



www.sam-ny.org

#### Kevin Sabet, PhD

## Marijuana Issues: Where Do We Go From Here?

# SAM promotes an evidence-based approach to marijuana policy that prioritizes public health

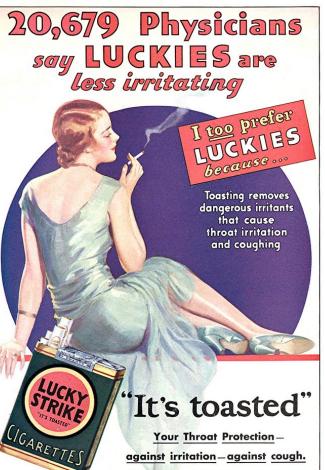
 SAM takes an evidence-based, scientific approach to marijuana policy that rejects the false dichotomy that we must either lock up marijuana users OR legalize pot



- We are non-partisan, and work with Democrats, Republicans, and independents
- Groups we have worked with include:
  - American Society of Addiction Medicine
  - American Academy of Pediatrics
  - American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
  - Over 30 state affiliates

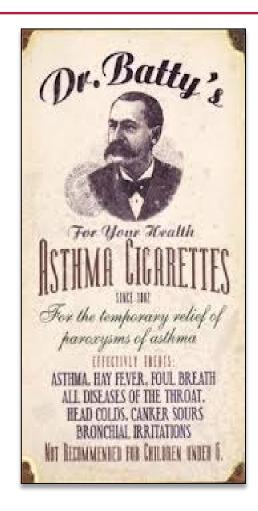
# We are living in 1918...







#### Repeating History?







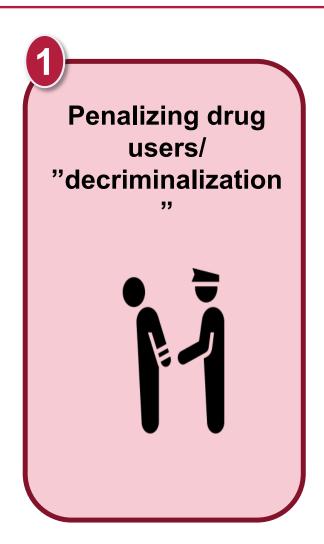


# The false dichotomy: "Legalization <u>OR</u> incarceration?"

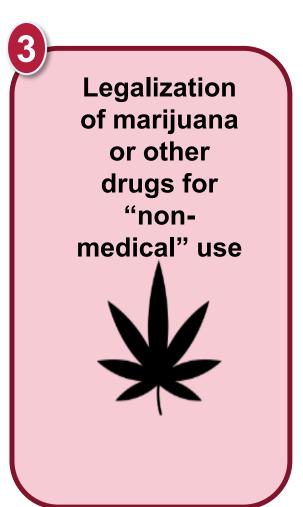




### Three separate issues that often get conflated



**Medicinal use of** compounds derived from marijuana/other drugs



# Not This...



## ...But This





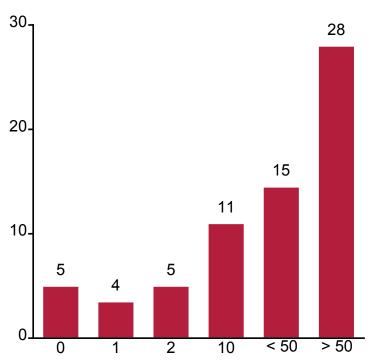




#### Pot use is strongly correlated with psychosis

### MORE MARIJUANA USE CORRELATES WITH HIGHER RATES OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

### Cases of schizophrenia per 1,000 people

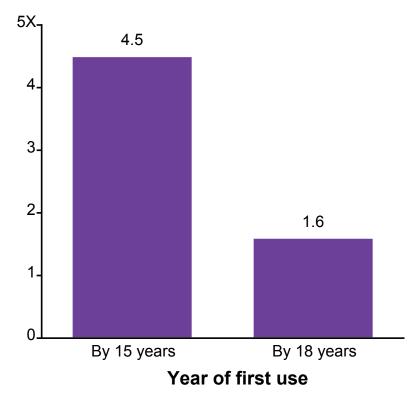


Number of times cannabis used (lifetime)

Study of Swedish Conscripts (n=45570)

## EARLIER AGE OF USE CORRELATES WITH INCREASED SCHIZOPHRENIA RISK

Risk multiple for schizophrenialike psychosis at age 26



Longitudinal prospective Dunedin study (n=1037)



# Causal Relationship between marijuana and mental illness

Case Reports in Medicine Volume 2009, Article ID 321456, 2 pages http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2009/321456

#### **Case Report**

#### Suicidal Ideation Induced by Episodic Cannabis Use

Michele Raja<sup>1,2</sup> and Antonella Azzoni<sup>2</sup>

#### 

**□** Full-Text HTML

e Full-Text ePUB

⟨→ Full-Text XML

□ Linked References

#### 3. Discussion

In patient's life, suicidal ideation presented in two different occasions, only immediately after acute cannabis intoxication. This strongly suggests the causal relationship between intoxication and suicidal ideation.

There is a convincing relationship between suicidal behavior and cannabis use, the latter awakening depressive experiences [3]. Rates of cannabis abuse are elevated among those being treated for depression [4, 5] and among those making a suicidal attempt [6]. In a sample of Italian students, the use of cannabis was associated with suicide risk [7]. In a population of French adolescents, cannabis use appeared to be an independent predictor of suicidal ideation after controlling the depressive symptoms [8]. In a cohort study of young Norwegians, cannabis by itself seemed not to lead to depression but was associated with later suicidal thought and attempts [9].



September 12, 2017

# Cannabis Use May Be Causally Related to Depression and Suicidal Ideation

Peter Roy-Byrne, MD reviewing Agrawal A et al. Lancet Psychiatry 2017 Sep

In an analysis of twins discordant for frequent cannabis use, common predisposing factors did not fully explain these associations.

Epidemiologic studies have found associations between cannabis use and both depression and suicidality (thoughts or behaviors) but have not determined whether the associations are causal or attributable to confounding factors or common genetic vulnerabilities. To control for common genetic and family environmental factors, researchers examined the associations in 13,986 Australian twins (6181 monozygotic and 7805 dizygotic twins) drawn from three registry studies between 1992 and 2009. Within twin pairs discordant for cannabis use, persistence of the association in the cannabis-using twin would suggest that use is causally related to depression and suicidality.

In the entire sample, early cannabis use and frequent use were associated with major depression and suicidal ideation and attempt. Analyses of twin pairs who were discordant for early versus later or no use did not yield consistent findings. However, within monozygotic twin pairs discordant for frequent versus limited or no use, frequent use was associated with depression (odds ratios: compared with no or limited use, 1.68; compared with lighter use, 1.98) and suicidal ideation (ORs, 2.35 and 2.47, respectively).

#### COMMENT

This study suggests a causal relationship between frequent cannabis use and both major depression and suicidal ideation. This relationship may be mediated both via effects of the cannabinoid system on mood and via environmental factors related to cannabis use itself (e.g., increased trauma exposure, diminished life opportunities, other associated drug use). The analysis is limited by the possibility that not all confounders were accounted for and by arbitrary thresholds used to define early use and frequency of use. The results provide a counterpoint of caution against the increasing promotion of cannabis use as a therapeutic tool for various medical conditions.



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from research organizations

# Causal links between cannabis, schizophrenia: New evidence

Date: December 19, 2016

Source: University of Bristol

Summary: People who have a greater risk of developing schizophrenia are more likely to try

cannabis, according to new research, which also found a causal link between trying the

drug and an increased risk of the condition.



#### Corona Owner's Marijuana Investment Reaps \$700 Million





Molson Coors' new venture is targeting the Canadian cannabis market.





-Creator of Blue Moon

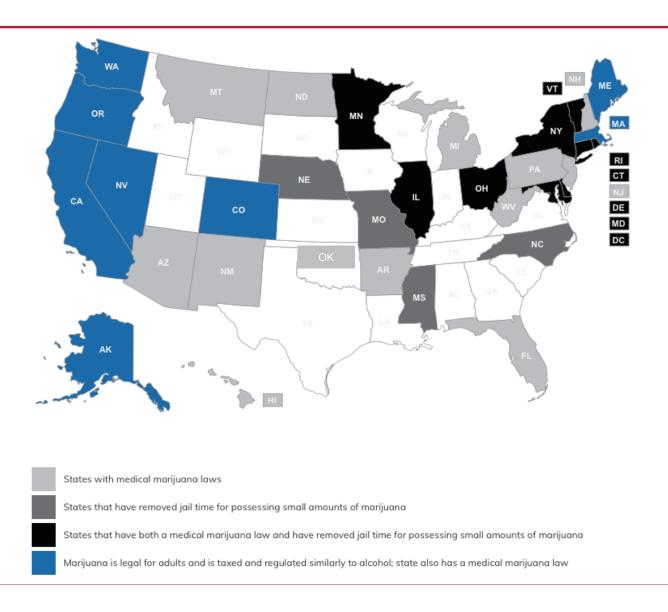
#### **Constellation Brands: \$4B into Canopy**



#### **Outline**

- 1 The Current Landscape
- 2 Marijuana and Opioids
- 3 Current Regulatory Failures
- 4 A Way Forward
- 5 Conclusions

#### Is Legalization Inevitable?





### Does the Public Support Marijuana Legalization?





### How You Ask the Question Is Key

- Most polls pose a binary question: legalization or criminalization
- The public equates decrim and legalization
- But there is a difference
- When you introduce additional options, the polling changes significantly

#### Example: Marijuana Replacement Guidance

National Poll, 1000 Registered Voters, Mason Dixon, Jan 10-13, 2018

Question: Would you support or oppose enforcement of federal marijuana laws if it did not involve penalties for possession and use of small amounts of marijuana?

Support: 50% Oppose: 42% Undecided: 8%



#### NEW FDU POLL SHOWS MAJORITY OF NEW JERSEYANS OPPOSE LEGALIZING RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA

"Anyone who expected legalization to happen quickly and easily might reconsider given these findings," <u>said Krista Jenkins to the Star-Ledger</u>, professor of political science and director of the FDU Poll.



# Half of Americans support alternatives to full marijuana legalization: poll

BY JOSH DELK - 01/17/18 04:20 PM EST



# Example: Support for Legalization Dips Below 50% When Given Other Choices

#### National Poll, 1000 Registered Voters, Mason Dixon, Jan 10-13, 2018

Question: Currently, possessing and using marijuana is against federal law. Which one of the following best describes your preference on national marijuana policy?

For full legalization: 49%

Prefer some other option: 50%

Option	Percentage
Keep the current policy:	16%
Keep the current policy, but legalize the use of marijuana for physician supervised medical use:	29%
Decriminalize marijuana use by removing the possibility of jail time for possession and also allowing for medical marijuana, but keep the sale of marijuana illegal:	5%
Legalize the commercial production, use and sale of marijuana for recreational use, as they have done recently in several states:	49%

#### Example: Support for Legalization Drops 20 Points

NY state poll, 600 voted in 2016 election, Emerson College (Nov 30-Dec 2, 2017)

Question: Do you think the use of marijuana should be made legal for adults aged 21 and older?

**Yes: 60%** No: 29% Unsure: 11%

Question: Knowing that personal marijuana possession is already decriminalized and medicalized in New York, which one of the following marijuana policies do you prefer?

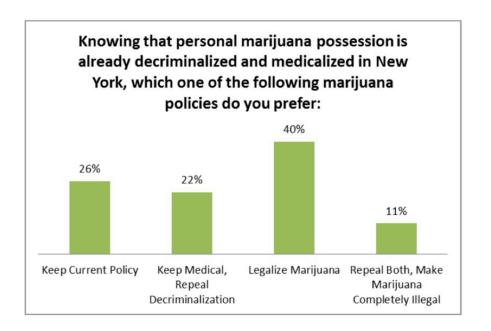
Keep current policy: 26%

Keep medical, repeal decriminalization: 22%

Legalize marijuana: 40%

Repeal both, make marijuana completely illegal: 11%





#### **NEW ILLINOIS MASON-DIXON POLL SHOWS**

#### LARGE MAJORITY OPPOSES LEGALIZING RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA

Poll finds only 23% support the legalization of recreational marijuana; 69% want other options such as maintaining current decriminalization law



#### **Midterms**

- Democratic control of the House of Representatives would put more pressure on banking and antienforcement amendments
- Pelosi's son is on the board of a marijuana company
- Senate can block full descheduling, but there will be pressure for a compromise



#### **Federal Action**

- We have our own proposal, shopping for sponsors
- Successfully blocked banking/other amendments
- Rohrabacher still in place, but only broadly applies in 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit
- President Trump still doesn't like recreational weed



#### What's Happening in States

- No state has successfully commercialized recreational marijuana in 2017 or 2018
- Lawmakers are much more open to hearing the lessons of legalized states



#### **Priority States**

















**SAM** Rhode Island



#### **SAM Resources**

- Cost Reports
- Science Advisory Board
- Communications Strategy
- Polling

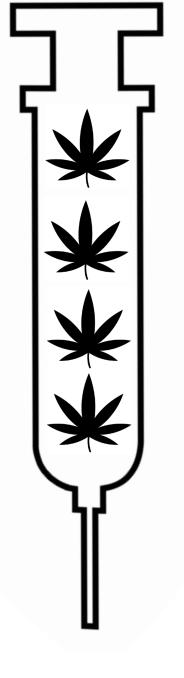


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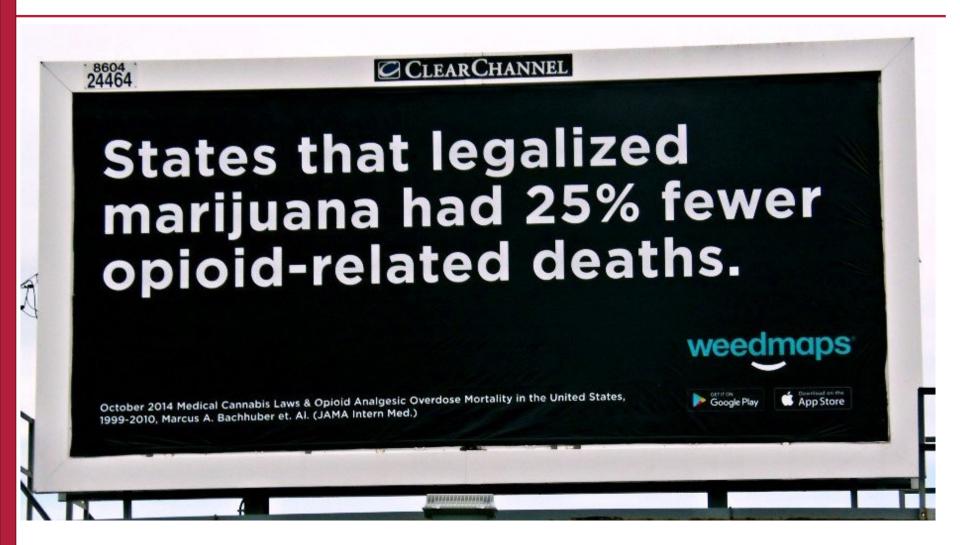
# Why talk POT



During an opiate epidemic ?



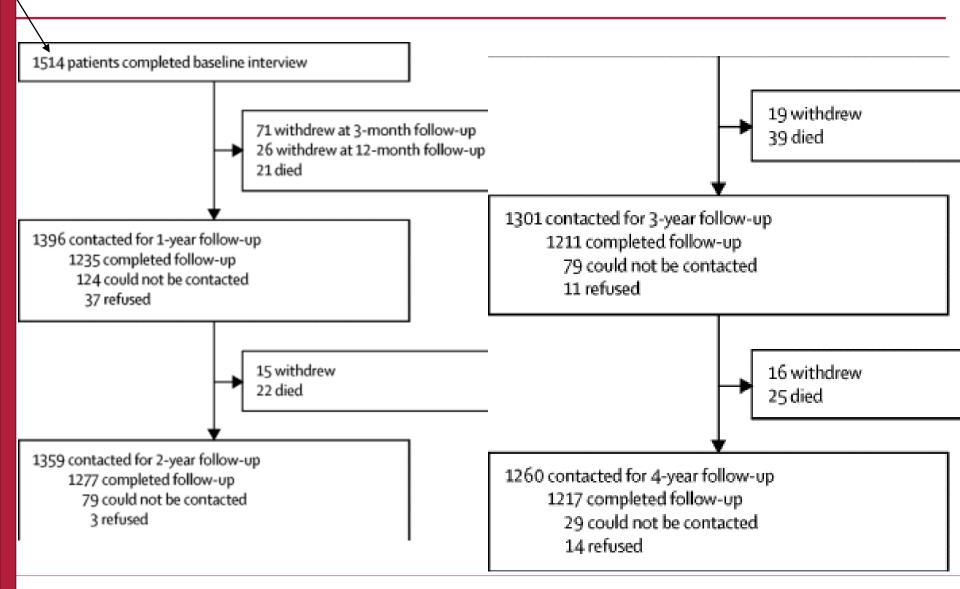
#### The Marijuana Industry Sees a Business Opportunity







### Lancet Study



#### Lancet Conclusions

- No evidence that cannabis use improved patient outcomes;
- Those who used cannabis had greater pain and lower self-efficacy in managing pain
- No evidence that cannabis use reduced pain interference or exerted an opioidsparing effect



#### Medical Marijuana Users are More Likely to Use Prescription Drugs Medically and Nonmedically

Caputi, Theodore L., BS; Humphreys, Keith, PhD

Journal of Addiction Medicine: July/August 2018 - Volume 12 - Issue 4 - p 295–299

doi: 10.1097/ADM.0000000000000405

Original Research



**Abstract** 

**Author Information** 

**Objectives:** Previous studies have found a negative pop availability in US states, and trends in medical and nonm interpreted as evidence that use of medical marijuana re This study evaluates whether medical marijuana use is a prescription drug use.

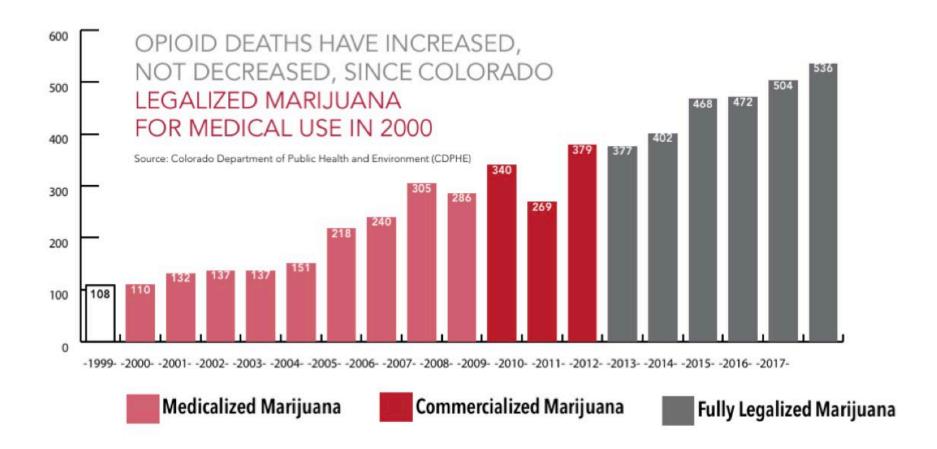
**Methods:** Simulations based upon logistic regression ar Use and Health were used to compute associations betw prescription drug use. Adjusted risk ratios (RRs) were co status, family income, and living in a state with legalized

**Results:** Medical marijuana users were significantly mor to report medical use of prescription drugs in the past 12 also significantly more likely to report nonmedical use in 95% CI 1.67–2.62), with elevated risks for pain relievers CI 1.09–3.02), and tranquilizers (RR 2.18, 95% CI 1.45–

**Conclusions:** Our findings disconfirm the hypothesis the marijuana use and prescription drug harms occurs becauprescription drugs, either medically or nonmedically. Medefforts to combat nonmedical prescription drug use.

"Our findings disconfirm the hypothesis that a populationlevel negative correlation between medical marijuana use and prescription drug harms occurs because medical marijuana users are less likely to use prescription drugs, either medically or nonmedically. Medical marijuana users should be a target population in efforts to combat nonmedical prescription drug use."







### **National Academy of Sciences report**

#### **EXPOSURE**

Smoking cannabis during pregnancy is linked to lower birth weight in the offspring.

The relationship between smoking cannabis during pregnancy and other pregnancy and childhood outcomes is unclear.

#### **PROBLEM CANNABIS USE**

Greater frequency of cannabis use increases the likelihood of developing problem cannabis use.

Initiating cannabis use at a younger age increases the likelihood of developing problem cannabis use.

### CANNABIS USE AND ABUSE OF OTHER SUBSTANCES

Cannabis use is likely to increase the risk for developing substance dependence (other than cannabis use disorder).

TO READ THE FULL REPORT AND VIEW RELATED RESOURCES, PLEASE VISIT

NATIONALACADEMIES.ORG/ CANNABISHEALTHEFFECTS A limited number of studies suggest that there are impairments in cognitive domains of learning, memory, and attention in individuals who have stopped smoking cannabis.

Cannabis use during adolescence is related to impairments in subsequent academic achievement and education, employment and income, and social relationships and social roles.

#### **MENTAL HEALTH**

Cannabis use is likely to increase the risk of developing schizophrenia and other psychoses; the higher the use the greater the risk.

In individuals with schizophrenia and other psychoses, a history of cannabis use may be linked to better performance on learning and memory tasks.

Cannabis use does not appear to increase the likelihood of developing depression, anxiety, and posttraumatic stress disorder.

For individuals diagnosed with bipolar disorders, near daily cannabis use may be linked to greater symptoms of bipolar disorder than non-users.

Heavy cannabis users are more likely to report thoughts of suicide than non-users.

Regular cannabis use is likely to increase the risk for developing social anxiety disorder.

# And This...







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# Former Big Pharma OxyContin CEO Now Selling Medical Cannabis



Published 2 years ago on November 29, 2016

By Maureen Meehan



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# **Current Regulatory Failures**

- No Potency Caps
- Black Market (and Cartels)
- Increased Access for Minors

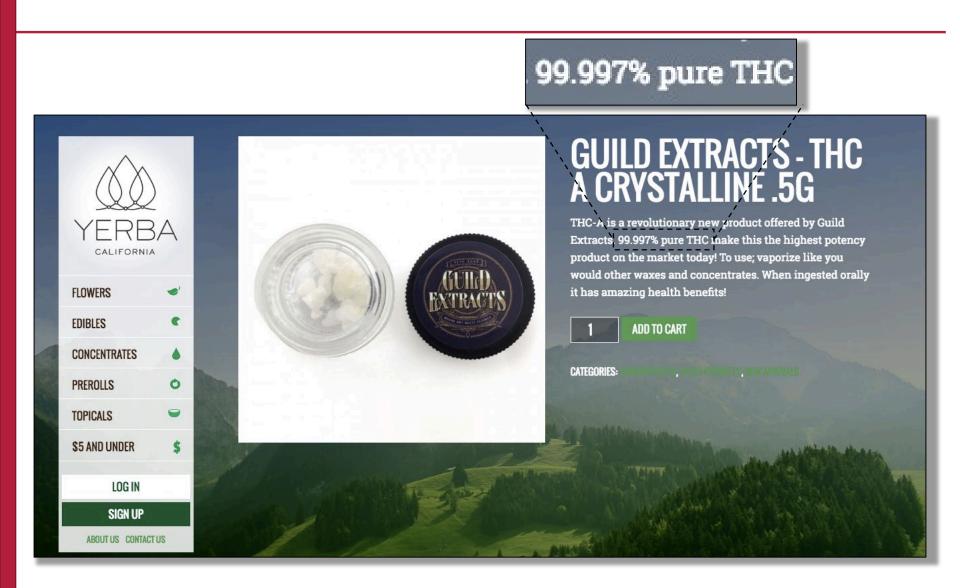
Pesticides and Contaminants

Recommended to Pregnant Women

# Marijuana is not "just a plant" anymore – derivatives contain up to 99% THC

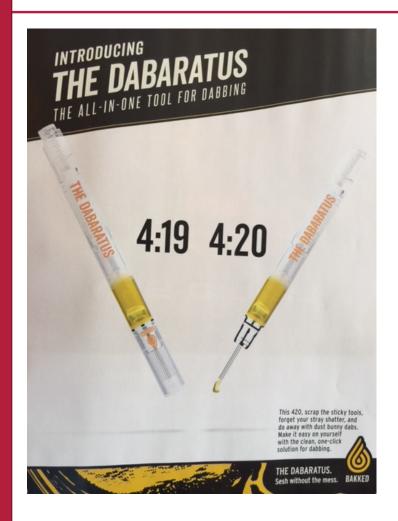


# 99% THC is already on sale in our country





# **Product Innovation in Delivery Systems**

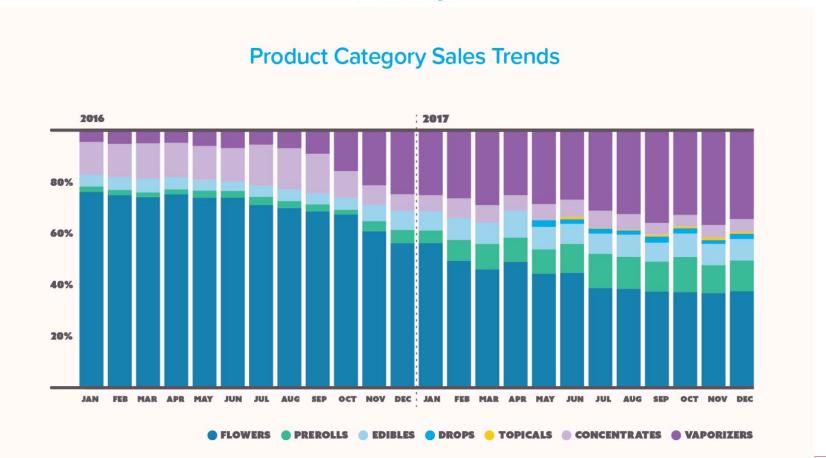






# New Initiation: Sophisticated Marketing Data

#### Ready-To-Use Products Surpassed Flower For The First Time In **History**



# Gen Z highest users of concentrates



#### CONCENTRATES

Concentrates are highly potent extracts made from cannabis flower that come in many varieties. If flower is like wine, then concentrates would be the fine scotch-potent, with intense flavor and aroma. The highly refined nature of concentrates makes them a favorite among people who are looking for purity, maximum taste, and instant effect.

#### What percentage of customers ordered them in 2017?



#### What about edibles/drinkables?

- Delay in effect encourages additional consumption (the first time)
- Additional consumption may result in an expensive visit to the ER
- THC metabolizes into 11-hydroxy THC in the stomach
- CBD metabolizes into THC in the stomach
- Much more psychoactive, much more dangerous mental health impacts

#### The Black Market Has Gotten Worse





# "Legal" growers, illegal activity

"From my side, I have yet to see one (grow) that's legit. The whole mantra for pro-marijuana legislation was that it would be legal, regulated and taxed. What you're seeing here is none of that." – Sheriff's Deputy Ray Gerhart, El Paso County, CO

Colorado's black market thrives under a legal marijuana canopy, law enforcement tries to keep up. *Colorado Springs Gazette*, 1 May 2017.

# "Seed-to-Sale" Tracking Has Many Loopholes



# Missing marijuana: Weed disappearing from licensed dispensaries, not all cheaters get caught

POSTED 8:51 PM, MAY 1, 2017, BY CHRIS HALSNE, UPDATED AT 09:52PM, MAY 1, 2017

"One pattern of noncompliance stood out: The much-touted "seed-to-sale" tracking of every marijuana plant has some flaws...

"But plenty of pot still ends up missing. How the METRC system works, by law, is supposed to be a bit of a mystery...

"Within that gray area is where cheaters can list perfectly good marijuana product as too damaged to sell, then sell it anyway."

#### Sales to Minors





#### **News Release**

Oregon Liquor Control Commission 9079 SE McLoughlin Blvd., Portland, OR 97222-7355 1-800-452-6522

For more information: Mark Pettinger, Marijuana Program Spokesperson, (503) 872-5115 www.marijuana.oregon.gov

January 10, 2018

Licensees Across Oregon Fail to Stop Sales to Minors
OLCC Marijuana Retailer Minor Decoy Checks Continue



# Increased Availability to Minors



A 9-Year-Old Accidentally Shared Her Grandpa's Marijuana Gummi...







#### A 9-Year-Old Accidentally Shared Her Grandpa's Marijuana Gummies With Her Fifth-Grade Class

HOLLYWOOD



# Edible marijuana at Hollywood school sends 14-year-old girl to hospital

Hollywood police officer investigates 'Weedos' marijuana incident

By Ian Margol - Reporter, Andrea Torres - Digital Reporter/Producer

# One arrest Updated: 6:32 AM, April 23, 2018 Updated: 6:32 AM, April 24, 2018 Gummy bears sicken Chula Vista students

**BY:** Jessica Chen, Mark Saunders **POSTED:** 2:53 PM, Apr 27, 2017 **UPDATED:** 12:05 AM, Apr 28, 2017



# States are failing to regulate pesticide use







5 Investigates put the purity of medical marijuana to the test, working samples bought off the shelves. Investigative reporter Kathy Curran never have been sold, but uncovered gaping holes in the state regularijuana safe and contaminant-free.

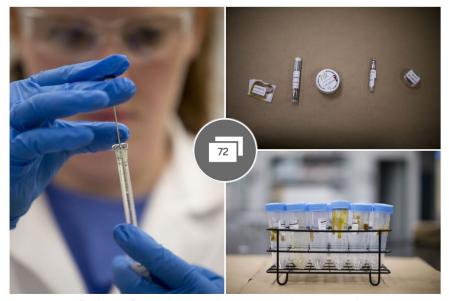




MARIJUANA NEWS

# Contaminated marijuana still reaching consumers in Oregon

Updated Jun 18, 2017; Posted Jun 17, 2017



Gallery: Cannabis product testing for pesticides



# States are failing to regulate pesticide use

#### Pesticides and Pot: What's California Smoking?



An NBC4 I-Team investigation found evidence suggesting that pesticides could be present in a lot of marijuana legally sold in California

By Joel Grover and Matthew Glasser

Published at 10:57 PM PST on Feb 22, 2017 | Updated at 1:37 PM PST on Nov 8, 2017

Steep Hill Labs found 41 out of 44 samples, 93 percent, tested positive for pesticides, at levels high enough that those products would've been banned for sale in some other states that currently regulate the use of pesticides in marijuana products.

"It appears pesticides are very widely used" on California's marijuana crops, said Dr. Don Land, a UC Davis chemistry professor who is Steep Hill's chief scientist. "It was surprising that so many (samples) had so much contamination."

# Non-publicized Recalls of Marijuana Products (In CO)

Denver Public Health Recalls of Marijuana products --

#### 2018

• February 16, 2018 - Lightshade Labs LLC Voluntarily Recalls Medical and Retail Marijuana Due to Presence of Yeast/Mold in Pre-Roll Products

#### 2017

- December 5, 2017 Infuzionz LLC Voluntarily Recalls Marijuana Product Due to Non-Food Grade Ingredients
- October 26, 2017 Little Brown House Dispensary LLC/Delta-9 Delights LLC Voluntarily Recalls Marijuana and Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- August 21, 2017 Left Bank LLC Voluntarily Recalls Marijuana Products Due to Non-Food Grade Ingredients
- August 10, 2017 Kirke LLC/Metro Denver Telluride Health Center LLC Voluntarily Recalls Medical Marijuana Due to Pesticide Residues
- July 27, 2017 Buddies Wellness LLC Voluntarily Recalls Medical Marijuana Due to Powdery Mildew and Mite Contamination
- July 24, 2017 Buddies Wellness LLC/La Bodega Voluntarily Recalls Medical Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- April 14, 2017 Mountain Medicines Recalls Medical Marijuana Infused-Products due to Pesticide Residues
- April 7, 2017 Information Regarding Cannabidiol (CBD) Products Sold or Manufactured in Denver
- April 3, 2017 Herbal Options LLC/Rocky Mountain Ways LLC Voluntarily Recalls Medical Marijuana and Marijuana Concentrates Due to Pesticide Residues
- January 19, 2017 GMC LLC Voluntarily Recalls Medical and Recreational Marijuana and Products Due to Pesticide Residues

#### 2016

- November 9, 2016 Medicinal Wellness Center LLC Voluntarily Recalls Marijuana and Concentrates Due to Pesticide Residues
- October 24, 2016 Tree of Wellness Voluntarily Recalls Medical Marijuana and Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- August 22, 2016 La Conte's Clone Bar and Dispensary Voluntarily Recalls Medical Marijuana and Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- June 21, 2016 Wash Park Boutique LLC Voluntarily Recalls Medical Marijuana and Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- June 14, 2016 Big Toe Voluntarily Recalls Marijuana and Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- June 8, 2016 The Tea Pot Voluntarily Recalls Medical Marijuana and Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- June 6, 2016 Pineapple Exchange Voluntarily Recalls Medical Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- June 1, 2016 JVT Enterprises Voluntarily Recalls Medical Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- May 13, 2016 Avicenna Products Voluntarily Recalls Medical Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- February 11. 2016 CC Foods Voluntarily Recalls Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- January 29, 2016 Caregivers for Life Voluntarily Recalls Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- January 27, 2016 Organa Labs Voluntarily Recalls Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues

#### 2015

- December 30, 2015 Mountain High Suckers Voluntarily Recalls Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- December 21, 2015 EdiPure Recalls Additional Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- December 16, 2015 RevTec Voluntarily Recalls Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- December 11, 2015 Advanced Medical Alternatives Recalls Additional Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- December 8, 2015 EdiPure Recalls Additional Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- December 3, 2015 Advanced Medical Alternatives Recalls Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- December 1, 2015 EdiPure Recalls Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- November 18, 2015 Gaia's Garden Recalls Additional Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- November 17, 2015 Lab710 Concentrates Recalls Marijuana Products Due to Pesticide Residues
- November 3, 2015 Gaia's Garden Recalls Marijuana Products Due to Possible Pesticide Residues
- October 30, 2015 Green Cross Recalls Marijuana Products Due to Possible Pesticide Residues
- October 21, 2015 Nature's Cure Recalls Marijuana Products Due to Possible Pesticide Residues
- October 14, 2015 Two Denver Cultivation Facilities Recall Marijuana Products Due to Possible Pesticide Residues
- September 25, 2015 Consumer Advisory Issued for Autopilot Capsules Manufactured by Rx Green
- September 18, 2015 Two Denver Businesses Recall Marijuana Products Due to Possible Pesticide Residue
- September 10, 2015 Mahatma Concentrates Recalls Marijuana Product Due to Possible Pesticide Residues
- July 27, 2015 Consumer Advisory Issued for Nature's Herbs Olive Oil
- July 17, 2015 Advisory: The Growing Kitchen Issues Recall of Mary Mint Tincture



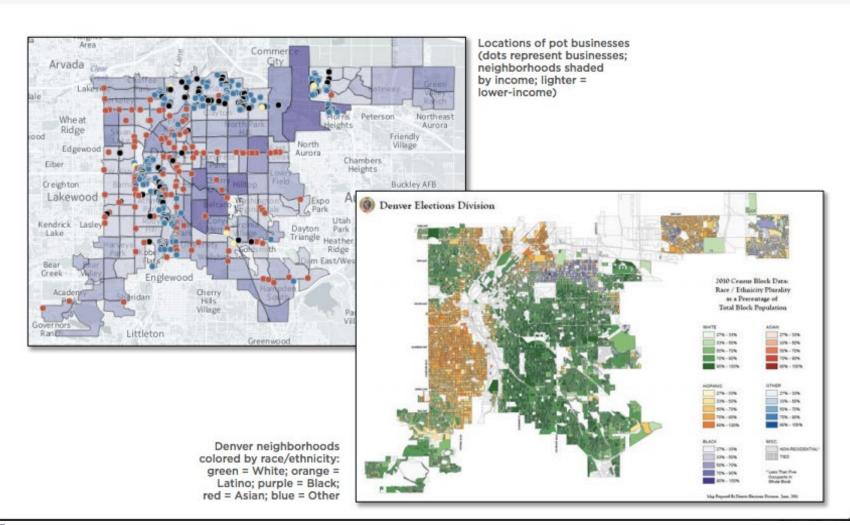
# 70% of marijuana dispensaries in Colorado recommended THC products to pregnant women.

- Medical dispensaries were more likely to recommend marijuana products than retail dispensaries: 83% and 60% respectively
- Marijuana's effects on developing babies could include low birth weight, and other developmental problems – including fatal anencephaly





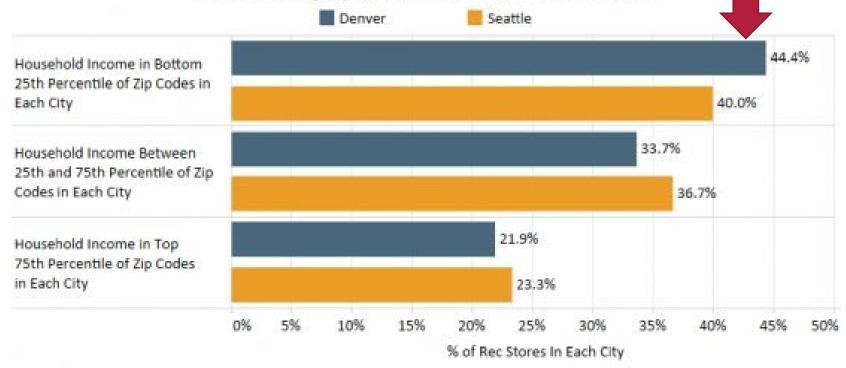
# MARIJUANA BUSINESSES IN DENVER ARE CONCENTRATED IN NEIGHBORHOODS OF COLOR







#### Location of Recreational Marijuana Stores in Denver & Seattle: Breakdown By Zip Codes' Median Household Income

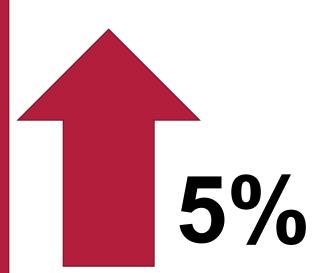


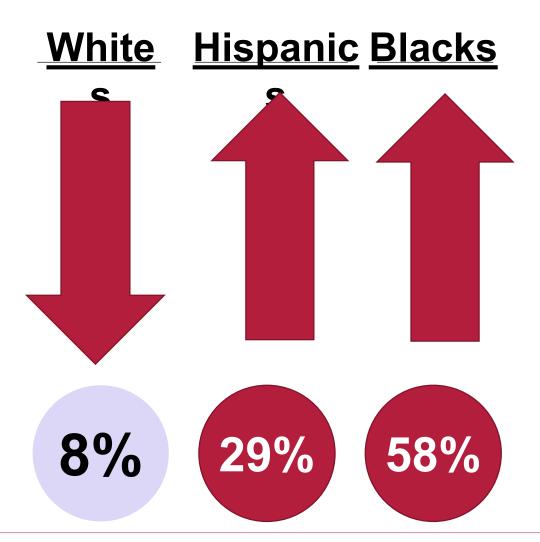
Source: Colorado Department of Revenue, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Copyright 2017 Marijuana Business Daily, a division of Anne Holland Ventures Inc. All rights reserved.



# Juvenile Arrest Rate Before and After Legalization

Overall juvenile arrests





## MARIJUANA RELATED CRIME AND OFFENSES SINCE LEGALIZATION

One hundred three (103) law enforcement agencies reported 6727 qualifying incidents in 554 public schools during the 2015-16 academic year, from August 1, 2015 through July 31, 2016.

# CRIMES AND OFFENSES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, 2015-2016

OFFENSE	Ν	%	CUMULATIVE %
Marijuana (#1)	1561	23%	23%
Assault	834	12%	36%
Disorderly Conduct/ Fighting	814	12%	48%
Public Peace	666	10%	58%
Dangerous Drugs	420	6%	64%
Larceny/Theft	341	5%	69%
Liquor/Alcohol	297	4%	73%
Tresspass	260	4%	77%
Obstruct	206	3%	80%
Harassing Communication	203	3%	83%
Other/Unclear	194	3%	86%
Weapon Offense	141	2%	88%
Tobacco	127	2%	90%
Damage Property	120	2%	92%
Traff ⊨fik:Offense	91	1%	93%
Sexual Assault/Offense	76	1%	94%
Warrant	57	1%	95%
Criminal Mischief	47	1%	96%
Runaway/ Missing Person	41	1%	97%
Interference with Educ Inst	39	<1%	97%
Truancy	36	<1%	98%
Burgary	33	<1%	98%
Menacing	26	<1%	99%
Arson	25	<1%	99%
Robbery	20	<1%	99%
Curfew	16	<1%	100%
Family/Child Offense	12	<1%	100%
Vehicle Theft	8	<1%	100%
Fraud/Forgery	5	<1%	100%
Kidnapping	5	<1%	100%
Invasion of Privacy	2	<1%	100%
Total	6727	100%	100%

Source: Colorado Department of Public Safety, 2017

#### Conclusions

- States are not effectively regulating marijuana now.
- No state has successfully put a limit on potency.
- The marijuana industry is actively promoting increased use and access to high potency products.
- Increased marijuana access and use is harming those who need help and hope to recover from opioid addiction.



# What is our alternative?



# In States That Have Legalized:

- Edibles and high THC concentrates should be outlawed or severely restricted
- The Marijuana Industry should not serve on rulemaking bodies to determine regulations.
- Pot advertising and promotions should be prohibited.
- A science-based public awareness campaign should be implemented across multiple media.
- Drugged driving prevention should be a priority, with tough laws imposed on those who drive stoned.

# In States That Have Not Legalized:

- Remove criminal penalties and arrest records for personal possession of pot.
- Pot use should be discouraged, and people caught repeatedly with marijuana should be directed to early interventions and/or treatment.
- A science-based public awareness campaign should be implemented across multiple media.
- Drugged driving prevention should be a priority, with tough laws imposed on those who drive stoned.

# **OVERALL OBJECTIVES**

An alternative policy to drug legalization that:

- 1 Minimizes drug use, especially problematic use
- Resolves underlying substance abuse problems driving criminal behavior (beyond simple possession and use)
- 3 Reduces recidivism
- 4 Saves societal resources



#### **POLICY FRAMEWORK**

Pre-Pre-release **Pre-entry** Re-entry sentencing Prevent people from entering Diversion by prosecutors into Treatment & recovery options Social re-integration and maintenance GOAL criminal justice system alternative outcomes during criminal sentence of recovery process (includes providing an alternative to probation/parole) "you're either in trouble or on vour own" DTCs/therapeutic justice Re-entry services & training Civil fines State-run, in-prison treatment MODELS Post-indictment diversion Diversion by police & recovery programs **Expungement & sealing** Administrative justice into treatment/education Prison treatment & recovery model (e.g., Portugal) programs run by civil society Immediate referral to social or private companies services (generally state-funded) TASC services: Clinical Pre-NH pot decrim law NADCP drug court Federal programs (insufficient o **EXAMPLES LEAD** programs quidelines (ylggue Release Program, Supportive Mont. Cty. MD IPSA TASC services: Prison Release Center & Jail Discharge Portuguese model Swedish model of obliging program Substance Abuse Screening **Program** police to inform social Cook & St. Clair Cty Drug & Treatment Prison Fellowship life skills services of drug cases School Diversion Program Prison Fellowship 0 program Integrating SBIRT w/ police

#### TRANSVERSAL PROGRAMS (available to the public)

- Prevention and education resources for the public, especially focused on children ideally nationally coordinated
- Expanded mental health services, with free or low-cost options to lower-income individuals
- State-sponsored activities for kids (part of <u>lcelandic model</u>)





# LESSONS LEARNED

## FROM MARIJUANA

# LEGALIZATION IN FOUR U.S. STATES AND D.C.

MARCH 2018



Reviewed by researchers from: University of Colorado at Denver Harvard Medical School Boston Children's Hospital University of Connecticut Yale University University of Kansas and more



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"We were gaining momentum. But now that's flipped and we're more on the defensive." – Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV), one of the biggest marijuana supporters in Congress.

Created by IconDots from Noun Project Created by Stephen Plaster from Noun Project Created by Gregor Cresnar from Noun Project



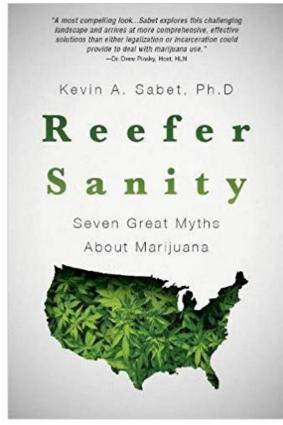
#### A final word from Volkow et al in the NEJM:

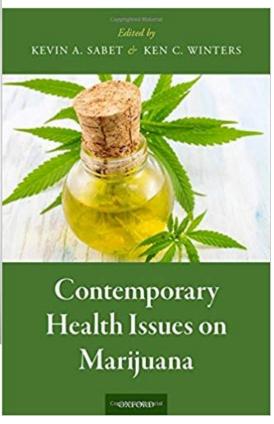
"Repeated marijuana use during adolescence may result in long-lasting changes in brain function that can jeopardize educational, professional, and social achievements.

"However, the effects of a drug (legal or illegal) on individual health are determined not only by its pharmacologic properties but also by its availability and social acceptability.

"In this respect, legal drugs (alcohol and tobacco) offer a sobering perspective, accounting for the greatest burden of disease associated with drugs *not because they are more dangerous than illegal drugs* but because their legal status allows for more widespread exposure."

#### Resources





Drugabuse.gov LearnaboutSAM.org MarijuanaReport.org

#### What You Can Do Now

# www.sam-ny.org





Email: Kevin@LearnAboutSAM.org

Website: www.learnaboutsam.org