



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

10 Marijuana Myths



Top Ten Marijuana Myths

1. **You can't get addicted to marijuana.** Studies show 17% of adolescents who use marijuana become addicted, and 50% of daily users become addicted.

www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4827335/pdf/nihms762992.pdf

2. **Marijuana can't lower your intelligence.** Heavy marijuana exposure starting in adolescence predicts an 8-point drop in IQ. doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1206820109

3. **Marijuana won't increase the odds of you using other drugs.** Adolescent marijuana users are 2.5 times more likely to abuse prescription opioids.

www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3552239/pdf/nihms388189.pdf

4. **Marijuana makes you a better driver.** Marijuana decreases your reaction time, motor coordination, and driving skills. www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.dot.gov/files/documents/812440-marijuana-impaired-driving-report-to-congress.pdf

5. **Students who use marijuana are less likely to drop out of school.** Young people who use cannabis are at an increased risk of poor academic performance and dropping out of school.

6. **Marijuana can't cause mental illness.** Marijuana use can increase your risk of psychosis and schizophrenia four-fold.

www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4988731

7. Your fertility rates can't drop if you use marijuana. Marijuana can reduce fertility due to decreased sperm counts and delayed ovulation. pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26283092

8. You'll feel more motivated to do things if you use marijuana. Long-term marijuana users have lower levels of dopamine and are less ambitious and motivated. www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/09/160901211303.htm

9. Smoking marijuana is not harmful to your health. Marijuana smoke can cause symptoms of chronic bronchitis, a heavy cough, and lung irritation. www.drugabuse.gov/publications/research-reports/marijuana/what-are-marijuanas-effects-lung-health

10. Marijuana can't kill you. People have died from cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome (CHS), characterized by uncontrollable vomiting. pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29768651

For Immediate Action

- Share these Facts with your faith community.
- Forward to 10 others.

Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action (tax deductible)



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