

Be guided by science, not dollars. Promote a balanced public health approach, reducing criminal penalties, with responsible policies protecting our Health, our Children, our Families, our Communities, Social Justice, Education, our Environment and our Business community. Legalization is not the answer.

GRAPHICS RESEARCH

- Increase in number of student suspensions from school.^{1,2}
- Chronic exposure to marijuana in adolescents results in abnormal brain structure development.³
- Decreased academic performance, and increase in likelihood of dropping out of school.^{4,5}
- Drug related referrals for high school students testing positive for marijuana has increased.¹
- Early drug use results in a greater likelihood of use of other drugs, alcohol dependence and other drug abuse or dependence especially for those using marijuana by age 17.^{6,4}
- Regular heavy marijuana use by teens can lead to an IQ drop of up to 8 points.
- Early drug use results in a greater likelihood of use of other drugs, alcohol dependence and other drug abuse or dependence especially for those using marijuana by age 17.^{6,4}
- 78% of the 2.4 million people who began using marijuana in the last year were age 12-20.⁸
- Every day 3,287 teens use marijuana for the first time.⁸

INSIDE EDGE ON MARIJUANA

MARIJUANA & EDUCATION

¹ Conspire! Colorado Springs Drug Testing Summary; Colorado Department of Education, Drug Related Suspensions and Expulsions, <<http://www.drthurstone.com>>.

² Colorado Department of Education, 10 Year Trend Data: State Suspension and Expulsion Incident Rates and Reasons.

³ McCormick, MA, Shekhar, A. (2014) Review of Marijuana Use in the Adolescent Population & Implications of its Legalization in the United States, Journal of Drug Metabolism & Toxicology 5:165; www.omicsonline.org/open-access/marijuana-use-in-adolescent-population-and-implications-of-its-legalization-in-united-states-2157-7609-5-165.php?aid=25599

⁴ Giedd, J.N., 2004; Anthony, J.C., Warner, L.A., & Kessler, R.C. (1994). Comparative Epidemiology of dependence on tobacco, alcohol, controlled substances and inhalants: Basic findings from the National Comorbidity Survey. *Experiential and Clinical Psychopharmacology*, 2; Kenneth Finn, M.D., "The Hidden Costs of Marijuana Use in Colorado: One Emergency Department's Experience," *The Journal of Global Drug Policy and Practice*, <http://www.globaldrugpolicy.org/Issues/Val%2010%20Issue%202/Articles/The%20Hidden%20Costs%20of%20Marijuana%20Use%20in%20Colorado_Final.pdf>, accessed May 17, 2016; Heidi Heilman, New Boston Post, March 4, 2016, "Legalizing marijuana will increase our opiate epidemic," <<http://newbostonpost.com/2016/03/03/legalizing-marijuana-will-increase-our-opiate-epidemic/>>, accessed March 4, 2016.

⁵ Rand Corporation Drug Policy Research Center, Options and Issues Regarding Marijuana Legalization (2015)

⁶ Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment; Colorado Hospital Association; Bertha Madras, PhD, professor of psychobiology, Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School, "Marijuana in the Brain,"; Mike Castro, "Playing with Fire," *Sacramento Bee*, August 17, 1994; National Institute of Drug Abuse, "Marijuana," 2010; SAMHSA, "2009 National Survey of Drug Use and Health," September 2010.

⁷ Meier, M.H., et als., Persistent Cannabis Users Show Neuropsychological Decline from Childhood to Midlife. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (August 2012).

⁸ SAMHSA, National Survey on Drug Use & Health 2014.



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INSIDE EDGE ON MARIJUANA

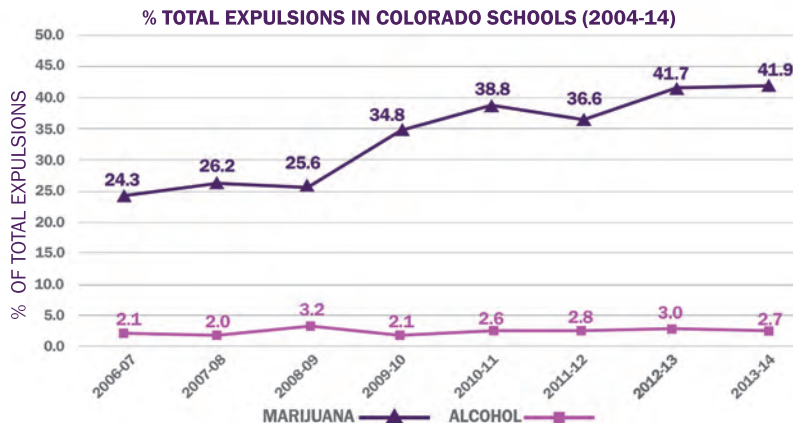
If you care about **EDUCATION**, and your children's development, you should be **CONCERNED** about the legalization of marijuana.

Don't believe the rhetoric, the marketing lines that marijuana is safe, is not addictive and is not harmful. Research proves that Marijuana use, especially early use by children, even infrequent use, increases the likelihood of use of other drugs, alcohol dependence and drug abuse, especially for those using marijuana by age 17.

Marijuana use also has been proven to cause abnormal brain development, psychosis, decreased academic performance, increased drop out and suspension rates. Marijuana and our children are a bad decision.



**INCREASE
IN COLORADO
SCHOOL
EXPULSIONS
FOR
MARIJUANA**



**MARIJUANA
MAY HURT THE
DEVELOPING
TEEN BRAIN**

STUDENTS WHO USE MARIJUANA REGULARLY TEND TO GET LOWER GRADES & ARE MORE LIKELY TO DROP OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL THAN THOSE WHO DON'T USE

**TEENS' HEAVY MARIJUANA
USE IS LINKED TO...**

**LESS LIKELY
TO GRADUATE FROM
HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE**

**LESS LIKELY
TO ENROLL IN COLLEGE**

**D- LOWER
GRADES & EXAM SCORES**

**LOWER
SATISFACTION WITH LIFE**

**\$ LOWER
INCOME**



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**IQ
DROPS**

REGULAR HEAVY MARIJUANA
USE BY TEENS CAN LEAD TO AN
IQ DROP OF UP TO 8 POINTS



IMPACTNJ
JOINING & MOVING PEOPLE TOWARD COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

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