

What's the big deal about

MARIJUANA?

Legal ~~≠~~ SAFE WHY NOT?

Since legalization and commercialization in other states, THC potency levels have increased to up to 99.9% THC in products, the most powerful and dangerous levels in history. Naturally grown marijuana of the previous century was 1-3% THC.

■ High potency THC is especially bad for young brains and bodies by:

- increasing risk of addiction
- increasing major mental health risks - psychosis, schizophrenia, bi-polar, depression, anxiety
- increasing impaired driving
- increasing academic failure
- increasing cases of Cannabis Hyperemesis Syndrome -extreme vomiting leading to dehydration
- increasing child THC poisonings, especially with candy edibles and fruity flavored vapes
- increasing risk of illegal drug use- meth, opioids, and other



■ Commercialization of marijuana is what has driven the increase of THC potency.

■ Where are youth getting marijuana?

Youth are still going to get marijuana from illegal sources (black market).

■ Why is the marijuana black market still flourishing?

The legal THC industry allows illegal distribution to prosper. Black market pot is cheaper by avoiding taxes and regulation.

■ Is the legal THC industry well-regulated?

No. FDA reports products may be contaminated with pesticides and heavy metals, and safe THC content is not assured. There are not enough regulators available.



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In Iowa, we can see examples of the industry already taking advantage of loopholes in the law and in soft regulation.



“GIVE THEM AN INCH, THEY TAKE A MILE.”

- The industry created over-the-counter hemp-derived products such as Delta-8, 9, 10, and THC-0, etc., taking advantage of a loophole in the law to sell psychoactive, intoxicating and dangerous candy edibles and vaping products in packaging and fruity flavors attractive to kids.
- Some Iowa medical dispensaries have changed their business name from a medical name to one related to drug culture. The medical program in Iowa is titled, Medical Cannabidiol (CBD) Act, however the majority of dispensary sales in 2023 are high THC content products and vapes with up to 85% THC potency.
- An Iowa medical dispensary's website promises solutions to chronic pain such as “mental pain” and “reproductive organ pain,” with little regard for unintended consequences on mental health and prenatal marijuana exposure.
- There are disturbing trends in the products being sold with more customers using recreationally.



- In Iowa, medical program cards and THC limit waivers for high THC products are easy to obtain through on-line medical providers without an exam. Providers have no accountability for dangerous consequences or risks to consumers.
- Unlike prescriptions, “medical marijuana” products have no standard dosage required for real medicine and adverse drug interactions are often unknown.

GIVE THEM AN INCH...

The lives and minds of our young people are more important than another addictive product industry, that costs us all more in the end.