

Negative Effects of Marijuana: Scientific Research Shows Pot is Harmful

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Research Showing the Harmful Effects of Marijuana Use



- Landmark 2012 PNAS study: pot [permanently lowers IQ](#)
- Netherlands study of 2,000 teens show [pot/psychosis](#) link
- [Schizoid Psychosis](#) during Cannabis Intake
- Marijuana [Damages DNA](#) and May Cause Cancer
- Marijuana May [Stunt Fetal Growth](#) in 2010 Netherlands study
- Marijuana Associated with [Impaired Fetal Growth](#) in 1989 U.S. study
- A Nursing Mother Smoking Marijuana [Passes the Drug to Her Child](#)
- Cannabis Intake During Pregnancy Predicts [Long-lasting](#)

[Neurobehavioural Problems](#) for the Child in 2009 European study

- Habitual Marijuana Use Strongly Associated with [Car Crash Injury](#)
- Smoking Marijuana [Doubles the Risk of Fatal Accidents](#)
- Marijuana [Smoke Contains Higher Levels](#) of Certain Toxins than Tobacco Smoke
- Marijuana Smoker Face [Rapid Lung Destruction](#): As much as 20 Years Ahead of Tobacco Smokers
- [Impact On Lungs](#) of One Cannabis Joint Equal to Up To Five Cigarettes
- Marijuana Component [Opens the Door for Virus](#) that Causes Kaposi's Sarcoma (links to Harvard study)
- Marijuana Causes [Learning and Memory Impairments](#) from the journal *Neurobiology*.
- By 2013 the Denver Post still hasn't come out of their stupor but at least they've [noticed the fog](#). Sad but important insights on the long lasting harm from smoking pot as described by a professor from the University of Colorado's School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. (Notice though the Post uncritically quoting a pot dealer who speaks of his customers as "patients".)

[Pot Research and Political Correctness](#)

For half a century now, marijuana has been overwhelmingly politically correct among the faculty and students on college campuses. Thus as with many controversial research topics, the inherent bias for and against marijuana can easily produce false study results.

Of course there are many studies showing that marijuana is harmless and endlessly beneficial. And there are decades of studies that show that:

- * Abortion does not increase breast cancer [[recently refuted](#)]
- * Spanking should not be part of child discipline [[recently refuted](#)]
- * The death penalty is not a deterrent [[long refuted](#)]

Marijuana is intensely politically correct on college campuses where many of the pro-marijuana studies originate. Thus bias, problematic on both sides, is especially expected both to counteract the [studies showing that marijuana is harmful](#), and as an expression of the rampant rebellion against God in the relentless effort to overturn beneficial Christian norms. By producing millions of graduates, overtly anti-Christian universities have succeeded even in turning entire professions, like law, medicine, and education, against Christ. This is one reason why conflicting studies abound on many important and moral issues. So the Christian must think outside of the box, and have the broader perspective to judge between studies, and to discern the truth from the bias.

Millions of Observers

Millions of people believe that smoking pot makes you stupid. Yet, while long-term cigarette smoking is bad for your lungs, there are not millions of people whose observations led them to believe that tobacco lowers your IQ and makes you slow and stupid. Why the distinction? These millions of people don't believe this because they've weighed conflicting scientific studies (including those showing [learning and memory impairments](#) from using pot), but because they've seen the results first hand. Studies conflict, of course, but extensive studies show what millions have perceived, that long-term

routine pot use leads to serious mental health issues. On the other hand, a nightly glass of red wine has the opposite reputation, of not making anyone slow or stupid, of sustaining mental health, and decreasing the likelihood of dementia.



Applying the principles in God's Word as best we can at Denver Bible Church (which we know does not prove that we are right), we conclude:

- that the studies that show the dangers of marijuana are telling the truth and
- that those who accept the reports that there are no serious harmful side effects to marijuana are deceived, and not all but many of those, willfully so.

Marijuana, by its harmful effects on the brain, eventually owns its users by making them think that they are more insightful than others. They think they become more creative, and smart. In reality *millions of people can testify from firsthand use and from firsthand observations that regular pot use makes you stupid.* Drinking a glass of red wine nightly has no similar effect.

Smoking pot makes people think they are alert and smart but it puts their minds in a fog. Potheads for example will point to websites like drugwarfacts.org and claim that marijuana is responsible for ZERO deaths per year. Only those with extreme bias or dull minds would believe such a thing. Just from the few notes we're jotted down over the years for reporting on our radio program, we recall the "accident" in which a Mr. Bedell's "use of marijuana hours before the Mother's Day crash in New Orleans that killed 22 people was the main cause of the wreck," reported USA Today.

2012 Updates: Netherlands study of two thousand teens show [pot/psychosis](#) link.

- Bob's [pot debate with Tom Tancredo](#), former presidential candidate.
- Landmark study: pot "[permanently lowers IQ](#)".
- Bob debates pot at [HuffingtonPost.com/Bob-Enyart](#).
- Scientists cultivate [medical marijuana without the high](#) to the disapproval of many.
- Miami cannibal and cannabis smoker who shocked the world tested [positive only for marijuana](#).

2013 Updates: From the *Pot Never Killed Anybody* File: Pothead crane operator [kills six](#) in Philadelphia.

- Pothead [decapitates self](#) with own booby-trapped pot farm
- The pot in Trayvon Martin's system when he attacked Zimmerman was sufficient to [cause impairment](#) of judgment.

2014 Updates: With today's stronger pot, the second person in England has now died of [cannabis poisoning](#).

- Since potheads have slower reactions, they therefore are far more likely to [suffer premature death](#).

Pot and Mental Health

Those who defend pot tell us that reports claim there is no evidence of long-term harmful mental health effects. But just from our notes for the radio program, here are examples to the contrary. The London Telegraph wrote that a Dr. Turner, England's most senior coroner, estimates that marijuana is "a significant contributing factor" in 10% of the deaths he's worked, notably including suicides. In one British study of 853 drug-related deaths, whereas cocaine was a principal factor in 147, pot was used as the principle drug or in a cocktail in another 51 of those deaths. The Royal College of Psychiatrists reviewed research with similar results from Sweden, Holland and New Zealand. A study of 50,000 Swedish Army conscripts found that those who admitted at age 18 to having taken cannabis on more than 50 occasions were six times more likely to develop schizophrenia (paranoia, delusions, disorganized thinking, social dysfunction, etc.) in the following 15 years. A Dutch study of 4,000 people in the general population showed that those taking large amounts of cannabis were almost seven times more likely to have psychotic symptoms three years later. Such findings are largely ignored. And as I write this the Colorado State police have just announced that with the new "medical marijuana" regulations, Colorado now has a lot more people driving under the influence of marijuana than before. Even one of our own Denver Bible Church members observes that about 90% of the many mental health patients he works with for severe depression, schizophrenia, anxiety, etc., have pot use in their profiles. And another medical professional friend of DBC who works for a government health care program reports from her own experience that pot smoking appears to retard emotional maturity and that many of her patients suffer from psychosis seemingly related to their marijuana use.

Available by Prescription

Not only marijuana (including its THC component) but even the most mind-altering drugs, like opiates, should be available as strictly controlled substances carefully and mercifully *prescribed* for medical conditions. What Denver Bible Church warns against is the denial that the *normal use* of marijuana, even from a single drag on a joint, easily produces a

quick high. And so we disagree with advocacy of mainstreaming marijuana and making it available as a standard treatment for all kinds of aches and pains. It's one thing for a doctor to write a *prescription* for a controlled substance, but in Colorado, the "medical marijuana" law doesn't even require that. The doctors basically make pot *recommendations*, and patients not only end up deciding for themselves how much pot they're going to smoke, they even get to grow their own. Smoking your medicine, and producing it at home no less, has far more to do with normalizing potheads than it has to do with medical treatment.

Many churches will now begin to see members becoming addicted to pot which they have procured from "legal" dispensaries. And experience tells us that these Christians will begin diagnosing ailments, prescribing treatment, and then even distributing the cannabis if need be. Churches can list in their directories who to contact to get hooked up. Alcohol has been legal almost always, but to our knowledge, pastors do not routinely advise friends with various aches and pains to drink rum and coke until the pain goes away. But pot seems to be the drug that's beneficial for every ailment.

Kids Around Pot

Christian parents who smoke pot for aches and pains (or even for much more serious ailments) will end up with kids who smoke to relax or for whatever excuse strikes them. But parents who smoke pot will think that, just as it makes them more creative and intelligent, it'll make their children smarter too.

Immature Christians including parents who are already vulnerable to long-term recreational drug use will have a special weakness toward "medical marijuana." Extensive past drug use of course can affect their ability to think clearly. For example, some long-term marijuana users demonstrate paranoia and can fall victim to paranoid conspiracy theories. Cannabis can lead someone to believe that airplane contrails will control your mind but that smoking pot clears your head.

Kids growing up with parents who drink beer and wine virtually guarantees that they will drink alcohol also. Likewise, the pot user's child will likely grow up to smoke pot, and will be attracted to a boyfriend or girl friend who smokes pot. And those kids will very predictably exploit mom and dad's pot smoking to their own harm. And it is from that harmful influence that the pastor and elders of Denver Bible Church want to protect the adults and the children of Colorado.

Parents on Pot

In addition to the studies showing pot as destructive to our DNA genetic code, as more destructive to the lungs than tobacco, as negatively affecting neurons, as an impediment to learning and memory, and as especially dangerous to people with weakened immune systems, aside from all that, millions of people...

*To read this article in its entirety, go to
<http://kgov.com/negative-effects-of-marijuana-pot-researchers-shows-cannabis-is-harmful>*