

# **Medical Marijuana**

## ***Social construction of a Myth***

### ***Theories, Findings, Future***

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ECAD Seminar  
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**ASSOCIAZIONE OSSERVATORIO DROGA**



# Medical Marijuana. Social Construction of a Myth

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1. The historical beginning in USA
2. Canada Law (not Health) system
3. The biggest ever Business
4. Italy, a back door for the rest of Europe?
5. Politics, Business but not Science



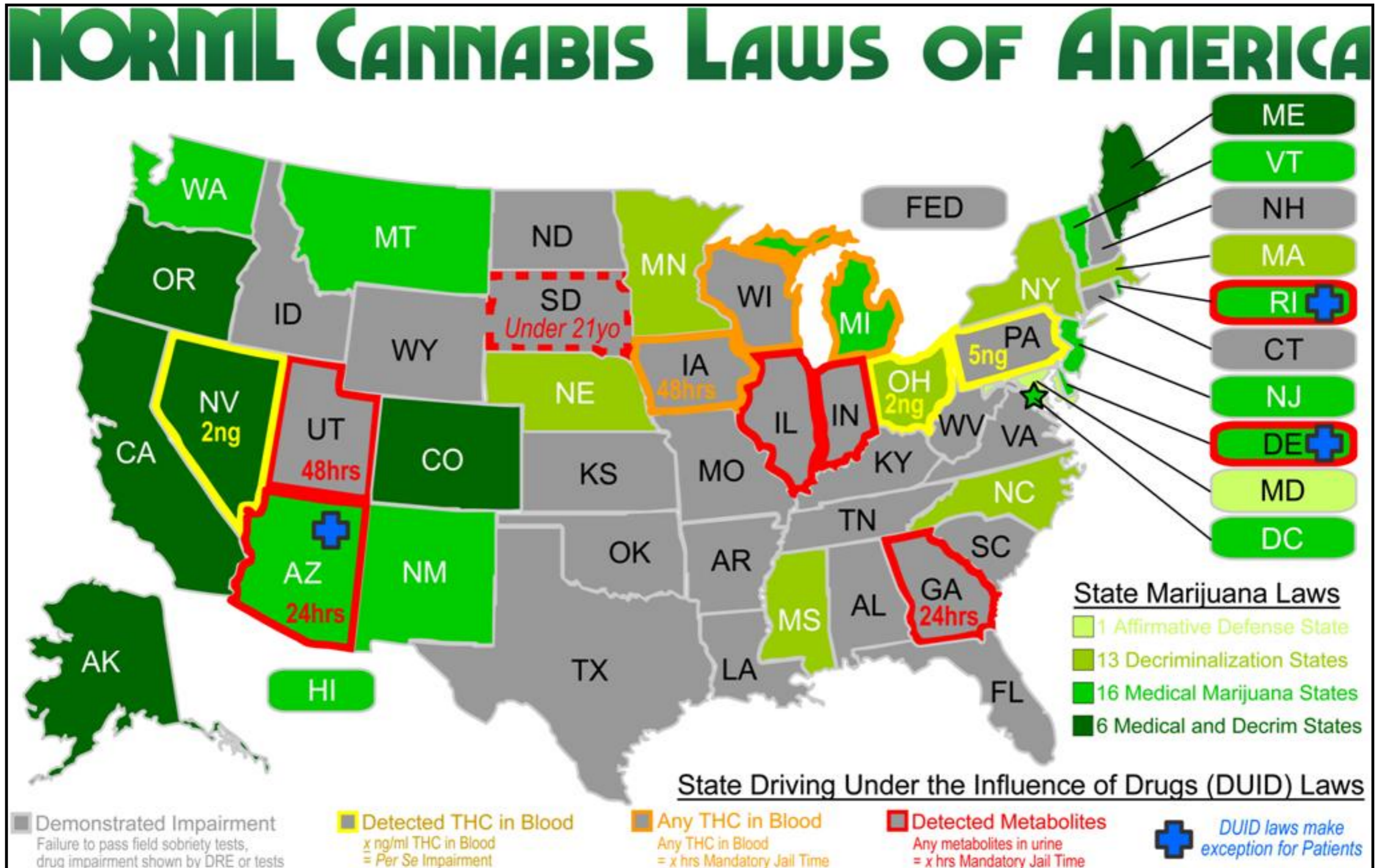
# The MM roots are in Hippy movement

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- In **1975**, Robert Randall, who suffered from glaucoma, was arrested for cultivating marijuana and won in Court using the “medical necessity defense.”
- In **1977** San Francisco Marijuana initiative, known as Measure W. won the poll but the State law trumped it and therefore was unenforceable.
- **1980**. The Parents Movement start the War On Drugs under the Reagan Era
- Dennis Perron relaunch the MM for HIV disease in the early **1990**'s. Perron opened the first dispensatory for sick people, the “Cannabis Buyers’ Club”. Dispensatory became legal by “Preposition 215” in California in the **1996**.



# USA:



# USA: 17 States, 17 laws

1. <b>Alaska</b>	1998	Ballot Measure 8 (58%)	\$25/\$20	1 oz usable; 6 plants (3 mature, 3 immature)	unknown <sup>1</sup>
2. <b>Arizona</b>	2010	Proposition 203 (50.13%)	\$150/\$75	2.5 oz usable; 0-12 plants <sup>2</sup>	Yes <sup>3</sup>
3. <b>California</b>	1996	Proposition 215 (56%)	\$66/\$33	8 oz usable; 6 mature or 12 immature plants <sup>4</sup>	No
4. <b>Colorado</b>	2000	Ballot Amendment 20 (54%)	\$35	2 oz usable; 6 plants (3 mature, 3 immature)	No
5. <b>DC</b>	2010	Amendment Act B18-622 (13-0 vote)	*	2 oz dried; limits on other forms to be determined	unknown
6. <b>Delaware</b>	2011	Senate Bill 17 (27-14 House, 17-4 Senate)	**	6 oz usable	Yes <sup>5</sup>
7. <b>Hawaii</b>	2000	Senate Bill 862 (32-18 House; 13-12 Senate)	\$25	3 oz usable; 7 plants (3 mature, 4 immature)	No
8. <b>Maine</b>	1999	Ballot Question 2 (61%)	\$100/\$75	2.5 oz usable; 6 plants	Yes <sup>6</sup>
9. <b>Michigan</b>	2008	Proposal 1 (63%)	\$100/\$25	2.5 oz usable; 12 plants	Yes
10. <b>Montana</b>	2004	Initiative 148 (62%)	\$25/\$10	1 oz usable; 4 plants (mature); 12 seedlings	No
11. <b>Nevada</b>	2000	Ballot Question 9 (65%)	\$150+	1 oz usable; 7 plants (3 mature, 4 immature)	No
12. <b>New Jersey</b>	2010	Senate Bill 119 (48-14 House; 25-13 Senate)	\$200/\$20	2 oz usable	unknown
13. <b>New Mexico</b>	2007	Senate Bill 523 (36-31 House; 32-3 Senate)	\$0	6 oz usable; 16 plants (4 mature, 12 immature)	No
14. <b>Oregon</b>	1998	Ballot Measure 67 (55%)	\$200/\$100 <sup>7</sup>	24 oz usable; 24 plants (6 mature, 18 immature)	No
15. <b>Rhode Island</b>	2006	Senate Bill 0710 (52-10 House; 33-1 Senate)	\$75/\$10	2.5 oz usable; 12 plants	Yes
16. <b>Vermont</b>	2004	Senate Bill 76 (22-7) HB 645 (82-59)	\$50	2 oz usable; 9 plants (2 mature, 7 immature)	No
17. <b>Washington</b>	1998	Initiative 692 (59%)	***	24 oz usable; 15 plants	No



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New Recommendations	Renewals
\$100.00	\$ 80.00

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**AUGUST SPECIAL**

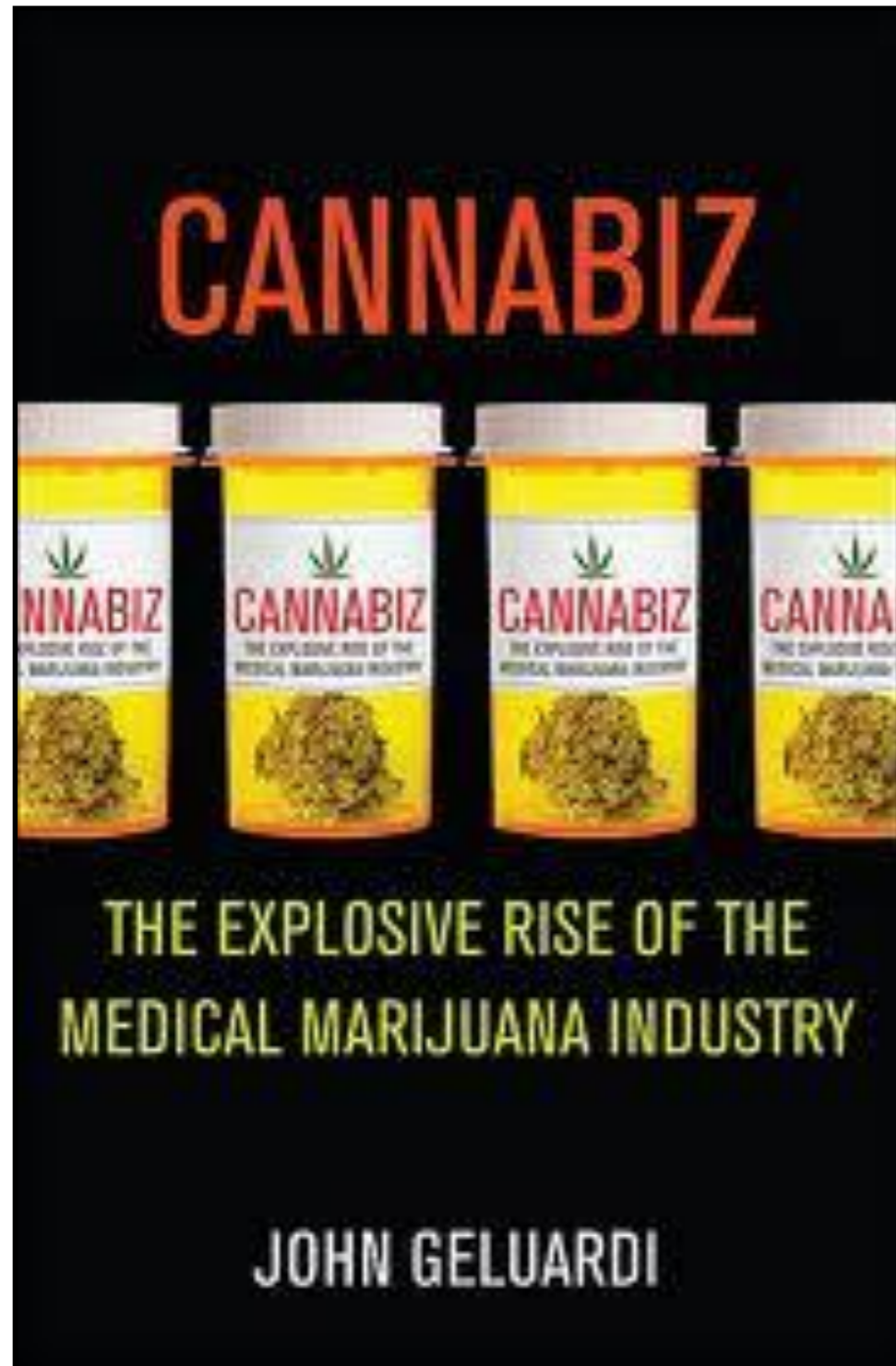
**\$59** Medical Marijuana Certifications

Arizona Medical Marijuana Certification Center  
 480.994.0420  
 www.AZMMCC.com

# How Medical Marijuana System works in USA



# MM: “The” business



- **2000:** “Oaksterdam University” trains students in MM Industry: cultivation, dispensary operation, cannabis law, history and science, cannabis business and economics and political activism.
- In California there are more MM dispensaries than Starbucks and the average profit of a single dispensary is about \$ 20.000 each day !
- Sales of MM: 1 billion and 700 millions of dollars a year vs. 1 billion and 900 millions of dollar of the Pfizer medicine, Viagra.
- The experts: the MM sales to double in 5 years



# Canada: the Supreme Court not the Science!

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The Supreme Court declared, on July 2000. the legalization of medical marijuana.

For the court the defendant was forced to choose between his health and the prison and this violated his rights.

The same court ordered the Canadian government to change the law on drugs, otherwise could be declared as unconstitutional.

In April 2001, Canada government obeys the imposition of the Supreme Court and the cannabis is distributed through the National Health System.

That regulation and related restrictions on supply were found unconstitutional by the Federal Court of Canada in January, 2008.

**The court found that these regulations did not allow a sufficient supply of medical cannabis, and thus forced many patients to purchase their “medicine” from black market sources.**



# Canada

## MM Access Regulations

### A4 Proposed Source of Marihuana

You are required to indicate your proposed source of marihuana by choosing one of the following:

- I plan to produce my own marihuana.

You must apply to get licence to grow your own plants and you must fill out **Form C: Application for Licence to Produce Marihuana by Applicant.**

To purchase seeds from Health Canada so you can grow your own plants, you must fill out **Form E2: Application to Obtain Marihuana Seeds.**

**OR**

- I plan to have a designated person grow the marihuana for me.

My designated person will be: \_\_\_\_\_

You must apply to get a licence for someone to grow plants for you and you must fill out **Form D: Application for Licence to Produce Marihuana by a Designated Person.**

To purchase seeds from Health Canada so someone can grow plants for you, you must fill out **Form E2: Application to Obtain Marihuana Seeds.**

**OR**

- I plan to purchase dried marihuana from Health Canada.

To purchase a supply of dried marihuana from Health Canada, you must fill out **Form E1: Application to Obtain Dried Marihuana.**



# Canada 2

## MM Access Regulations

Form D

Application for Licence to  
Produce Marihuana by a Designated Person

### D4 Production Site

**Please choose one of the following three options:**

- As the designated person, I plan to produce marihuana at my ordinary place of residence (the address that was provided on Page 1 of this form).

**OR**

- As the designated person, I plan to produce marihuana at the applicant's ordinary place of residence (the address that was provided by the applicant on Page 1 of Form D).

**If you make either of these two selections, please proceed directly to D5.**

**If not, please check the box on page 3 and provide the requested information.**

**OR**



As the designated person, I plan to produce marihuana somewhere other than either at my ordinary place of residence or at the ordinary residence of the applicant.

If you make this selection, please complete the rest of this page.

Proposed production site:

Address: .....

Apartment Number: .....

City: .....

Province: .....

Postal Code: .....

If no street address is available, please provide lot and concession number:

Lot Number: .....

Concession Number: .....

This site is owned by either the applicant or the designated person:  Yes  No

**IMPORTANT:** If the marihuana is to be produced at a site that is not the ordinary residence of and not owned by the applicant or the designated person, the owner(s) of the production site must complete Form F: Consent of Property Owner.

Form D

Application for Licence to  
Produce Marihuana by a Designated Person

## D5 Mode of Production

The marihuana will be produced (please choose only one):

entirely indoors;

**OR**

entirely outdoors;

**OR**

indoors in the winter and outdoors in the summer.

**IMPORTANT:**

1. The Regulations allow you to grow marihuana indoors in the winter and outdoors in the summer. You cannot grow marihuana indoors and outdoors at the same time.
2. Please be sure to read the declaration on D8 Part B with respect to growing marihuana near locations frequented by minors if you plan to grow marihuana outdoors.



## MM Access Regulations. What about Hypocrisy ?!

Form D

Application for Licence to  
Produce Marihuana by a Designated Person

### D8 Part B – Designated Person's Declaration and Signature

I, the designated person, declare that:

- i. Within the ten (10) year period preceding the date of this application, I have not been convicted as an adult of a designated drug offence committed in Canada and that I have attached a document from a Canadian police force in support of this declaration. **(Note: Please consult the Applicant Guide for explanation of "designated drug offence.")**
- ii. I declare that, within ten (10) years preceding the date of this application, I have not been convicted, as an adult, of an offence committed outside of Canada that, if committed in Canada, would have constituted a designated drug offence.
- iii. If I've indicated on this application that I plan to produce marihuana outdoors, I declare and confirm that the production site does not share a border or common point of contact with a school, public playground, day-care facility or other public place frequented mainly by persons under 18 years of age.





# The British Columbia COMPASSION CLUB

Providing medical cannabis and natural therapies to those in need



When it comes to marijuana & medicine,  
**The Faces of Compassion**  
may not look the way you expect

Illness and disease strike across all social boundaries. So should our Compassion. Medical research continues to confirm the benefits of Cannabis to human health. Aren't we ready to end the stigmatization and criminalization of those who are ill?



Marijuana is Medicine. Compassion Clubs—Helping People Heal



Promoting A Holistic Approach to Healing and Living

The **BC COMPASSION CLUB**  
& Wellness Centre  
www.thecompassionclub.org



BCCCS DAILY MENU for June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005

ORANGE	FLU, SPINA, GOOD DREAMS, ENERGETIC, INDOOR	\$9
GREEN	FLU, SPINA, GOOD DREAMS, ENERGETIC, INDOOR	\$9
MADEO	SPINA, DREAMS, DREAMS, DREAMS, BORDOIE RELIEF	\$8
LEGEND	CHINE, JADA, SPINA, PAIN RELIEF, SLEEPY	\$8
NEW YORK	DESEL, CROG, GOOD FOR DREAMS, SLEEPY	\$8
HADA	KUSAD, SPINA, DREAMS, LIFTING, ENERGETIC	\$8
GENS	JADA, INDICA, GREAT DREAMS, PAIN & NAUSEA RELIEF	\$7
EMERALD	WONDER, INDICA, OUTDOOR, GOOD SLEEP & PAIN	\$6
MILE HIGH	HAZEL, SPINA, DREAMS, NORTH AFRICAN IMPURE, ENERGETIC	\$8
INDICA	HAZE, INDICA, SMOOTH, DREAMS, PAIN RELIEF	\$11
INDICA	HAZE, INDICA, SMOOTH, DREAMS, PAIN RELIEF	\$11
<b>BAKED GOODS</b>		
INDICA	HAZE, INDICA, SMOOTH, DREAMS, PAIN RELIEF	\$15/box
INDICA	HAZE, INDICA, SMOOTH, DREAMS, PAIN RELIEF	\$15/box
INDICA	HAZE, INDICA, SMOOTH, DREAMS, PAIN RELIEF	\$8/box
INDICA	HAZE, INDICA, SMOOTH, DREAMS, PAIN RELIEF	\$8/box
INDICA	HAZE, INDICA, SMOOTH, DREAMS, PAIN RELIEF	\$15/box
INDICA	HAZE, INDICA, SMOOTH, DREAMS, PAIN RELIEF	\$4/box



# Towards a full Drugs Legalization: the Medical strategy

The Transnational Radical Party wrote an important manual in the 1995: *I radicali e le Droghe*.  
*Basta con il proibizionismo*.

In that essay worldwide experts explain the three main strategies to get the drugs legalization.

First is the “Modello Medico”, a sort of medicalization of illicit drugs

It's seems to be the less revolutionary strategy, they say, BUT is comfortable, reassuring the public opinion

Eurispes poll show the 69,5 of italians is against legalization of marijuana BUT the same research shows the 84,7 is open to Medical Marijuana



# The two strategies to legalize MM also in Italy

## Regional Laws

members of Tuscany Regional Council presented a bill to legalize MM for chronic and severe pain



**Legal actions**  
the first medical marijuana doses in Italy in October 2011 due to a judge sentence



# Actions to Stop the Legalization of MM

## Consigli Regionali vogliono legalizzare la **Marijuana** **COMPASSIONE o IDEOLOGIA ?**



Consigli Regionali stanno preparando il voto per la vendita di «farmaci e droghe» «a base di cannabinoidi» «farmaceutiche» che prevedono la vendita di foglie di marijuana in farmacia, anche ai minori, a carico del Sistema Sanitario Nazionale.

### VISTO CHE

- L'Ente per il riconoscimento dei farmaci USA, la Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) ricorda che «nessun studio scientifico serio» supporta l'uso medico della Marijuana/Cannabis, e che «fumare marijuana non produce alcun beneficio medico accertato o provato», che fumarla «e' dannoso alla salute» e che «non è ammessa come trattamento medico»;
- Il verdetto della FDA è condiviso dalla European Medicines Agency (EMA) per la valutazione scientifica dei farmaci europeo. Anche l'Agenzia Italiana del Farmaco (AIFA) non ha mai autorizzato la produzione o l'immissione in commercio della cannabis/marijuana;
- Nessun medicinale può essere immesso in commercio sul territorio nazionale senza aver ottenuto una autorizzazione AIFA o una autorizzazione comunitaria a norma del regolamento (CE) n. 726/2004;
- La vendita di marijuana/cannabis e' una aperta violazione delle Convenzioni ONU contro le sostanze stupefacenti e psicotrope di cui l'Italia e' cofirmataria;
- La Carta dei Diritti dell'Infanzia, all'art. 33, riconosce al giovane il «diritto di essere protetto dalle droghe illegali», non a trovarle gratis in farmacia promosse a farmaci benefici da partiti politici e movimenti ideologici.

### CHIEDIAMO

- che ogni Proposta di Legge sulla legalizzazione della Marijuana, a qualunque titolo, venga ritirata;
- che si permetta agli Enti competenti una serena ricerca scientifica per farmaci sicuri ed efficaci;
- che le risorse previste per la cannabis "medica" vengano impiegate nella Prevenzione delle droghe.

Nome \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cognome \_\_\_\_\_  
 Via \_\_\_\_\_  
 CAP \_\_\_\_\_ Citta' \_\_\_\_\_ Pr. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Informativa sulla Privacy. Il conferimento dei dati personali e' facoltativo e i dati saranno trattati nel rispetto del "Codice in materia di protezione dei dati personali" (D. Lgs. n. 196/2003), per svolgere le normali attività dell'associazione e cioè difendere i valori e i principi naturali e cristiani e promuovere la raccolta di fondi. In ogni momento potrà esercitare i suoi diritti e richiedere di consultare, integrare, modificare, opporsi al trattamento dei dati (art. 7 del D.Lgs.196/2003) scrivendo al Centro Culturale Lepanto - C.P. 6080 - 00195 - Roma, oppure con una email a lepanto@lepanto.org.

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LA Petizione del CENTRO CULTURALE LEPANTO le chiedo di aderire, fermare le Proposte Regionali per vendita in farmacia con una ricetta medica, e senza la Marijuana anche ai n...

Politici locali pretendono a salutare medicina, decidere per quali patologie prescritta !!

Con la SUA FIRMA possibile pericoloso per i malati e

Analoghe iniziative in altre conseguenze gravi, specie della confusione che si crea questa pericolosa sostanza.

I figli sono il nostro futuro.

Aiutiamo il futuro dei nostri figli !

Mi mandi la SUA ADESIONE oggi stesso!

*Fabio Bernabei*  
**Fabio Bernabei**

Presidente Centro Culturale Lepanto



MI AIUTI A DIFENDERE L'INFANZIA DALLA DROGA !  
**FIRMI LA PETIZIONE CONTRO LA LEGALIZZAZIONE**

FABIO BERNABEI

**Cannabis medica**



100 RISPOSTE SULL'USO TERAPEUTICO DELLA MARIJUANA

SUGARCO EDIZIONI



SI ALLA VITA NO ALLA DROGA

Il THC, principio psicoattivo della cannabis, è una molecola lipofila e per questo può facilmente attraversare la barriera placentare.  
 Il fumo di cannabis, quando fumato da donne in gravidanza, può danneggiare il cervello dei feti ancora in fase di crescita.

L'esposizione prenatale alla cannabis è stata associata ad un minor peso e ridotta circonferenza cranica del bambino alla nascita.

Studi hanno osservato come l'esposizione intrauterina alla cannabis provochi seri problemi nello sviluppo neurologico e comportamentale del neonato con effetti che includono forti tremori, ritardi mentali e problemi intellettivi.

Importanti studi documentano il comportamento impulsivo, deficit sociali, danni cognitivi, consumo di droghe e disordini psichiatrici quali la schizofrenia, la depressione e l'ansia, in adulti che erano stati esposti alla cannabis durante la vita intrauterina e all'inizio dell'adolescenza.



# Pro Marijuana Lobby got some political support

Political parties and members of parliament glorify the marijuana

**DROGHE**  
CAMBIAMO  
**UNA LEGGE**  
PER CAMBIARCI  
**LA VITA**



GLI ANTIPROIBIZIONISTI CON  
**DANIELE FARINA**  
CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI  
CIRCOSCRIZIONE LOMBARDA 1



**LEGALIZZARE  
E TASSARE**  
per battere le mafie  
e uscire dalla crisi



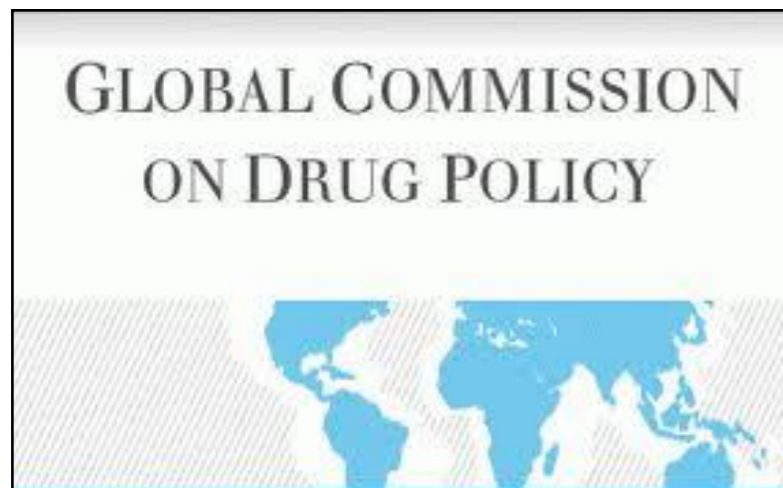
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VUOI VEDERE CHE L'ITALIA CAMBIA DAVVERO.



# Pro Marijuana Lobby got financial support



Richard Branson, with his *Global Commission on Drug Policy*, and George Soros with his *Open Society*, are two of the well known supporters of the pro marijuana lobby.



# Marijuana don't get any support from Science

## Food and Drugs Administration - FDA Statement (April 2006)

*Marijuana is listed in schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act (CSA), the most restrictive schedule. Marijuana has a high potential for abuse, **has no currently accepted medical use** in treatment in the United States, and **has a lack of accepted safety** for use under medical supervision. Furthermore, there is currently sound evidence that **smoked marijuana is harmful.***



*A past evaluation by several Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) agencies, including the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and National Institute for Drug Abuse (NIDA), **concluded that no sound scientific studies supported medical use of marijuana for treatment** in the United States, and **no animal or human data supported the safety or efficacy of marijuana for general medical use.***



# Marijuana is a dangerous and illicit DRUG NOT a Medicine

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**La MARIJUANA  
e' una DROGA  
NON una Medicina!**



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**Thank you for your attention !**

*For more info:*

[bernabei@osservatoriodroga.it](mailto:bernabei@osservatoriodroga.it)

