

The efforts of Federal, State and local governments to eradicate Marijuana use has cost American taxpayers countless billions of dollars in misspent legal, incarceration, interdiction and law enforcement costs since prohibition of its use started.

Millions of Americans use marijuana; few abuse it. Arresting these otherwise law-abiding citizens serves no legitimate purpose; extends government into inappropriate areas of our private lives; and causes enormous harm to the lives, careers and families of the more than 500,000 marijuana smokers arrested each year in this country.

Marijuana smokers are no different from their nonsmoking peers, except for their marijuana use. Like most Americans, they are responsible citizens who work hard, raise families, contribute to their communities, and want a safe, crime-free neighborhood in which to live. They are not part of the crime problem and should not be treated like criminals.

Responsible marijuana use causes no harm to society and should be of no interest to state and federal governments.

Today, far more harm is caused by marijuana prohibition than by the use of marijuana itself.

DECRIMINALIZATION

NORML supports the removal of all penalties for the private possession of marijuana by adults, cultivation for personal use, and the casual nonprofit transfers of small amounts. NORML also supports the development of a legally controlled market for marijuana.

HARM REDUCTION

All drugs, including marijuana, can be abused. Our marijuana policies should discourage irresponsible use, including use by adolescents.

The best way to prevent drug abuse is with honest, credible and factual drug education. Only in a climate in which marijuana is viewed from a public health perspective, instead of a criminal justice perspective, can prevention efforts be effective.

REASONABLE RESTRICTIONS

As with alcohol consumption, marijuana smoking should be limited to adults. Driving or operating heavy machinery after smoking marijuana should be prohibited.

Tax and Regulate

Not Incarcerate

Medical Marijuana

Marijuana prohibition applies to every one, including the sick and dying. Of all the negative consequences of prohibition, none is as tragic as the denial of medicinal marijuana to the tens of thousands of seriously ill patients who could benefit from its use.

This includes cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, AIDS patients suffering from “wasting syndrome,” glaucoma patients, and those suffering from chronic pain, rheumatoid arthritis and a variety of spastic conditions such as multiple sclerosis, paraplegia, quadriplegia, and epilepsy.

Marijuana should be immediately made available by prescription to seriously ill patients.



Hemp refers to the non-psychoactive strain of marijuana grown by farmers throughout the world for industrial purposes. Hemp is one of nature's strongest and most versatile agricultural crops and has many commercial uses. Various parts of the plant may be utilized for making paper, textiles, cosmetics, paints, clothing, foodstuffs, insulation, and animal feed. It produces a much higher yield per acre than substitutes such as wood pulp and cotton and requires virtually no pesticides. Farmers in 30 countries—including Canada, France, England, Germany, Japan, and Australia—grow hemp for industrial purposes.

Presently, federal and state laws prohibit American farmers from growing this profitable and environmentally friendly commodity. NORML lobbies state and federal legislators to recognize hemp as a legitimate economic crop.

Houston – Built on Hemp



Cultural Baggage/Century of Lies
 Sunday's at 6:30pm
 KPFT 90.1fm
<http://DrugTruth.net>

Drugs, Crime and Politics

Every other Wednesday at 8:30pm
 Houston Mediasource
 Channel 17 in most parts of Houston
<http://hmstv.org>
<http://dpft.org/dcp/>

Have you contacted your elected representatives?

If you go to our home page you can enter your zip code in the upper right corner it will look up your representatives and you can contact them by email, phone or address so you can pay them a visit in person.

If you have a bar code/scanner reader on your phone you can scan the code below to get to our web site.



We are the Houston Chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.

NORML.org

We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Please see our web site for the more details.

HoustonNORML.org

We do not advocate the breaking of any laws, only the reform of unjust marijuana related laws.

We do lobby for the reform of marijuana laws and are listed as a 501 c4 organization so any contributions are not tax deductible.

Houston NORML originated in 1989 with founders Rick Potthoff and Richard Lee. We have been active in many educational events to inform the public about the benefits of marijuana.

We can provide speakers or an information table to your next event to help educate your group about the benefits of marijuana and need to change our laws concerning marijuana.