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Should marijuana be legalized on a national level?

In recent years the argument surrounding the idea of marijuana being legalized nationally has continued to surface. While marijuana has been legalized in several different states for a while now, it hasn't been yet legalized nationally. The argument has grown from whether marijuana should be legalized in certain states to now whether it should be legalized nationwide. While some may argue it shouldn't be legalized nationwide, I believe it should be legalized. What's the point of legalizing it in certain states and not others? Doing such, only pushes people in other states where it's illegal to bring it in without being permitted, creating more problems. If people are able to purchase and smoke marijuana in all 50 states it would eliminate the need for others to discreetly sell it to those of other states and eliminate the rise in potential crimes. As a result, less people would face time in prison and it would eliminate unnecessary street quarrels over cannabis.

Studies have shown many people rely on cannabis for multiple reasons that don't always result in negative reactions. For example, many people choose to rely on marijuana over other medications. Marijuana is a very resourceful source of medication that provides necessary relief to different ailments people experience. Some rely on marijuana to relieve stress, reduce nausea, relaxation and to generally feel better. There's been research including patient surveys surrounding the therapeutic benefits of marijuana; studies have shown a decrease in chronic pain in patients as a result of them choosing to use cannabis instead of other pain relief medicines. A patient survey was handed out to patients in the state of Hawaii to assess the use and effect of cannabis for chronic pain. It was noted that, "The response rate was 94%. Mean and median were 29.3

and 51 years respectively. Ninety-seven percent of respondents used cannabis primarily for chronic pain.” The results of the survey reported no serious adverse effects, most patients, “average pain improvement on a 0-10 pain scale was a 5.0 (from 7.8 to 2.8) which translates to 64% relative decrease in average pain.” Majority of patients have reported to experience relief from insomnia and stress/anxiety. These results have contributed to the notion that cannabis is effective and safe for all to use as a pain reliever. The continuous use of cannabis has allowed patients to no longer take other pain medication such as advil, aleve, tylenol and aspirin, more and more patients have found themselves smoking marijuana to relieve pain. Unlike other drugs such as heroin, cannabis is one of the least harmful drugs, in contrast to painkillers marijuana doesn't have a harsh effect on the body and inner lining of the brain nor stomach of humans.

On another note, marijuana should be legalized nationwide to help reduce the amount of people imprisoned, especially for selling something that's not so harmful, to reduce pain but also to bring more money into the economy. Marijuana is very forceful as it pertains to the economy and its financial state of being. Marijuana being legal in all states would allow states to be able to collect an increased amount of revenue and reduce the force we have to continue funding of international criminal organizations; because marijuana is still illegal in certain states it allows for criminals and drug organizations to profit by selling marijuana on illegal markets. Marijuana has very many positive and impactful characteristics, continuing to question whether it deserves to be legalized nationwide is what continues to allow innocent people to be imprisoned when there are way more cases that should be prioritized.

In recent years the argument surrounding the idea of marijuana being legalized nationally has continued to surface. While marijuana has been legalized in several different states for a while now, it hasn't been yet legalized nationally. The argument has grown from whether marijuana should be legalized in certain states to now whether it should be legalized nationwide. While some may argue it should be legalized nationwide, I believe it shouldn't be legalized. Marijuana messes with the coordination, reaction times and focus of individuals. Some rely on marijuana to focus and concentrate to the point where they're unable to focus if they don't smoke. For a fact, the use of marijuana is very addicting, causes harm to young people and has caused many accidents to occur. It's very useless and selfish to argue for marijuana to be legalized continuously as if watching people lose their lives to alcoholism, cigarette abuse and drunken driving isn't enough.

Marijuana is extremely addictive for numerous of people, the experiment hasn't worked well for all states., marijuana is terrible for your mental health, marijuana is terrible for your physical health and the drug decimates many people's lives. A study was done utilizing 129 college students who were found to have smoked marijuana at least 30 times before being surveyed. The survey tested out the critical thinking skills of individuals, memory/retention and ability to learn basic information. "A study of postal workers found that employees who tested positive for marijuana had 55% more accidents, 85% more injuries and a 75% increase in being absent from work. Students who use marijuana have lower grades and are less likely to get into college than nonsmokers." Individuals who smoke don't carry the same ability to grasp common/basic

information nor carry out the same tasks efficiently as nonsmokers do. The continuous use of marijuana affects the IQ scores of individuals causing their neurocognitive performance to decline which leads to an increase in anxiety and mood disorders. Women who smoke marijuana experience numerous birth defects in their newborn children eventually leading to premature death or early birth.

While society wants us all to believe marijuana be legalized is an effective and smart choice it totally isn't because it leads to numerous negative effects. It's not worth the accident, not worth another child dropping out of school. Another individual finding themselves spending an infinite amount of time in jail nor is it worth losing the structure of your brain.

Citations:

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