What We Know About Recreational Marijuana in Colorado
More Use of Cannabis Associated with Worse Social Outcomes at Age 25 (New Zealand Study)

Marijuana and Addiction

“Contrary to common belief, marijuana is addictive. Estimates from research suggest that about 9 percent of users become addicted to marijuana; this number increases among those who start young (to about 17 percent, or 1 in 6) and among people who use marijuana daily (to 25-50 percent).” - NIDA

The DSM 5 clearly spells out the OBJECTIVE criteria for addiction and for the first time “Cannabis Withdraw” is listed as a diagnosis.
Potency - last 5 years in CO

Increases in THC Content Over Time

THC in CO

Colorado Impacts

• Parkview Hospital Emergency Room in Colorado wrote recently that since recreational marijuana has been legal in that state, the hospital has seen a 51% increase in children 18 and under that test positive for marijuana.

• Nearly half of all newborns born in that hospital also tested positive for pre-natal marijuana exposure.
Colorado Impacts

- Fatal Traffic Collisions Involving THC-Impaired Drivers – UP 44%.
  - 77% of all DUID Involve Marijuana

- Hospitalizations for Marijuana Exposures, Diagnosis and Billing Codes Increased 300% after Legalization (803 per 100,000 to 2413 per 100,000).

- Marijuana usage in the past 30 days by young adults 18-25 years old increased 10%.
Colorado Impacts

- Emergency Room Visits Related to Marijuana increased from 739 per 100,000 (2010-2013) to 956 per 100,000 (2014 – June 2015)

- Poison Control Center Calls Indicating Marijuana: In 2015: 227 calls; while in 2006: 44 calls.

- Colorado has 965 Medical and Retail Marijuana Stores. McDonalds and Starbucks Combined - just over 400.
Colorado Impacts

- What do School Resource Officers Say?
  - 90% see an increase in marijuana related incidents

- What do School Counselors Say?
  - 69% see an increase in marijuana related incidents

- Drug Related Suspensions/Expulsions since Commercialization:
  - 6.4% of all suspensions vs 3.1% prior
  - 41.9% of all expulsions vs 25% prior (NSDUH 2014)
Colorado Impacts

- **Marijuana use among HS Junior and Seniors Increased** 19 and 14 percent respectively from 2013 to 2015
- One out of Three are marijuana users. A 20 percent increase from 2013-2015
- Increase of use in Boulder/Broomfiled Region (High Density of Marijuana Stores) was up more than 50%

- **Youth Use (12-17)**
  - Colorado Average - 12.56 % vs National Average – 7.22%
  - Colorado Leads the Nation for Current Use Among Youth (74% Higher than National Average)
  - Colorado Use Increased 20 % 2013/2014 vs 2011/2012 (National Average declined 5%)

- **Access to Marijuana**
  - 18% “Black Market”
  - 82% Friends, Family or purchase at Marijuana Store (HKCS 2015 & NSDUH 2015)
Colorado Impacts

- **College Age Adult Use (18-25)**
  - Colorado Average - 31.24 % vs National Average – 19.32%
  - Colorado Leads the Nation for Current Use Among College Age Adults (62% Higher than National Average)
  - Colorado Use Increased 17 % 2013/2014 vs 2011/2012 (National Average Increased Only 2%)

(HKCS 2015 & NSDUH 2015)
How many servings?

- 10 mg is a legal dose
- Packaging was not regulated
In a report recently published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, Andrew Monte, MD; Richard Zane, MD; and Kennon Heard, MD, pointed to edible marijuana as the culprit behind the most troubling cases arriving at the UCH and Children’s Hospital Colorado emergency departments, including severe burns and cycling vomiting syndrome.
“But it’s just a plant...”
(80-90% THC) Concentrates
LoHi Cannabis Club
$10.99 1/8th
7th & Central
HOLIDAY WHOLESALE PRICING!

Natura’s Kiss

4332 S. Broadway
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303.484.8321
WWW.NKMMA.COM

35 LITE
80 Grams for $99

$25 GRAMS

Over 18 Selections

$20 Grams

Over 20 Selections

2oz Limit - Expires 12/23/15

SUPER BOMB

TOP SHELF

FLOWERS!

SUPER DEAL!!

10 Joints $20

or $3 Each

350mg Mt. MA

or 200mg WAX

GUMMIES $1

*Limit 3 Packs

Expires 12/23/15
The initiative to commercialize marijuana in California is opposed by a coalition of Democrats and Republicans, healthcare, labor & every major law enforcement organization.

The proponents have titled their initiative campaign “Let’s Get it Right,” which announces that the debate is not about whether to legalize recreational marijuana, but how.

In other words, they are asking voters not just to endorse an idea, but a specific business model that creates winners and losers. The money behind Prop 64 has nothing to do with good public policy, and everything to do with making some obscenely rich people even richer.
Proposition 64

- An analysis of the initiative by San Diego District Attorney’s Office points out, “The initiative allows persons convicted of dealing large amounts of controlled substances such as heroin, methamphetamine or cocaine, to become ‘legal marijuana dealers.’”

- Current law prohibits convicted meth and heroin felons from being involved in medical marijuana. But this new initiative will specifically allow for dealers convicted of dealing up to 20,000 heroin doses or up to 10,000 meth doses, to receive marijuana licenses.

- Under the initiative a convicted felony drug dealer that used kids to courier drugs to an adult buyer will be eligible to apply for a California marijuana license.

- Proponents were repeatedly warned that they were creating these loopholes and they did it anyway. If they knew they were creating a loophole to give heroin and meth dealers a legal opportunity to get back in the game, you have to ask why? Who insisted that these loopholes be included, since they were clearly not drafting errors?
Proposition 64

- A recent University of California, San Francisco report titled *A Public Health Analysis of Two Proposed Marijuana Legalization Initiatives for the 2016 California Ballot: Creating the New Tobacco Industry* says the initiative contains “minimal protections for public health.”
Proposition 64

- Internal polling conducted by the opposition campaign indicates that California voter opinions on legalization of marijuana have not significantly changed since Proposition 19 was defeated in 2010 by 7 points, which also began the campaign with a lead.

- Ohio voters overwhelmingly defeated this past November a similar measure as well.

- A recent public survey printed in the *San Jose Mercury News* on May 5th notes that Bay Area voters are split 50/50 on the issue. The bottom line is that this is far from a foregone conclusion, as much as the proponents would like to fool everyone into thinking.
Want to learn more....

- www.learnaboutsam.org
- www.theygotitwrongagain.org

Questions?