Marijuana: What to expect 2014-2020

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The War on Drugs has failed; It is time for a new approach

- 3 out of 4 American voters say the “War on Drugs” is a failure

- There is a drug arrest every 19 seconds in the US. Of the more than 1.6 million drug arrests in 2009, 82% were for possession alone

- Kids in America use marijuana at a rate almost double that of Portugal, where they treat marijuana as a health issue instead of a criminal issue
  - Time Magazine (April 2009) “Drugs in Portugal: Did Decriminalization Work?”
The Black Market Fuels Cartels

- Most of the arguments against legalization assume there is no marijuana out there, and that legalizing marijuana will let this drug into our communities. We argue that it is already here, has been here, and should be regulated.
- Under the black market system no one is checking ID, no one is paying taxes, and no one is testing for purity and strength.
- In four years, more than 35,000 people have been killed in violence related to Mexico’s war against the cartels that control the illegal drug market.

-- Los Angeles Times (August 2010) “Mexico Under Siege: The Drug War at our Doorstep”
Taxation and Regulation is a Better Way

- Crime is down and tax revenues are up in Colorado over last year.
  - [http://guardianlv.com/2014/05/Colorado-marijuana-sales-up-crime-down/](http://guardianlv.com/2014/05/Colorado-marijuana-sales-up-crime-down/)
  - [http://daiycaller.com/2014/06/30/rocky-mountain-high-after-6-months-crime-down-tax-revenue-up-in-Colorado/](http://daiycaller.com/2014/06/30/rocky-mountain-high-after-6-months-crime-down-tax-revenue-up-in-Colorado/)

- The cartels also don’t like the natural competition that has come with a regulated free market. Marijuana prices range from $25 a gram on the black market in Las Vegas to $9 a gram in a regulated shop in Oregon. [https://news.vice.com/article/legal-pot-in-the-us-is-crippling-mexican-cartels?utm_source=viceneewsfb](https://news.vice.com/article/legal-pot-in-the-us-is-crippling-mexican-cartels?utm_source=viceneewsfb)
What is Next?

• Medical Marijuana will be legal in 25 states and D.C. by 2016.

• Marijuana will be legal (taxed and regulated like alcohol) in 16 states by 2017.

• The federal prohibition should lift 2018-2020.
Ballot and Legislative Activity

November 2014 Full legalization Campaigns

- Oregon
- Alaska
- Washington, DC

Legislative Action 2014-2017

- Delaware, Hawaii, Maryland, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.
- Texas - 2017 or 2019.
Ballot and Legislative Activity

November 2016 Full legalization Campaigns

- Arizona
- California
- Maine
- Massachusetts
- Minnesota
- Nevada

What will we see in this new world?

Current Alcohol references in American Culture
• The President of the United States having meetings over a beer.
• The Governor of Colorado installing microbrew taps at the Governor’s Mansion while staying steadfastly opposed to marijuana legalization.
• Constant references to “having an adult beverage” after a long day at a conference, long project at work, New Year’s Eve, almost any meeting or conference in my home town.

Changes in Marijuana Perception in American Culture
• Jane West and Edible Events, Colorado Symphony Orchestra events, artists Puff, Pass and Paint parties, BYOC events, consumption clubs.
What will we see in this new world?

Industry participation with law enforcement and government agencies.

- Ensures a level playing field.
- Ensures long term stability of the industry.
- Voluntary access to security feeds, self-regulation through trade associations.

Prevention of Youth Access and Usage

- Education of law enforcement and parents on latest products and usage trends to watch for in youth.
- Education of parents on locking cannabis and Rx drugs away from kids.
Lock It Up Campaign

• We agree that kids should be kept away from marijuana. We believe that the best way to do this is to regulate the market and only sell to adults. In the black market, they push drugs to kids because there is no additional penalty for doing so.

• Kids in the US use marijuana at a rate almost double that of Portugal, where they treat marijuana as a health care issue instead of a criminal issue.

• Teens say obtaining illegal marijuana is easier than buying legal, controlled and age-regulated beer.
  – National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (August 2009)

• Every day, more than 50 people die of unintentional drug overdoses in the US
The Facts

The abuse of prescription medications is on the rise, especially among teenagers.

According to a 2012 survey*:

- 24% of teenagers said they had taken a prescription medication that was not prescribed for them.
- 56% of these medications were readily available in their homes and were obtained from their parents’ prescriptions.
- 80% of teens have discussed alcohol and marijuana use with their parents.
- Only 14-16% of teens have discussed the abuse of prescription medications with their parents.
- The consequences of teens abusing their parents’ prescription medications can be even more serious than using street drugs.

*(webmd.com)

The Solution: Lock It Up!

We all must do more to prevent teens from abusing prescription medications. But parents hold the key.

The Nevada Cannabis Industry Association urges all parents to secure their prescription medications, including Medical Marijuana, in a lockable safe or medicine cabinet. And keep the key with you at all times.

Lock It Up and you’ll also prevent curious children of all ages from accidentally taking your prescription medications.

Lock It Up and you’ll have greater peace of mind, knowing you’re doing more to protect your family.

A Message From: nevada cannabis industry.org

NEVADA Cannabis Industry Association
Questions?
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