Legalizing Marijuana

Marijuana has been illegal throughout the United States for nearly a hundred years, and it remains prohibited by the federal government under the 1970

Controlled Substances Act. However, since the 1990s a growing number of states and jurisdictions have passed laws that conflict with the federal prohibition on marijuana use. These laws allow marijuana to be used as a medical

treatment for certain conditions. A
few states even allow it for
recreational use. This book
explores the heated debate
currently raging over the benefits to
society of legalizing marijuana. The
CONTEMPORARY ISSUES series

is intended to give young readers a better understanding of major social issues today. Each book examines four key questions related to a controversial topic, with essays that detail the most commonly heard arguments on both sides of the

discussion. The arguments contained within are supported by data from experts as well as nonpartisan reports, allowing the reader to make his or her own informed decision on the issue. Marijuana and prohibition --

Marijuana is too dangerous to be legal -- The dangers of marijuana are exaggerated -- Enforcement of marijuana laws is uneven, ineffective, and wasteful -- Marijuana laws must be strictly enforced -- Relaxing marihuana

laws would be good for society --
Relaxing marijuana laws would lead
to too many problems -- The future
of marijuana policy in the United
States.
Highlights the failures of the
government's war on marijuana,

likening it to 1920s-style prohibition politics, and points to the need for citizen initiatives to change drug policy.
Provides a thorough overview of the major pros and cons of legalizing marijuana. Readable text,

interesting sidebars, and
illuminating infographics invite
readers to jump in and join the
debate.
How Lies, Corruption, and
Propaganda Kept Cannabis Illegal
Promises and Pitfalls

Uncle Sam and Mary Jane
The Debate between legalizing
Marijuana and its Benefits for
Medical Purposes. A Pros and
Cons Analysis
The Public Health Effects of
Legalizing Marijuana

This anthology is composed of primary sources written by many of the foremost authorities on drug legalization. Leading conservative, liberal, and centrist views are represented, introducing your readers to the broadest possible spectrum of

opinions on the topic. Each chapter asks a pertinent question about the topic, and the viewpoints that follow are grouped into "yes" and "no" categories. This unique approach provides readers with a concise view of divergent opinions on each topic.

Contains extensive book and periodical bibliographies and a list of organizations to contact are also included. Provide your readers with this invaluable resource, so they can understand the debate over drug legalization from all angles.

Should we legalize marijuana? If we legalize, what in particular should be legal? Just possessing marijuana and growing your own? Selling and advertising? If selling becomes legal, who gets to sell? Corporations? Co-ops? The government? What

regulations should apply? How high should taxes be? Different forms of legalization could bring very different results. This second edition of Marijuana Legalization: What Everyone Needs to Know(r) discusses what is happening with marijuana

policy, describing both the risks and
the benefits of using marijuana,
without taking sides in the legalization
debate. The book details the potential
gains and losses from legalization,
explores the "middle ground" options
between prohibition and

commercialized production, and
considers the likely impacts of legal
marijuana on occasional users, daily
users, patients, parents, and
employers - and even on drug
traffickers.
Reveals the "war on drugs" for the

race-based, legislated criminal enterprise that it really is, shatters the myths about the allegedly addictive properties of marijuana, and exposes America's prison-for-profit prison and court systems. Goes into great detail about the huge economic and medical

benefits of legalizing marijuana and its sister plant, hemp. Written by a pan-denominational Christian minister and blogger, this book uses the Bible to provide a simple explanation for why marijuana criminalization is a sin against God.

Waves of support for the legalization of marijuana are sweeping across many states. In the wake of such change, this text analyzes what experts say on the topic, both for and against, juxtaposed with court decisions, the work of advocates on

both sides, and the words of everyday
people. Students will analyze these
diverse viewpoints in order to draw
their own conclusions.
A Panel Study of US States
Something's in the Air
The Debate about Legalizing

Marijuana
In the Weeds
More on Legalizing Marijuana
"A hundred years ago, marijuana
was considered a threat to civil
order and mental health. Today,
recreational marijuana is legal in

two countries: Canada and Uruguay. More countries are expected to follow-some in an attempt to reduce underage use of the drug. In the United States, marijuana is legal for recreational use in 11 states and in 33 for

medical use. Legalizing Marijuana analyzes the issues related to legalization, use, misuse, and if legalized, how to address the futures of people currently convicted or serving time for marijuana-related crimes"--

Essay from the year 2017 in the subject Medicine - Medical Frontiers and Special Areas, grade: A, International Business School Budapest , language: English, abstract: This term paper deals with the controversy about legalizing

marijuana. The essay looks at both the advantages and disadvantages. It lists the areas in which this drug is used and its reasons. In conclusion it is an article for readers who want to inform themselves of this topic. Firstly it

defines the term Marijuana. It is among the drugs which alters the perception and the functioning of the human brain. It is obtained from the dried leaves of the hemp plant. Marijuana is occasionally used for medicinal purposes, in which case

it is administered in small dosages. However, its use may include such purposes as leisure and recreation, where in such situations it is ingested in large amounts. Marijuana remains an illegal drug in most countries, wherein individuals

in possession of its risk subjection to jail service. However, there are a number of countries with a differing opinion and have legalized the drug for individual and general use. The ever increasing numbers among individuals who use the drug has

basis on continued protests from the public, on the benefits associated with legalization of the drug.

More and more states are legalizing marijuana in some form. Moreover, a majority of the U.S. population is

in favor of the drug for recreational use. In the Weeds looks at how our society has become more permissive in the past 150 years—even though marijuana is still considered a Schedule I drug by the American government.

Sociologists Clayton Mosher and Scott Akins take a deep dive into marijuana policy reform, looking at the incremental developments and the historical, legal, social, and political implications of these changes. They investigate the

effects, medicinal applications, and possible harms of marijuana. In the Weeds also considers arguments that youth will be heavy users of legalized cannabis, and shows how "weed" is demonized by exaggerations of the drug's risks

and claims of its lack of medicinal value. Mosher and Akins end their timely and insightful book by tracing the distinct paths to the legalization of recreational marijuana in the United States and other countries as well as discussing what the

future of marijuana law holds. Essay from the year 2011 in the subject Social Studies/ Civics, Rockhurst High School (-), language: English, abstract: This essay briefly overviews the potential benefits of marijuana

legalization. It does not offer a methodology of instituting recreational marijuana into society legally. Instead, it validates the idea that such a legal move should be made by the government and by the people. Perhaps the research

behind this work may motivate
others to formulate a plan for
legalizing marijuana and define the
parameters required for such an
institution.
Jesse Ventura's Marijuana
Manifesto

Marijuana Federalism
Ongoing Shifts in American Policies
Why the Rush to Legalize
Marijuana Is Harming America
The Future of Legal Marijuana in
America
In the United States, the marijuana

industry generates up to $4O billion per year. A lot of this money goes to illegal drug dealers. Find out more in Legalizing Marijuana, a title in the Debating the Issues series. Each title in the series features easy-to-read text, stunning visuals, and a challenging educational activity. A unique book code printed on

page 2 unlocks multimedia content. These books come alive with video, audio, weblinks, slideshows, activities, hands-on experiments, and much more.

Seminar paper from the year 2012 in the subject Medicine - Public Health, grade: B, New York University, language: English, abstract: The issue of medical

marijuana has been a challenge to both federal and state authorities for several decades. Recently, with more states legalizing marijuana, this social problem has taken on new proportions mainly because at the Federal level possession even for medical purposes is still an offence. The states that have legalized

medical marijuana, have been grappling with problems surrounding mushrooming of dispensaries, an increase in doctor referrals and issues of taxation. Solutions involve streamlining a system for effective registration, distribution and regulation imposition of an effective system of taxation. In addition, medical marijuana

needs to be be decriminalized by the federal authorities.

Should we legalize marijuana? If we legalize, what in particular should be legal? Just possessing marijuana and growing your own? Selling and advertising? If selling becomes legal, who gets to sell? Corporations? Co-ops? The

government? What regulations should apply? How high should taxes be? Different forms of legalization could bring very different results. This second edition of Marijuana Legalization: What Everyone Needs to Know® discusses what is happening with marijuana policy, describing both the risks and the benefits

of using marijuana, without taking sides in the legalization debate. The book details the potential gains and losses from legalization, explores the "middle ground" options between prohibition and commercialized production, and considers the likely impacts of legal marijuana on occasional users, daily users, patients,

parents, and employers - and even on drug traffickers.

Over the next decade, the United States is likely to face a flood of debate and state referendums proposing the legalization of marijuana production and use. Marijuana Legalization will provide readers with a non-partisan primer about the topic,

covering everything from the medical definition and benefits and negative consequences of using marijuana, to current laws around the drug, the likely consequences of legalization at the state and national levels, and ideas about the way that marijuana could be produced and regulated.

Marijuana Legalization and Road Safety
Marijuana 36O
Experiences, Lessons and Scenarios
The End of Cannabis Prohibition
No Consensus on Legalizing Marijuana
for Recreational Use
Essay from the year 2011 in the
subject English - Discussion and

Essays, grade: A, California
Polytechnic State University (-),
language: English, abstract: A new
culture fueled by a large cloud of
smoke has emerged in the last 50
years. It is changing the way
Americans think. Snoop Dogg and

E-40 rap about it, Bob Marley created a red, green and yellow image around it, and now the State of California is making headlines with it. The object in question is the plant cannabis or more commonly known as Marijuana. As marijuana

forces its way into the mainstream, voters are thrown into countless debates about the benefits and consequences of lifting the ban. The main argument in favor of lifting the ban is the simple fact that legalizing the drug will raise billions

dollars in revenue for the government. I believe that American voters should pass a proposition to end the prohibition but also create strict regulations around the sale and use. Marijuana might not be a product that voters

should encourage the use of, but at the same time, the benefits of the plant can help the American budget crisis exponentially. Marijuana is the most commonly abused illegal drug in the United States. Currently, it sells for 300 to 400 dollars per

ounce on the street. The drug is derived from the hemp plant Cannabis sativa. It can be identified by the green and brown mix of dry and shredded flowers, stems, seeds and leaves. Cannabis contains over 400 different

chemicals but,
Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol,
otherwise known as THC, is the
main brain-altering chemical (Basic
Facts About Drugs: Marijuana). The
percentage of THC in the plant
determines the potency of the drug.

Ancient Assyrians were the first known users of marijuana, but an Israeli scientist was the first to identify the THC and it's effects on the human body (Smith). The most popular form of marijuana is called Sinsemilla. Sinsemilla is made from

just the buds and the flowering tops of female plants. The growing of marijuana i
The debate over the legalization of both medical and recreational marijuana is raging across the United States. Some states have

opted to legalize or decriminalize
the drug despite federal laws that
ban its manufacture, distribution,
and possession. Legalizing
Marijuana is a collection of articles
that examines different aspects of
marijuana legalization in the US, an

area that is constantly changing and evolving. Each article is written by an expert in the field, chosen from both academics and practitioners, who provide a distinct perspective on the legalization debate. The first group of articles

provides readers with a background of drug policy in the US and other nations. The second group of articles focuses on the state-wide political campaigns and media coverage associated with the push to change laws. The third group of

articles examines the response of the criminal justice system to legalized marijuana. This includes articles on law enforcement agencies, court responses, and the effects of the new policies on corrections systems. Finally, some

policy perspectives are provided on the impact of marijuana legalization on college campuses and businesses in those states that allow it. The articles are thought provoking and informative, and can serve as a basis for debate and

discussion on many aspects of
marijuana legalization.
Discusses the topic of marijuana
legalization, including its
legalization for medicinal purposes,
if it benefits society, and if it leads
to increased drug addiction.

There is no other organization whose inner workings are more secretive than the Vatican - the spiritual and physical center - of the Catholic Church. Now, with a dynamic new leader in Pope Francis, all eyes are upon the

church, as this immensely popular Pope seeks to bring the church back from the right to center, in what can almost be described as a populist stance, blurring the lines between politics, religion and culture. With topics including

women, finance, scandal, and reform at the fore, never before have so many eyes been upon the church in what could be its defining moment for modern times. Now the most respected journalist covering the Vatican and the Catholic

Church today, John L. Allen, reveals the inner workings of the Vatican to display the vast machinery, and the man at the helm in a way that no other writer can.The Boston Globe has stated that John L. Allen 'is basically the

reporter that bishops and cardinals call to find out what's going on within the confines of the Vatican.' The Potential Impact of Legalizing Marijuana Medical Marijuana and the Need for Regulation

Legal Cannabis: The Great Social
Experiment
Insights for Vermont and Other
Jurisdictions
What Everyone Needs to Know®
William J. Bennett, former
director of the National Drug

Control policy under President George H.W. Bush and bestselling author of The Book of Virtues, and co-author Robert White provide strong societal and scientific arguments against the legalization of marijuana. Marijuana, once

considered worthy of condemnation, has in recent years become a "medicine," legalized fully in four states, with others expected to follow. But the dangers are clear. According to Bennett's research, more

Americans are admitted to treatment facilities for marijuana use than for any other illegal drug. Studies have shown a link between marijuana use and abnormal brain structure and development. From William

Bennett comes a call-to-action for the 46 states that know better than to support full legalization, and a voice of reason for millions who have jumped on the legalization bandwagon because they haven't had access to the

facts.

Marijuana subtly damages the teenage brain, causing lifelong problems. Yet four million teens in Canada and the United States use the drug, a half million of them daily. For those who have heard

only the pro-legalization side, this book presents the case against marijuana on an equal footing. In it, you will learn: - The scientific research refuting all the pro-marijuana talking points - Why marijuana is not safe for

adolescents, especially those behind the wheel - How the news media helped to create an epidemic of teenage use - Why the promise of tax revenue is a mirage - Why legalization would be an economic burden on society - The

misleading language used by pro-legalization partisans - Why marijuana laws that prohibit use are good for the public health Ed Gogek, MD, an addiction psychiatrist for 30 years, has treated more than 10,000 addicts

and alcoholics in jails, prisons, homeless clinics, mental health centers and substance abuse treatment programs. His opinion pieces on addiction and mental health have appeared in the New York Times and over a dozen

major U.S. newspapers. He received his medical training in Canada and the United States. "Dr. Gogek has a unique ability to master the complex and hotly contested material to make it understandable. His book has a

strong message that our nation, including both Left and Right, needs today when most discussions of drug policy are filled with dangerous misinformation." Robert L. DuPont, MD First Director of

National Institute of Drug Abuse Second White House Drug Chief "This book is a must-read for anyone who cares about accuracy and fairness in news coverage." Christine Tatum, Former National President, Society of Professional

Journalists "Gogek lists all the pro-
legalization arguments in detail,
and refutes them exceptionally
well." Library Journal
Five jurisdictions in the United
States have changed their laws to
legalize small amounts of

marijuana. There is more public support for reform than ever before, but still much debate over the issues of legalizing marijuana. Nancy E. Marion and Joshua B. Hill look at all parties involved in the decriminalization of this drug

throughout the US and create a
better understanding for the
reader of how it has affected more
than the individuals using
marijuana.
Legalizing MarijuanaABDO
A Shift in Policies Across America

Thinking Critically
Majorities of Americans Support
Legalizing Medical Marijuana In
Their State
Critical Perspectives on Legalizing
Marijuana
Should Pot be Treated Like

Alcohol and Taxed?

Colorado. Washington.

Oregon. Colorado. Since

2012 nine states and DC

have legalized cannabis,

with more states to

follow. Already a $9.7

billion dollar industry creating hundreds of thousands of new jobs, legal cannabis is not only one of the fastest growing industries, but it is changing the dynamics of

American society.Through interviews and fieldwork, Peter M. Birkeland shines a sociological lens on the relevant issues of legal cannabis and investigates the most pressing issues.

*Who are the cannabis
industry participants?
What are the costs in
running a marijuana
business and how much
money is generated? Who
are the users of cannabis*

*in this newly legal
market? What are the
challenges in creating a
regulatory framework? What
has happened to crime,
teenage use, and the black
market? Birkeland's book*

*provides a documentary-
like account of the
emerging cannabis industry
in Colorado, the first
jurisdiction in the world
to legalize cannabis
cultivation,*

manufacturing, and retail sales.Birkeland worked with cannabis business owners, interviewed regulators, policy-makers (including Governor Hickenlooper), industry

*participants, and
opponents to legalization.
He attended tradeshows,
symposiums, meet-ups,
penetrated the black
market, and visited
communities that have*

*embraced cannabis sales.
Through his firsthand
experience, interviews and
research, Birkeland traces
the evolution of the
cannabis industry from
strictly illegal to legal,*

and he documents the challenges operators, regulators, and consumers face in the quest to carry out sales of a federally illegal product.Is cannabis legalization a

*short-lived social
experiment, or is it
ushering a new era of
herbal medicine and
recreational use that will
transform society? The
author uncovers the*

realities of the newly
legal cannabis industry in
Colorado, a litmus test
for other states
considering legalizing
cannabis.
This title gives readers a

balanced look at the arguments surrounding marijuana legalization. Readers will learn the history of marijuana, the medical use of the drug, and its health risks. Also

*covered are the key
players in the
legalization debate and
the progress of legalizing
marijuana in California.
Color photos and
informative sidebars*

*accompany easy-to-follow
text. Features include a
table of contents,
timeline, facts,
additional resources, web
sites, a glossary, a
bibliography, and an*

index. Essential
Viewpoints is a series in
Essential Library, an
imprint of ABDO Publishing
Company.
America's drug laws have
always exerted an unequal

*and unfair toll on Blacks
and Latinos, who are
arrested more often than
Whites for the possession
of illegal drugs and given
harsher sentences. In this
volume, contributors ask*

how would marijuana legalization affect communities of color? Is legalization of marijuana necessary to safeguard minority families from a lifetime of hardship and

*inequality? Who in
minority communities
favors legalization and
why, and do these minority
opinions differ from the
opinions held by White
Americans? This volume*

*also includes analyses of
the policy debate by a
range of scholars
addressing economic,
health, and empowerment
issues. Comparative
lessons from other*

*countries are also
analyzed.
Two award-winning
journalists offer a
"cogent, well-sourced and
ambitious analysis of the
slow decline of cannabis*

*prohibition in the United
States" (Kirkus Reviews).
In November 2012, voters
in Colorado and Washington
passed landmark measures
to legalize the production
and sale of cannabis for*

*social use—a first in the
United States and the
world. Once vilified as a
"gateway drug," cannabis
is now legal for medical
use in eighteen states and
Washington, DC. Yet the*

*federal government refuses
to acknowledge these
broader societal shifts.
49.5 percent of all drug-
related arrests involve
the sale, manufacture, or
possession of cannabis. In*

the first book to explore the new landscape of cannabis in the United States, investigative journalists Alyson Martin and Nushin Rashidian demonstrate how recent

cultural and legal developments tie into cannabis's complex history and thorny politics. Reporting from nearly every state with a medical cannabis law, Martin and

*Rashidian interview
patients, growers,
doctors, entrepreneurs,
politicians, activists,
and regulators. A New Leaf
moves from the federal
cannabis farm at the*

*University of Mississippi
to the headquarters of the
ACLU to Oregon's World
Famous Cannabis Café. The
result is a lucid account
of how cannabis
legalization is changing*

the lives of millions of Americans and easing the burden of the "war on drugs" both domestically and internationally. Benefits of Legalizing Marijuana

Marijuana Debunked
Legalizing Cannabis
Race, Crime, and the
Legalization of Marijuana
Weed the People
The outspoken former governor
and New York Times–bestselling

author makes the case for full legalization. In this updated edition of his groundbreaking book, famed freethinker Jesse Ventura lays out his philosophy: Now more than ever, our country needs full legalization of medical/recreational

*marijuana and hemp. Seemingly
with every day that goes by we find
out more positive things about
marijuana, a medicinal plant in
abundant supply, yet legalization
faces continued resistance from
government agencies and big*

business. Find out why the US government patented CBD and what Big Pharma companies have exclusive rights to create marijuana medication and why the DEA can't be trusted. Jesse Ventura's Marijuana Manifesto calls for an

*end to the War on Drugs.
Legalizing marijuana will serve to
rejuvenate our pathetic economy
and just might make people a little
happier. Ventura's book will show
us all how we can take our country
back. "More celebs than ever are*

jumping on the 'Legalize' bandwagon. Why? Because it's safe now. It won't impact your career anymore. But Jesse Ventura has been a solid proponent of legal cannabis for decades. In [this book], he lays out the good sense

of legalization, as well as the sheer insanity of prohibition. As a proud American, he pulls no punches calling out the political elite." —Dan Skye, High Times editor-in-chief "Ventura is ultimately quite convincing about the ineffectuality

of the War on Drugs, and on the contradictions and corruptions of the Drug Enforcement Administration." —Michael Lindgren, The Washington Post On marijuana, there is no mutual federal-state policy; will this cause

federalism to go up in smoke? More than one-half the 50 states have legalized the use of marijuana at least for medical purposes, and about a dozen of those states have gone further, legalizing it for recreational use. Either step would

have been almost inconceivable just a couple decades ago. But marijuana remains an illegal "controlled substance" under a 1970 federal law, so those who sell or grow it could still face federal prosecution. How can state and

*federal laws be in such conflict?
And could federal law put the new
state laws in jeopardy at some
point? This book, an edited volume
with contributions by highly
regarded legal scholars and policy
analysts, is the first detailed*

*examination of these and other
questions surrounding a highly
unusual conflict between state and
federal policies and laws. Marijuana
Federalism surveys the
constitutional issues that come into
play with this conflict, as well as the*

policy questions related to law enforcement at the federal versus state levels. It also describes specific areas—such as banking regulations—in which federal law has particularly far-reaching effects. Readers will gain a greater

understanding of federalism in general, including how the division of authority between the federal and state governments operates in the context of policy and legal disputes between the two levels. This book also will help inform

debates as other states consider whether to jump on the bandwagon of marijuana legalization. With the increase in states legalizing marijuana, understanding the debate about marijuana is more important than ever. Learn about

the movement to legalize, the arguments on each side, and what it means for patients, state economies, and legal systems. Examine issues including the history of the movement toward legalization in the United States,

efforts toward legalization around the globe, the risks/benefits of marijuana use, how it works in the body, safety regulations, economic impact of legalization, problems surrounding patchwork legalization across the nation, and the dark side

of marijuana: addiction. Marijuana legalization is a controversial and multifaceted issue that is now the subject of serious debate. In May 2014, Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin signed a bill requiring the Secretary of

Administration to produce a report about various consequences of legalizing marijuana. This resulting report provides a foundation for thinking about the various consequences of different policy options while being explicit about

the uncertainties involved.
Legalizing Marijuana
Drug Policy Reform and Prohibition
Politics
A New Leaf
What Everyone Needs to Know
Cannabis Legalization and the

*Bible: Compatible or Not?
Thirty-six states have legalized
medical marijuana and 14 states
have legalized the use of
marijuana for recreational
purposes. In this paper, we review
the literature on the public health*

consequences of legalizing marijuana, focusing on studies that have appeared in economics journals as well as leading public policy, public health, and medical journals. Among the outcomes considered are: youth marijuana

use, alcohol consumption, the abuse of prescription opioids, traffic fatalities, and crime. For some of these outcomes, there is a near consensus in the literature regarding the effects of medical marijuana laws (MMLs). As an

example, leveraging geographic and temporal variation in MMLs, researchers have produced little credible evidence to suggest that legalization promotes marijuana use among teenagers. Likewise, there is convincing evidence that

young adults consume less alcohol when medical marijuana is legalized. For other public health outcomes such as mortality involving prescription opioids, the effect of legalizing medical marijuana has proven more

difficult to gauge and, as a consequence, we are less comfortable drawing firm conclusions. Finally, it is not yet clear how legalizing marijuana for recreational purposes will affect these and other important public

health outcomes. We will be able to draw stronger conclusions when more post-treatment data are collected in states that have recently legalized recreational marijuana.
Marijuana is the most widely used

illegal drug in the world. Over the past couple of decades, several Western jurisdictions have seen reforms in, or changes to, the way cannabis use is being controlled, departing from traditional approaches of criminal prohibition

that have dominated cannabis use control regimes for most of the twentieth century. While reform is stalled at the international level, the last decade has seen an acceleration of legislative and regulatory reforms at the local and

national levels, with countries no longer willing to bear the human and financial costs of prohibitive policies. Furthermore, legalization models have been implemented in US states, Canada and Uruguay, and are being debated in a

number of other countries. These models are providing the world with unique pilot programs from which to study and learn. This book assembles an international who's who of cannabis scholars who bring together the best

available evidence and expertise to address questions such as: How should we evaluate the models of cannabis legalization as they have been implemented in several jurisdictions in the past few years? Which scenarios for future

cannabis legalization have been developed elsewhere, and how similar/different are they from the models already implemented? What lessons from the successes and failures experienced with the regulation of other psychoactive

substances (such as alcohol, tobacco, pharmaceuticals and "legal highs") can be translated to the effective regulation of cannabis markets? This book may appeal to anyone interested in public health policies and drug

policy reform and offers relevant insights for stakeholders in any other country where academic, societal or political evaluations of current cannabis policies (and even broader: current drug policies) are a subject of debate.

Policymakers and the public are concerned about the road safety implications of legalizing marijuana. Despite the more than two decades of data since California became the first state to legalize marijuana for medical use,

there has been surprisingly little research on this question. This study seeks to address this gap in the literature. Specifically, this research combines twenty-three years of state traffic data with information on the

contemporaneous legal status of marijuana, for both medical and recreational use, to estimate two models of road safety. First, while treating both the state and the year as fixed effects, the resulting panel regression model estimates

that the legalization of medical or recreational marijuana is not a predictor of the number of fatalities per 100,000 vehicle-miles traveled. Second, due to limitations in the regression model, a difference-in-difference

analysis was conducted over the same period and found no relationship between legalization of medical marijuana and the number of fatalities per 100,000 vehicle-miles traveled. These findings suggest that concerns of

policy makers and the public that legalizing marijuana will worsen road safety are not ungrounded at this time. According to the models, the recent upward trend of traffic fatality rates nationwide is not a result of medical marijuana

legalization. In fact, the legalization of marijuana is not found to be a predictor of traffic fatalities.

This project examines the potential impact of legalizing marijuana with respect to health,

crime, and the economy. The findings do not favor or refute marijuana legalization exclusively. The results are mixed. Although marijuana use is harmful to health, medical marijuana appears to be worth being considered. Little

evidence shows marijuana use contributes to the commission of crimes. Legalizing marijuana is unlikely to significantly affect property crime and violent crime either positively or negatively. Research findings suggest that

legalizing hemp production will bring considerable profits to the economy, while possible negative impact on traditional industries should to evaluated in the future research.
Considering Marijuana Legalization

Drug Legalization
Marijuana Legalization

Differing Perspectives on
Legalization