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The Legalization of Recreational and Medical Marijuana Usage

**Incrementalism/Public Policy Theory, Max Webber's Bureaucratic Theory,
and Frederick Taylor's Taylorism**

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Public Policy

Marijuana was used in Asian cultures long before it arrived in the United States. Asian physicians and healers used marijuana for the purposes of improving memory and as an anesthesia. It was also used for recreation. Just as the drug was both medicinal and recreational in China, so was the plant used in all other nations.

To date, there are no proven deaths from the overdoses of marijuana in the United States or abroad. However, right winged officials have attempted to link cannabis to other drugs classifying it as a narcotic along with cocaine and heroin. U.S. Senators John Cornyn (R-TX), Chairman, and Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), co-Chairman, held a hearing on the "Public Health Effects of Marijuana", sponsored by the Caucus on International Narcotics Control. Dr. Jerome M. Adams (R), MD, MPH, Surgeon General, Department of Health and Human Services, Vice Admiral, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps submitted his report to the Senators. He reported that teens and pregnant women need protection from the impacts of marijuana. He stated, "There is a false view of safety of marijuana because 33% of the states have legalized it for medicinal use. It is the third most popular drug used by teenagers in 2019-2020. Marijuana is more potent today than it was in the 1970's because it contains a higher percentage of TNT or 2,4,6-Trinitrotoluene." According to the NIH, a popular recreation is to lace marijuana with trinitrotoluene "which is a yellow, odorless solid that does not occur naturally in the environment.

It is chemical used as an explosive in military shells, bombs, and grenades.” Surgeon General Adams’s co-speaker, Dr. Nora D. Volkow, MD, Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) stated that the “natural” chemical found in marijuana THC could lead to mental illness.

The natural ingredient THC, or “tetrahydrocannabinol, is the chemical responsible for most of marijuana's psychological effects. It acts much like the cannabinoid chemicals made naturally by the body, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). Cannabinoid receptors are concentrated on areas of the brain associated with thinking, memory, pleasure, coordination and time perception. THC attaches to these receptors and activates them and affects a person's memory, pleasure, movements, thinking, concentration, coordination, and sensory and time perception.”

Both medical experts reported marijuana as a drug that harms children, youth, and unborn children, but they persistently concluded their reports and hypothesis by stating, “but there is no proof.” Marijuana is no longer categorized as Schedule 1 and the dangers they cited have not been proven scientifically factual, but the physicians continually attempted to link marijuana to traffic accidents and impacting dysfunction in fetuses and newborns. Their hypotheses’ have not been substantiated.

These are the facts to date about marijuana ... 1) There is no evidence presented that marijuana or the overdose of marijuana has caused a death, 2) Earlier medical sources used marijuana to improve memory, 3) In 2018, the United States FDA approved marijuana for medicinal use for epilepsy in children and adults. It has been proven effective. 4) Today, marijuana is used to decrease nausea from chemotherapy 5) Marijuana is used to aid those with sleep disorders 6) The states that have legalized marijuana for recreational use have not protected the citizens from selling and distributing marijuana by requiring professional packaging with

warnings. All previously legalized drugs were managed by government controls to provide safety measures and a tax structure. 7) Marijuana is sold by amateurs and is laced with chemicals that cause unconsciousness and sickness.

Why My Chosen Policies/Acts are Controversial

Frederick Taylor's theory examines the functionality of a governmental system or company structure to substantiate its feasibility scientifically, operationally, and financially. Marijuana is legal in thirty-six of the fifty states of America, without one established framework for government controls. According to Taylorism, 1) growers that wholesale recreational marijuana should provide data to confirm pounds sold per state, 2) various types of marijuana sold should be reported and the effects should be researched and published by the DEI, 3) a standard price per pound according to type should be established and made public, 4) locations established should require inspection in a largely populated area in buildings that allow the restriction of marijuana smoke from escaping, 5) the USDA should require licensing of growers and sellers, 6) FDA quality controls should be established to avoid health risks brought on by TNT lacing, and 7) warnings should display on packages to support good health.

Without these measures the citizens engaging in recreational cannabis are subject to TNT and oil laced cannabis that cause unnecessary health risks. The controversy is in the lack of policy and controls, not necessarily in the use of cannabis. States that have measured profits have reported successful gains in revenues. It is a successful product and can become even more profitable if properly managed, measured and data is reported for losses and gains.

The consequences if the policy was discontinued or continuously implemented.

Max Weber would examine the political and legal laws to determine if stricter or more lenient amendments need to apply. I believe Weber would frown on the present infrastructure of the management and distribution of marijuana by the state assemblies and congress. He would testify in congress of the deplorable ethics of the growers that lace the leaves that cause unconsciousness in those inhaling the TNT. He would move to more strict government controls as the nation has packaged tobacco and bottled alcohol by measure for health purposes. I believe Weber would question the ethics of our officials that have knowledge of the dangers of smoking TNT without ordinances or fees prohibiting its use.

The medicinal benefits of marijuana are numerous, and the negative aspects of the drug do not outweigh the positives. I have observed on film the quick effect marijuana has on people suffering from epilepsy. Marijuana relieves the severe symptoms of epilepsy within minutes, according to the series by CNN's Dr. Sanjay Gupta's titled, "Weed". I was inspired to follow the episodes of this series following the death of my nineteen-year-old sister, Emily. She died of an aneurysm after constantly complaining of violent headaches for almost a year. She died after the University of Chicago emergency room staff left her in the lobby for more than 20 hours and then cut the back of her head open without the consent of my parents, when unbeknownst to her, all she needed was marijuana. If our government officials were to vote marijuana out of our economy and block its medicinal use, many would suffer and die needlessly.

**Recommend a plan to reduce the controversy and political influence to
allow continuous implementation.**

The best business model and government infrastructure in the world have a balance of client sales, employee satisfaction, successful operations management, and legal ramifications.

I honor the Congressional members that organize to listen to testimony. The farming and selling of marijuana require greater government controls.

My summation of the drug, cannabis, after reviewing the historical uses is that it is sought after for mental stimulation and relaxation used commonly in groups. Comparing marijuana with cocaine and heroin, marijuana is a milder, less destructive drug. To date, there is rarely a fatality among its users. There are zero reports of marijuana deaths in 2019.

This is a recreational drug that has medicinal benefits and poses no threat to adult users, except those that smoke cannabis. It is a drug that is proven to benefit the brain's functionality and aids in improving eye dysfunctions such as glaucoma. Economically, it profits each state where it is sold.

I recommend its continuance with government controls to limit its growers to specified locations in states. I recommend age restrictions; measures, quantities, and specified amounts be sold; and warnings about smoke inhalation of nicotine and tar. Warnings should display on the packaging for health purposes from the US Surgeon General.

Studying the states of America and comparing them to other nations that have legalized marijuana, there are stark differences. Other nations have strict controls and license its sellers.

Holland, mainly in Amsterdam, has given much of its controls to a private establishment called “the Bulldog”, which sales marijuana in their own bars. There are other establishments, but the Bulldog was given high marks for excellent quality and guarantees purity and organic cannabis ensuring safety. Canada is very much the same, depending on establishments such as The Bulldog to maintain quality and safety. Both seek to protect the consumer from amateurs and the lacing of cannabis adding oils, powders, and other substances that cause adverse health effects. America, on the contrary, gives free reign to marijuana sellers, amateurs and professional growers and sellers. Government controls take away the controversy and demands safety. Consumers will honor the FDA reports and maintain professionalism to keep the product safe, as it did in the legalization of other drugs and alcohol.

**Assess the impact of continuing or abolishing the policy on the crime rate and safety
of the community.**

Marijuana is here to stay. Its effect on epilepsy and glaucoma are so medically astounding that no other drug can replace it. Controlling the drug gives states added revenues. These added funds can be taxed for improved housing and social services for those suffering from poverty. It has been successful economically in locations where it has established its sales. It is time for America to capitalize from cannabis but controlled under strict enforced fee based penalties. It's time to cure epilepsy and strokes in the United States to make cannabis a product that heals.

Scholarly Resources and Seminal Theorists

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