



“Nearly half this country’s adult population has used cannabis at some point in their lives and about one in seven, or the equivalent of 385,000 people, were classified as current users in 2006” *

TOO MANY SMOKERS TO ARREST!

It’s time to stop this divisive, discriminatory “War on Drugs”.

It’s time -

- * for cannabis to be allowed as safe, legal medicine
- * for a regulated, adults-only, taxable market for low risk drugs, including cannabis.

The so-called “War on Drugs” is really a war on people. It divides communities and families. For 40 years, politicians have exploited this war as a vote-getter, but who are they kidding?

- * New Zealand now has the highest arrest rate in the world for cannabis “crimes”, yet despite this,
- * New Zealand now has, along with Australia, the highest teenage cannabis use rate in the world!

The “War on Drugs” has caused the deaths of many innocent people in NZ and elsewhere. The cost is huge - it is estimated the American taxpayer has paid one trillion dollars to fight this war. *To what good effect?*

Stop the “War on Drugs” Now!



* NZ Law Commission report May 2011 p54, quoting a 2006 Ministry of Health survey of 6500 NZers aged 16-64



IT'S A HEALTH ISSUE, NOT A CRIME

Ten years ago (in 2000) Portugal decriminalised all personal drug use. Drug deaths in Portugal went down 27%, the feared “drug tourism” did not happen, and teenage drug use has actually decreased. The new policy now has general support across all political parties.

- * Drug users are not treated as criminals
- * Those with drug problems receive treatment, not jail terms! *Why not New Zealand?*

MEDICINAL ACCESS

The New Zealand Law Commission says clinical trials should begin and Police should leave medicinal users of cannabis alone... Natural cannabis (plant material) is now officially accepted as a medicine by 15 of the states in the USA as well as many other countries.

Why not New Zealand?

PROHIBITION: A FAILED EXPERIMENT

Last November, 3.4 million Californians voted for a regulated, adults-only, taxable market. The NZ Law Commission says prohibition should be a “last resort”... Prohibition is an expensive, failed, policy experiment whose burden falls mostly on the young, the poor and Maori. *Why not change?*

NORML



HELP US END PROHIBITION NOW!

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