Weslyn Johnson

Ms. Kuck

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To Legalize or Illegal of Marijuana

In the year of 2018 the cannabis plant known as marijuana has been legalized in nine states, while medical marijuana has been legalized in over twenty-nine states in America. But there is still an ongoing debate over whether it should be completely legalized or not in all the states, as people how are pro-marijuana believe it can be used for many things besides medical purposes, while people how are anti-marijuana believe it would cause higher crime rates and it to be a health risk for body long term if it is completely legalized. I will be showing some history about the marijuana in America, what reasons should marijuana be legal or illegal and where do I stand on the topic.

 But before the cannabis plant became a topic of debate, it was called hemp and first known uses and written knowledge of the plant was found in China. Soon the uses of the hemp plant started traveling around the world, in his book called *Understanding Marijuana*, Mitch Earleywine writes about the other uses' hemp was for:“ Hemp provides fiber, cloth, paper, and food, as well as many soaps, shampoos, and oils.” (chapter 1, page 4) The early Colonial era or before it became America, the hemp plant did not make an impacted until 1616, were the colony of Jamestown was forced to grow it for Britain, ever when they had a better crop called tobacco. When hemp was grown in the states it was used mostly to make rope in industrial America and ship over to Britain, although it was not enough to ship overseas and barely enough was grown in the states to be much used for the people how were growing and farming it. As time when on hemp was being replaced by cotton for most thing, but hemp never went away and it made a come back with it starting to be used medically in many countries by the time it made it to America in 1764 where it been around to this day. Also, the marijuana name came from Mexico, where in the aftermath of the Mexican Revolution, Mexican immigrants that had come into America in the 1900’s would call it “marihuana” where it would soon be called by the name its known by now.

The Good side if legalizing marijuana in today time and age is there has already been some work on legalizing marijuana by making it medical and can be used if a person goes to the doctor for it. By legalizing marijuana can learn how it can be used to help cure disease without have to talk to lawmakers to see if it can be and hope no backlash will happen. People have been fighting for its legalized because the benefits can help communities. The Food and Drug Administration has found many uses for the marijuana plant for the human body as stated in *Marijuana: Medical Uses, Regulations and Legal Issues*:“-reduction of pain and inflammation, symptomatic treatment of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), seizure control, treatment of certain diseases of the nervous system, and treatment of some types of cancer” (chapter 54), as medical help with AID by treating vomiting, nausea and severe weight loss, while with cancer it treats loss of appetite, pain and just like with AIDS it treats vomiting and nausea after chemotherapy. But that not all legalized marijuana can treat, it also helps mental disorders like depression, anxiety, being unable to sleep and it can help with alcohol disorders as well. Legalizing marijuana would help for treatment of body pains as will like chronic pain, headaches, inflammation and arthritis pain.

Another reason to legal marijuana, besides what it can be used for medically, is that will stop people for being arrested for have a small amount of marijuana on them or arrested for growing it on their property, and it keeping people for get long sentences which goes from one year for just having one ounce of marijuana or less with a fine of one thousand fine, and up to one to ten years if you have more the one ounce, which makes it a felony and you are also fined and you are also fined with a five thousand. So a person can lose a year of more for something that not the worse drugs to be used and sold in the world. But people how are against the legalization of marijuana do have fair reason to be worried about marijuana as does have side-effects and dangers, no matter how much it can help medical. At first in the 1900’s anything with cannabis in it had to be labeled, but the first law against marijuana was started after Mexican immigrants coming in to America with the plant and peoples prejudice against them. In the later years there was other reasons for the stopping of marijuana, for example marijuana creates higher risk for car accidents than alcohol as written in *Dealing Death and Drugs:* “ A clear danger associated with marijuana accidents involve driving while under the influence of this drug” and marijuana is also a risk for becoming an addiction, more so than alcohol, cocaine, heroin and even tobacco. There is also negative health effect like bronchitis, Breathing problems, increased heart rate ( older people and people with heart problems are more at risk), and just like with drink alcohol while pregnant, it can also cause health problems for the baby once it is born. Crime activity has also a problem when it comes to the illegal selling of marijuana in the states, where there have been rise in crime corporations that sell large quantities' marijuana for profit from money, with no care on how it can cause harm to a person. There has also been people how misuse medical marijuana for their on gain, as they are in perfect health, but just don't want to get in trouble for getting it illegally. So from the anti-marijuana protesters viewpoint are reasonable reasons for marijuana to become illegal in all states in the U.S.

In my opinion marijuana should be legal, but there should be laws against crime corporations for selling it and people how wrongfully use medical marijuana. I believe that people shouldn't be arrested and sentence for a year for a small piece of marijuana and that when it comes to medical marijuana should be legal in all states. Because as the end of the day, it is not cannabis plant fault for way humanity has misused it.

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