

Should Marijuana Be Legalized for Medical Purposes?

E 101 English Grammar

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There is ongoing debate about the therapeutic benefits of medical marijuana. While a number of U.S. states have implemented medical marijuana laws (and a growing number require recreational use), it continues to be listed as a Schedule I controlled substance by the federal government. That not only makes possession illegal, but also restricts medical studies on the possible benefits of cannabis. The reasons for and against the legalization of marijuana are hot topics, with strong supporters on both side of the debate.

There is awareness around the world of the medicinal value of marijuana (or cannabis). While marijuana remains illegal in most countries, some countries like Germany, Finland, Israel and Canada have taken the bold measures to allow medical marijuana to be used. As noted above, more than 25 US states have changed their laws to allow marijuana's medicinal use. Here are a few factors which we should consider legalizing cannabis medicinal use.

Research have shown that, relative to painkillers, medical cannabis has fewer side effects and people who used marijuana for medical purposes felt better overall. Popular opioids like morphine or oxycodone are painkillers that can shape habits and can be dangerous if misused. The only way to be safe from an overdose or even death is to use them as instructed by your doctor or by the package. Overdose is almost non-existent with medical cannabis which makes it a healthy alternative to prescription drugs. National health leaders have spoken about reducing traditional painkillers because of the opioid risk factors. Make medical cannabis a good solution because of the low risk factors, and high benefit.

There is a general misconception that marijuana affects human health. Although aspects of this may be valid, the way the plant is handled and under what conditions the health benefits are very significant. Mainstream medical practitioners have successfully used it in the treatment of AIDS, arthritis, anorexia and even cancer in California and Florida. Studies show the use of

marijuana to treat depression, insomnia, bipolar disorder and anxiety. Overall, marijuana use among children within the US has increased in recent years, but a recent research indicates that marijuana use among children may very well fall in states where recreational marijuana has been legalized.

For every person who campaigns for the medicinal legalization of marijuana, there is another person who argues against it. Some of the opposition's points include: repeated use of marijuana can seriously affect your short-term memory. Repeated use can hinder your ability to cognize. Smoking cigarettes, be it tobacco or marijuana, will cause serious damage to your lung tissue.

Clinical studies to determine marijuana's efficacy in treating other conditions have been restrictive and limited in the past. Scientists are doing more research as medical marijuana is becoming more popular around the world. Expert analyses of current research however continue to advocate the need for more studies. Many of the challenges include monitoring the consistency and dosage of cannabis with what the researchers legally have available. For fact, a majority of the current studies are not controlled clinical trials in which a placebo or alternative drug is used. Without more of these comparative studies, scientific evidence on cannabis ' therapeutic effects would remain at issue.

Medical marijuana remains controversial but as a legitimate recommendation for a variety of symptoms, it is gaining traction. Although many states have legalized cannabis use for medicinal purposes (and a few for recreational use), politicians and the U.S. government must take further steps for it to be recognized and sold nationally. Nonetheless, this will likely require a much larger body of legitimate scientific studies to prove or disprove the effectiveness of medical marijuana, and eventually relax its use restrictions.

References

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