



*“Why use up the forest which were centuries in the making and the mines which required ages to lay down, if we can get the equivalent of forest and mineral products in the annual growth of the hemp fields?”*

*Henry Ford, founder of Ford Motor Company*

*“Penalties against drug use should not be more damaging to an individual than use of the drug itself. Nowhere is this more clear than in the laws against possession of marijuana in private for personal use.”*

*Former President Jimmy Carter, August 2, 1977*

*“Marijuana should be available to all patients who need it to help them undergo treatment for life threatening illnesses.”*

*New England Journal of Medicine, August 7, 1997*


*“The American Nurses Association recognizes that patients should have safe access to therapeutic marijuana/cannabis. Cannabis, or marijuana, has been used medicinally for centuries. It has been shown to be effective in treating a wide range of symptoms and conditions.”*

*American Nurse Association, March 19, 2004*



## **NORML Needs Your Support!**

It’s time to put to rest the myth that marijuana smoking is a fringe or deviant activity. In reality, marijuana smoking is extremely common, and marijuana is the recreational drug of choice for millions of hard-working, middle class Americans. If you want to put a stop to marijuana related arrests, the most valuable thing you can do is JOIN NORML!

**A POT SMOKER  
IS BUSTED  
EVERY ~~37~~ SECONDS,  
  
AND YOU WONDER  
WHY WE’RE  
PARANOID.  
Stop arresting responsible pot smokers.**

To donate, please mail a check or money order to:  
Kansas City NORML, PO BOX 380149  
Kansas City, MO 64138

Phone: 888-KC-NORML  
Email: [info@kcnorml.org](mailto:info@kcnorml.org)  
Web: [www.kcnorml.org](http://www.kcnorml.org)

Or visit [www.norml.org](http://www.norml.org) to find a chapter near you.



## **REGIONAL CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE REFORM OF MARIJUANA LAWS**

### **Mission Statement:**

We strive to educate the Kansas City region about the medical and industrial benefits of the Cannabis Hemp plant, to expose the myths of alleged harms, and to inform the public of scientific studies involving the Cannabis Hemp plant, in order to invoke the reform of marijuana laws.



## MEDICAL MARIJUANA

Marijuana prohibition applies to everyone, including the sick and dying. Of all the negative consequences of prohibition, none is as tragic as the denial of medicinal marijuana to the tens of thousands of seriously ill patients who could benefit from its use. The medicinal use of marijuana **should be immediately** made available by prescription to seriously ill patients.

NORML first raised this issue in 1972 in an administrative petition asking that marijuana be rescheduled so it could be prescribed as a medicine. After 16 years of legal battles and appeals, the Drug Enforcement Administration's Chief Administrative Law Judge Francis Young found:

“Marijuana, in its natural form, is one of the safest therapeutically active substances known to man... Marijuana has been accepted as capable of relieving distress of great numbers of very ill people, and doing so with safety under medical supervision. It would be unreasonable, arbitrary and capricious for the DEA to continue to stand between those sufferers and the benefits of this substance in light of the evidence in this record.”

Judge Young recommended that marijuana be made available as a legal medicine. The DEA Administrator overruled Judge Young, and the Court of Appeals allowed that decision to stand, denying viable medicine to seriously ill patients.

## INDUSTRIAL HEMP

Hemp refers to the non-psychoactive strain of marijuana grown by farmers throughout the world for industrial use.

Hemp is one of nature's strongest and most versatile agricultural crops and has many commercial uses. Various parts of the plant may be utilized for making paper, textiles,

cosmetics, paints, clothing, foodstuffs, insulation, and animal feed. It produces a much higher yield per acre than substitutes such as wood pulp and cotton and requires virtually no pesticides. Farmers in 30 countries—including Canada, France, England, Germany, Japan, and Australia—grow hemp for industrial purposes. Presently, federal and state laws prohibit American farmers from growing this profitable and environmentally friendly commodity.



---

## RECREATIONAL USE

It's time to stop arresting responsible marijuana smokers. Millions of Americans use marijuana; few abuse it. Arresting these otherwise law-abiding citizens serves no legitimate purpose; extends government into inappropriate areas of our private lives; and causes enormous harm to the lives, careers and families of the more than 500,000 marijuana smokers arrested each year in this country. Like most Americans, they are responsible citizens who work hard, raise families, contribute to their communities, and want a safe, crime-free neighborhood in which to live. They are not part of the crime problem and should not be treated like criminals. Responsible marijuana use causes no harm to society and should be of no interest to state and federal governments.

Today, far more harm is caused by marijuana prohibition than by the use of marijuana itself.

### DECriminalIZATION

NORML supports the removal of all penalties for the private possession of marijuana by adults, cultivation for personal use, and the casual nonprofit transfers of small amounts. NORML also supports the development of a legally controlled market for marijuana.

### HARM REDUCTION

All drugs, including marijuana, can be abused. Our marijuana policies should discourage irresponsible use, including use by adolescents. The best way to prevent drug abuse is with honest, credible and factual drug education. Prevention efforts can only be effective when marijuana is viewed from a public health perspective, instead of a criminal perspective.

### REASONABLE RESTRICTIONS

As with alcohol consumption, marijuana smoking should be limited to adults. Driving or operating heavy machinery after smoking marijuana should be prohibited.



*Since its founding in 1970, NORML has been a voice for Americans who oppose marijuana prohibition. NORML is the oldest and largest national organization dedicated solely to reforming marijuana laws.*