



CAUTION

WE'VE BEEN LIED TO BEFORE

DON'T LET THEM DO IT AGAIN WITH MARIJUANA



BIG TOBACCO AND BIG WEED ARE MERGING TO TARGET VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES, AND OUR KIDS.

Big Pot is pushing for legalization at the federal level, and a bill is being written behind closed doors to give them everything they want – pretending to be social justice.

The marijuana industry is seeing increased investment from existing giants of addiction. Altria recently registered to lobby on Cannabis in Virginia, where a legalization bill backed by the governor is sailing through legislature. Altria, the parent company of Phillip Morris, recently invested more than \$2 billion into the industry, and has secured a minority ownership into Juul – the vaping giant – in a move to cement future stakes in the industry.

As America learned with Big Tobacco, the full consequences of commercialization will materialize over decades. However, we do not need to wait that long to understand some key outcomes. For example, data already gathered by HHS finds legalized marijuana states have among the highest rates of marijuana use in the country, and use is sharply increasing in vulnerable demographics, like youth and young adults whose brains are still developing. The move to legalize marijuana is really a move to commercialize marijuana for profit. It is today's version of Big Tobacco, and it should be discouraged.

Today's pot isn't Woodstock Weed – it's much more powerful and damaging to the brain.

The change in marijuana potency today (daily users) versus 20 years ago (average weekend user) is akin to the caffeine change from one 20 oz. cola a day, to thirty-three 16 oz. cappuccinos a day. (Caulkins, 2018).

Science has proven – and all major scientific and medical organizations agree – that marijuana is both addictive and harmful

to the human brain, especially when used as an adolescent. One in every six 16 year-olds (and one in every eleven adults) who try marijuana will become addicted to it.

It's deadly for our roads.

"AAA opposes the legalization of marijuana for recreational use because of inherent traffic safety risks and because of the difficulties in writing legislation that protects the public and treats drivers fairly."

Just because you may go 35 MPH in a 65 MPH zone versus 85 MPH if you are drunk, it does not mean you are driving safely! In fact, marijuana intoxication doubles your risk of a car crash according to the most exhaustive research reviews ever conducted on the subject.

Contrary to federal law, under which the use and sale of marijuana for any purpose is illegal, beginning in 2012 several states legalized the commercial sale of marijuana. This has led to the rise of public health, safety and social justice harms, including increased emergency room visits from today's high potency marijuana; increased addiction rates, increased drugged driving crashes, disproportionate outcomes and ownership, and more.

Within the scientific and medical community, there is broad agreement that youth should be protected, social justice must be secured, roadways should be safe, and our mental health must be valued.

Tell your representatives this push to commercialize weed federally is unacceptable.

Big Pot is pushing for legalization at the federal level, and a bill is being written behind closed doors to give them everything they want – pretending to be social justice.

The fact is, marijuana commercialization is nothing more than social injustice, as it only serves the monied interest of Big Pot lobbyists, addiction corporations such as Big Tobacco, alcohol conglomerates, and the investor class that overwhelmingly make up the marijuana industry.

Tell your representatives this push to commercialize weed federally is unacceptable.

**Tell U.S. Senators Collins and King
to listen to the scientists and put Maine's children first.**

Call (202) 224-3121

For more information, visit learnaboutsam.org

SAM Smart
Approaches to
Marijuana
preventing another big tobacco

Smart Approaches to Marijuana envisions a society where marijuana policies are aligned with the scientific understanding of marijuana's harms, and the commercialization and normalization of marijuana are no more.

Our mission is to educate citizens on the science of marijuana and to promote health-first, smart policies and attitudes that decrease marijuana use and its consequences.