



**PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN FROM THE POWERFUL DRUG CALLED MARIJUANA
FAMILY IMPACT STUDY ON LEGALIZING RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA
ABCs of why our children and families need more hope, not dope**

1. ADOLESCENT ADDICTION

1. Cannabis use disorder: Marijuana is the #1 drug in Hawaii (64.7%) for adolescent substance abuse treatment
2. Vaping marijuana: 12.5% of Hawaii teens report vaping marijuana
3. Addicts turn to a life of crime to support their addiction
4. A 50-year study found that marijuana use is linked to a 7-fold greater odds of subsequent violent crime. <https://learnaboutsam.org/mental-health/>
5. It's a BAD IDEA, OUR CHILDREN NEED MORE HOPE, NOT DOPE

2. BRAIN DISORDER (Mental Illness)

1. Mental illness and suicidal ideation: Frequency and higher THC potency are associated with psychosis, hallucinations, suicidality, reshaping of brain matter, and addiction. <https://www.khon2.com/local-news/suicide-in-hawaii-by-the-numbers/>
2. Mental illness, domestic violence, sexual exploitation and trafficking, fights and lockdowns and local high schools, gun violence, homicides involving teenagers!
3. <https://learnaboutsam.org/science/>
4. It's a BAD IDEA for OUR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY. THEY NEED MORE HOPE NOT DOPE!

3. CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

1. Addicts turn to a life of crime to support their addiction.
2. A 50-year study found that marijuana use is linked to a 7-fold greater odds of subsequent violent crime. <https://learnaboutsam.org/mental-health/>
3. Marijuana is the root cause of many criminal activities among teenagers in our communities.
4. Marijuana is the root cause of many domestic violence, gun violence, homicides, and sexual exploitation, and sex trafficking in our communities.
5. It's a BAD IDEA, OUR CHILDREN NEED MORE HOPE, NOT DOPE

4. DRUGGED DRIVING

1. THC positivity among fatally injured drivers (in Hawaii) increased nearly threefold, from 5.5% in 1993-200 to 16.3% in 2011-2015
2. Marijuana is involved in more than 1 in 4 road deaths in Colorado.
3. "Cannabis does impair your ability to drive, it inhibits your perception of time, distance, and speed," Cole said. "So we see a lot of people under the influence of cannabis getting DUIs, getting into a crash." <https://www.kktv.com/2024/02/06/cdot-study-shows-increase-gen-z-driving-high-colorado/>
4. More DOPE means more fatal car crashes, more emergency and hospital admissions
5. <https://learnaboutsam.org/resources/>
6. It's a BAD IDEA for OUR CHILDREN's PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY. WE NEED MORE HOPE NOT DOPE!

5. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL NIGHTMARE

1. One life and family destroyed by dope isn't worth legalization!
2. Hawaii businesses are closing, and many more are struggling to find workers and stay open. This bill will hurt, not help, their bottom line! <https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2023/05/24/where-have-all-workers-gone-hawaiis-chief-economist-explains/>
3. Cannabis tax revenues are expected to range from \$36-\$51 million in year five. Which represents approximately 0.5% of total tax collections
4. In Colorado, for every \$1 of tax revenue, the state spends \$4.50 counteracting legalization effects.
5. BLACK MARKET WON'T GO AWAY
 1. In legalized states, the black market is expanding as they undercut the retail price.
 2. In 2018, CA grew 12 million pounds of pot, only sold 2.5 million
 3. In California, 72,00 marijuana vape cartridges were seized in a single bust of a warehouse tied to state-licensed Kushy Brands (Pellz, 2019)
6. <https://learnaboutsam.org/industry-profiles/>
7. It's a BAD IDEA, OUR CHILDREN NEED MORE HOPE, NOT DOPE

6. FAMILY PROBLEMS

1. Pregnancy: "No amount of marijuana use during pregnancy or adolescence is known to be safe." Dr. Jerome Adams, US Surgeon General 2019
2. Pediatric poisonings: Calls to poison control centers about kids 5 and under consuming edibles containing THC rose 1,375% from 2017 to 2021
3. Children are the future of Hawaii and this bill will hurt our future!
4. <https://learnaboutsam.org/mental-health/>
5. <https://learnaboutsam.org/marijuana-victims/>
6. It's a BAD IDEA for MOMS AND CHILDREN. WE NEED MORE HOPE, NOT DOPE!

7. GENERATIONAL PROBLEMS

1. We are already seeing the exponential and generational host of problems with marijuana in our families.
2. We need to treat and beat this problem in this generation. One family at a time.
3. <https://learnaboutsam.org/mental-health/>
4. IT'S A BAD IDEA FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS, WE NEED MORE HOPE NOT DOPE!

8. HOMELESSNESS PROBLEMS

1. According to the 2023 Point in Time Count, 31% of unsheltered individuals reported substance abuse problems
2. According to the 2023 Point in Time Count, 39% of unsheltered individuals reported mental illness problems
3. According to the 2023 Point in Time Count, 39% of unsheltered individuals reported domestic violence problems
4. <https://www.partnersincareoahu.org/pit>
5. It's a BAD IDEA , OUR CHILDREN NEED MORE HOPE, NOT DOPE

9. **WHAT SAFEGUARDS?**

1. Will this help the health, safety, productivity, and bottom line in schools and the workplace?
2. How are safeguards working with domestic violence?
3. How are safeguards working with gun violence?
4. How are safeguards working with sexual exploitation or sex trafficking?
5. How are safeguards working on school campuses?
6. How are safeguards working with youth suicides and mental health issues?
7. How are safeguards working with illegal fireworks?
8. It's a BAD IDEA WE NEED MORE HOPE, NOT DOPE

10. **HAWAII DOESN'T HAVE TO FOLLOW A BAD IDEA**

1. Are we going to follow others because they jump off a cliff?
2. The host of problems associated with recreational marijuana will forever undermine the Spirit of Aloha
3. <https://learnaboutsam.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/2023-Report.pdf>
4. **It's a BAD IDEA, WE NEED MORE ALOHA NOT DOPE**

LEGALIZING THIS POWERFUL DRUG CALLED MARIJUANA IS A BAD IDEA FOR OUR KEIKI IN 96792

It will cause a host of problems for our keiki and community! We could expect more fatal car crashes, more emergency and hospital admissions, an increase in the black market, and more poison control calls.

Marijuana is not what it used to be. THC potency has increased from 3% in the 1970s to over 25% today. THC concentrates can reach 90-90% potency.

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