
Subject: Re: Drugs ARE NOT bad
Posted by [xptek](#) on Wed, 21 Nov 2007 00:22:57 GMT
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BlueThen wrote on Tue, 20 November 2007 18:26xptek wrote on Tue, 20 November 2007 16:43Drugs aren't inherently good or bad. That's entirely up to the user.

However, the War on Drugs needs to end. We spend an (estimated) \$75 billion dollars a year on fighting drugs, as well as paying to incarcerate those in prison because of drug offenses (approximately 50% of the inmate population).

You'd expect the availability and use of illegal drugs to decline after spending that much public money, but that's not the case. Teen drug use is nearly double what it was 15 years ago.

It should be obvious at this point that prohibition doesn't help stop drug use at all, and only increases our already large inmate population. The only people that benefit from prohibition are drug traffickers and politicians.

Just giving you guys something to think about.

(bitching and name-calling from Starbuzz in 5...4...3...2...)

editx3: This link explains what I'm talking about more clearly: Free from the Nightmare of Prohibition

So you are saying that durgs should be legal and people should stop trying to banish them?

Drugs, with the exception of medication, as far as I know, can alter the mental capacity, in a bad way and destroy the knowledge of what's wrong or what's right. People would be murdering from using drugs, and murdering for drugs.

If all drugs, were to become legal and found in common stores like Walmart, then America, Britain, and the rest of the world would be very fucked up, and we'd probably have way more people in jail than now.

By the way, to tell you the truth, I didn't research this. I didn't learn this in school (not entirely), this is common sense, which most drug users (with the exception of medication users) lack.

You're missing my point entirely.

The effects and damages of specific drugs are entirely irrelevant in this discussion.

My point is that prohibition of illicit drugs do nothing to stop the flow and use of illegal drugs in the country.

The prohibition of illegal drugs and housing non-violent prisoners convicted of drug crimes costs

billions a year, with absolutely nothing to show for it.

I'm not sure if you realize this, but until the 1900s cocaine and heroin could be purchased over-the-counter (note: not suggesting this should happen again), but there was minimal crime associated with the two drugs. Because of the hyperinflation of cocaine/heroin prices caused by the War on Drugs, addicts turn to violent crime and robbery to fund their (extremely expensive) habits. The War on Drugs has also caused cocaine and heroin to be filled with potentially dangerous adulterants and cutting agents, which cause thousands of users to die each year (due to unsafe cutting agents and varying degrees of purity in black market goods). The War on Drugs has also restricted access to clean needles, resulting in elevated HIV rates in drug users and non-drug users.

Don't think I can make it any clearer than that. It really doesn't matter if you support drug use or not. It should be painfully obvious at this point that current system of prosecuting drug users and distributors does not work and only benefits those engaged in illegal smuggling or those trying to stop the illegal smuggling. The War on Drugs has caused a rise in violent crime, drug overdoses, drug use rates, and the number of people incarcerated/living off our tax money.
