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Reflections on Legalizing Marijuana

Nowadays the question of legalizing marijuana could be quite a controversial idea. Is it as dangerous as it seems? Perhaps, some legal and common things like cigarettes and alcohol are more dangerous than cannabis. Marijuana was intended for medical use or as psychoactive drug. The physiological effects which can be provoked by marijuana include relaxation, euphoria and appetite improvement. Undesirable side effects can sometimes involve impaired motor skills, a decrease in short-term memory, reddening of the eyes, dry mouth, and feelings of anxiety. No delirium tremens, lung cancer, loss of consciousness, overdose and addiction. There are no effects leading to fatal case. So let us try to consider the pros and cons of legalization of cannabis.

Pros:

- Prohibition of cannabis is unjustified government intrusion into personal freedom of choice.
- Cannabis isn't as harmful for health as alcohol or tobacco, which are both legal and extensively used.
- Marijuana has brought medical benefits for patients suffering from AIDS, glaucoma, cancer and other diseases.
- Legalization of marijuana would increase liability of manufacturers, forcing health standards.
- Cannabis is one of world's top-selling agricultural products. Tax revenues from legalized marijuana sales would contribute to the economic development.
- Instead of war with marijuana countries can save government spending for more important needs.

Cons:

- Some people think that smoking marijuana is against their moral standards that should be compulsory for everybody.
- Passive smoke of cannabis can be a health hazard for others.
- Some people believe that regular marijuana ingestion can lead to use of harder and more destructive drugs such as cocaine and heroin.

Now there are a lot of movements in the world for the legalization of marijuana, for example: Law Enforcement against Prohibition, Students for Sensible Drug Policy, Drug Policy Alliance, Marijuana Policy Project, and Coalition for Rescheduling Cannabis. Despite the fact that marijuana is not so dangerous and harmful, it is still illegal. We have much more important issue to be considered and solved: the problem of smoking and alcohol addiction of teenagers and young people.