



# ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

## Marijuana Alert - October 29, 2021



### [Report: Impact of Marijuana Legalization in Illinois](#)

#### **State Attorney Generals warn about possible POT look alike Halloween handouts**

The warnings come amid a national trend of children accidentally consuming them and just days before Halloween. In the first nine months of 2020, 80% of calls to the Poison Control Center were related to pediatric exposure to marijuana edibles. [Read more](#)

[Illinois Attorney General warning](#)

#### **Vaping marijuana by teens doubles in last seven years**

Choosing vaping oils, extracts and resins over dried weed, called "dabbing," is a disturbing and potentially dangerous trend because vape extracts contain "3 to 5 times more THC than the plant itself," noted the NIDA.

Heavy use of marijuana by teens and young adults with mood disorders -- such as depression and bipolar disorder -- is linked to an increased risk of self-harm, suicide attempts and death, according to a study published in January. [Read](#)

#### **In U.S. 40 Million had Substance Use Disorder**

In 2020, 21.4% of people ages 12 or older (or 59.3 million people) used illicit drugs in the past year, including 17.9% (or 49.6 million people)

who used marijuana. In terms of age, the percentage of people who used marijuana in the past year was highest among young adults ages 18 to 25 (34.5%) compared with 16. [Read](#)

#### **Studies - Smoking marijuana can lead to breakthrough COVID cases**

In this study, published last Tuesday at World Psychology, **people**

**with substance use disorder (dependence on marijuana, alcohol, cocaine, opioids, and tobacco) became infected with the coronavirus after receiving both vaccinations.** It turns out that there is a high possibility of doing so.

At 7.8%, the study found that people **with marijuana use disorders were at greatest risk of breakthrough infections.**

[Read](#)

## **People Using Marijuana to Treat Anxiety and Depression, but the Science Is Murky**

More people are turning to cannabis to alleviate [mental health problems like anxiety](#) and depression, [as well as insomnia](#), psychologists and researchers say. Yet the science on cannabis as a mental-health treatment is in its infancy—and some evidence suggests that marijuana can make these problems worse.

. . .Some studies have found that cannabis use among people with anxiety and depression is linked to more severe symptoms. In 2019, the American Psychiatric Association issued a statement declaring that there is “no current scientific evidence that cannabis is in any way beneficial for the treatment of any psychiatric disorders.” [Read more](#)

### ***For Immediate Action***

1. **Share this Alert** with your [State Representative](#) and [Senator](#) and ask them to oppose home delivery and on-site consumption.
2. **Share this Alert** with your faith community and ask them to PRAY.
3. **Forward to 10 others.**

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



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