

# 'MEDICAL' MARIJUANA KILLS LIKE TOBACCO

**The Facts Are Clear...the issue of Marijuana has become politically motivated pseudoscience...**

- Marijuana has grown more potent over the decades. A joint now contains about three times the tar of a cigarette, plus known cancer-causing carcinogens such as vinyl chloride, dimethylnitrosamine, methylethynitrosamine, benz(a)anthracene, benzo(a)pyrene, as well as carbon dioxide, ammonia and more than 20 other major toxins. **Because users inhale longer, five joints a week have the impact of a pack of cigarettes a day.** (SOURCE: UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES AND NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE)
- The dangers of the 'medical' marijuana movement go beyond the known cancer threats (such as the head and neck cancers more frequent in habitual pot-smokers) (SOURCE: JOURNAL: CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY BIOMARKER AND PREVENTION, 1999). The greater danger for Canada is that the pro-dope movement encourages tolerance for marijuana and creates popular support for the use and legalization of cannabis and other substances.
- Consider that when Alaska briefly legalized pot, the use of marijuana and cocaine among adolescents soared more than twice that of any other U.S. state. In Holland where dope smoking is permitted, use among 11 to 18 year olds increased 142% from 1990 to 1995; crimes like aggravated theft and breaking and entering are now 3 to 4 times that of the U.S.; and Holland now produces 80% of the world's ecstasy. (SOURCE: INTERNATIONAL DRUG STRATEGY INSTITUTE)
- Cannabis is no better than codeine at controlling pain and because of its undesirable side effects, "It has no place in mainstream medicine". (SOURCE: BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL)
- PET scanning of frequent-use marijuana smokers show lower blood flow in large regions of the brain, affecting motor coordination function, cognition, timing, sensory information-processing and attention. (SOURCE:NEURO REPORT 2000:4)
- Longitudinal 10-year study of offspring exposed to marijuana in utero indicated increased hyperactivity, impulsivity, inattention, delinquency and problem-externalization. (SOURCE: NEUROTOXICOLOGY & TERATOLOGY 2000:22)
- Smoking marijuana can cause cancer, lung damage and babies with low birth weights. (SOURCE: INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE; NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, 1999)

**Special Interest Groups have been dictating policy affecting our communities long enough... The rest of Canada needs to be heard...**

## IDEAS

**INTERNATIONAL DRUG EDUCATION  
& AWARENESS SYMPOSIUM**

*presented by* INTERNATIONAL DRUG EDUCATION & AWARENESS SOCIETY

*in partnership with* DRUG FREE AMERICA FOUNDATION INC. AND DRUG PREVENTION NETWORK OF THE AMERICAS

**May 1 to May 3, 2002  
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With the use of statistical and documented evidence, IDEAS - 2002, the first of its kind in Canada, is committed to bringing honesty to the issue of tolerance for substance abuse.

IDEAS has invited Swedish, Swiss, U.S., Canadian and other world-leading medical, legal and police experts with impeccable credentials and experience in the prevention, treatment, law enforcement and harm reduction of illicit drugs. **For three days, they will meet with Canadians of influence in a conference intended to examine Canada's permissive drug policies.**

**If you have been invited, please reply Early.**

**If you are interested, please refer online at [www.ideas-canada.org](http://www.ideas-canada.org)**