


Marijuana Safe or Unsafe


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Abuse**

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Presentation Summary

- Description of Cannabis Sativa
 - Prevalence of Use
 - Medical Marijuana
 - Marijuana Abuse
 - Synthetic Marijuana
 - Prevention Strategies
 - Resources
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Cannabis Sativa

- Hemp plant
 - Many varieties
 - Used for fiber, medicine, religious rituals and psychoactive properties
 - Appearance
 - Use patterns
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Prevalence of Illicit Drug Use

➤ Illicit Drug Use – USA

➤ 2008 8.0%

➤ 2009 8.7%

➤ 2010 8.9%

➤ Illicit Drug Use – Age 18 to 25

➤ 2008 19.6%

➤ 2009 21.2%

➤ 2010 21.5%

Misuse of Marijuana Prevalence


➤ Annual Rate of Marijuana Abuse

	2007	2008	2009	2010
8 th	31.8%	32.1%	30.3%	29.3%
10 th	56.3%	52.5%	52.8%	52.1%
12 th	66.4%	65.5%	62.2%	65.2%

Medical Marijuana

- Approved in 16 States
- Therapeutic potential
 - Nausea control
 - Stimulating appetite
 - Pain control
 - Spasticity
 - Reduced ocular pressure
- Medications
 - Marinol, Cesamet, Sativex

Effects of Marijuana Abuse

- Blood shot eyes
 - Euphoria
 - Slowed thinking and reaction time
 - Confusion
 - Anxiety
 - Panic attacks
 - Increased appetite
 - Sleep Impairment
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Effects of Marijuana Abuse

- Impairs short term memory
- Impairs attention and judgment
- Impairs coordination and balance
- Impairs memory and learning skills
- Increases heart rate
- Carcinogen


Marijuana Withdrawal

- Irritability
- Anxiety
- Restlessness
- Depressed mood
- Headache
- Decreased sleep
- Vivid dreams


Synthetic Marijuana

- K2/Spice/Blaze/Happy Dog
- JWH-018, JWH-073, HU-210, HU-211, CP 47, 497
 - Incense
 - Smoked
 - Potent
 - Poison control incidents
 - No testing


K2 Adverse Effects

- Anxiety/panic/agitation
 - Confusion/drowsiness
 - Nausea/vomiting
 - Seizure
 - Elevated heart rate
 - Psychosis
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Protective Factors

- Strong, positive family bonds
 - Parental monitoring
 - Clear, consistent rules
 - Parental involvement
 - Success in school
 - Positive bond with school, religion
 - Conventional norms
 - Positive peer influence
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Community and School Interventions

- Comprehensive public information campaign
 - Substance use prevention messages
 - Clear school policies and procedures
 - Identification of misuse and abuse
 - Evaluation and treatment mandate
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Web Site Resources

Above the Influence

www.abovetheinfluence.org

Centers for Substance Abuse Research (CESAR), University of Maryland

www.cesar.umd.edu

Drug Strategies

www.drugstrategies.org

Heroin Prevention

www.heroinprevention.com

Impacteen

www.impacteen.org

Join Together

www.jointogether.org

Monitoring the Future Study, University of Michigan

<http://monitoringthefuture.org>

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

www.madd.org

National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA)

www.casacolumbia.org

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)

www.niaaa.nih.gov

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

www.nida.nih.gov

New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS)

www.oasas.state.ny.us

Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP)

www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov

Partnership for a Drug-Free America (PDFA)

www.drugfree.org

Research Institute on Addictions (RIA)

www.ria.buffels.edu

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Substance Abuse Policy Research Program

www.rwjf.org

The Smoker's Quitline

www.quitnet.org

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

www.samhsa.gov