage. America has already declined to 24th academically, last among industrialized nations, with a 1/3rd dropout rate. Parents: be aware the adolescent brain is different from a mature brain.

"The brain is the repository of our humanity, wisdom, our ability to love, learn, create, compute, compose, contemplate, think, to remember, to feel empathy for others, to engage in justice and compassion. These natural rewards are the essence of human existence. We must unite to protect and defend the minds of our most vulnerable — the children. Our future depends on it."

– Dr. Bertha Madras, Harvard Medical School

MENTAL AND PHYSICAL ILLNESS. Pot is a causal factor in life-long diseases of schizophrenia, paranoia and bi-polar. 30% of people are considered vulnerable; 33% of prisoners are mentally ill; and jails nationwide are full of mentally ill people who can't work, waiting for non-existent beds in mental institutions. Because marijuana stays in the body longer than any other drug, it causes strokes, heart attacks, testicular cancer, chronic bronchitis and many other problems.

PSYCHOTIC EPISODES – Roughly 500,000 people are admitted to Emergency Rooms annually due to psychotic breaks. 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 – 9% of adults and 17% of adolescents will become addicted, a chronic life-long condition that enslaves people, escalates crime, diminishes academic achievement and productivity, and ruins entire families. Many will graduate to other drugs, like heroin, that kill 122 Americans daily, just by overdose.

BIRTH DEFECTS – Today's highly potent pot, and particularly synthetic marijuana, can kill a baby in the womb two weeks after conception, before the mother knows she is pregnant. (Dr. Psychoyos, U of Texas). Pregnant or breast feeding mothers should not use marijuana. Whatever they ingest goes directly to the baby's body and brains, known to cause behavioral problems, physical changes and genetic pre-disposition to addiction in the offspring.

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



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 over 100% of 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 or economic impact they impose on 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
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"... If a child reaches age 21 prior to smoking, abusing alcohol or using drugs, they virtually never will..." (Califano, CASA)