



RAISING HEALTHY TEENS Marijuana & MA Teens

Our Mission

- Update Our Education.
- Understand the Effects of Marijuana on the Adolescent Brain
- Learn to Reduce Risk.
- Improve Communication.

Adolescent Brain Development

GOOD NEWS!

- Brain has a Selection Process.
- Pruning Connections.
- Brain Shaped By Experiences, Good and Bad.

CANNABIS delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)

- Teens Who Use Marijuana Weekly - Double Risk of Depression, 3 x More Likely To Commit Suicide (White House Drug Policy)
- 30x More Likely to Use Cocaine (PATs 2011)
- 15x More Likely to Abuse Rx and/or Heroin (PATs 2011)
- MA Teens in Drug Treatment: More for Marijuana than any other drug, 2x as Alcohol (TEDS 2010)

Marijuana & The Brain

- Learning 1-3 Days
- Memory 1-2 Days
- Higher Cognitive Functions 1-3 Days
- Attention 1-2 Days
- Movement 1-3 Days
- Coordination *n* 1-3 Days
- Reflexes 1-3 Days
- Visual Scanning 1-3 Days
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Drugged Driving

- Weekend Night Drivers:

16.3% Test Positive for Drugs;

2.2% BAC Over Legal Limit (NHTSA 2007)

If passed, what would the legislation allow?

- A “Patient” can be any age. There is no Minimum Age Requirement to receive a recommendation from a doctor or a “Medical” Marijuana Card.
- There is no Expiration Date or Limit to the number of Refills.
- 35 dispensaries in the first year: 5 in each County. This number can be increased in future years.
- “Pot Shops” Allow Non-Medical Employees to Distribute Marijuana.
- People with state pot cards can possess a 60-day supply of marijuana.
- But, 60-day supply is NOT defined in proposed law.
- People could legally grow pot in their homes.
- Anyone with a self-diagnosed pain may obtain marijuana.

- Pot based products such as foods, oils, ointments, aerosols, may be legally sold as “medicine”.
- MA DPH will regulate marijuana dispensaries, card registration and statewide marijuana system.
- Puts State employees at risk of arrest.

Marijuana Is Not Accepted Medicine For Treatment

- The American Medical Association
- The National Multiple Sclerosis Society
- The American Glaucoma Society
- The American Academy of Ophthalmology
- The American Cancer Society
- The Massachusetts Medical Society

What Parents Can Do...Talk To Your Kids!

- 70% Teens Say Losing Parents’ Respect is Main Reason They Do NOT Use Drugs (ONDCP)
- Teens Who Hear Anti-Drug Messages 42 % Less Likely to Use Drugs (NSDUH)
- Parental Monitoring/Involvement: 70% Less Likely To Try Marijuana (CASA)

Parenting Style

Journal of the Study of Alcohol & Drugs, July 2010

- Adolescents with Authoritative Parents were Less Likely to Drink; Less Likely to Have Friends who Drink.

Authoritative Parents:

- Monitoring.
- Supportive.
- Explain Rules.
- Enforce Rules.
- Flexible in Special Situations.

TALK!

1. Start An Ongoing Conversation.
2. Make Your Expectations Clear.
3. Listen Better.
4. Give Honest Answers.
5. Keep Conversation On Them.
6. Do Not React Emotionally.
7. Talk When They are Ready.

Locating Resources

- Contact Your Pediatrician, Hospital or CHMC Adolescent Medicine Department.
- MA Substance Abuse Information & Education Hotline 1-800-327-5050
- Moar-recovery.org
- Learn2Cope.org

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