

**Q ■ Why do more than 900,000 teenagers sell drugs<sup>1</sup> but not alcohol or cigarettes?**

**A ■ Because alcohol and tobacco are regulated and sold through stores.**

According to the federally funded Monitoring the Future Survey, "Marijuana has been almost universally available to American high school seniors over at least the past 28 years."<sup>2</sup>

Since 1972 marijuana use by teenagers has increased from 14%<sup>3</sup> to today where 16% of 8th graders and 45% of 12th graders have tried pot.<sup>4</sup> In contrast, daily cigarette use by high school seniors has declined from 27% in 1975<sup>5</sup> to 16% in 2004!<sup>6</sup>

**Credible education — as opposed to exaggerated claims — actually works! Prohibition makes things worse: more availability, more violence, unidentifiable and possibly impure drugs, and a system that exploits teens to enrich drug dealers.**

**Marijuana prohibition puts our kids at risk — just as alcohol prohibition did.**

**COMMON SENSE FOR DRUG POLICY**

**H. Michael Gray, Chair; Robert E. Field, Co-Chair**

**[www.CommonSenseForDrugPolicy.org](http://www.CommonSenseForDrugPolicy.org) , [www.DrugWarFacts.org](http://www.DrugWarFacts.org),**

**[www.ManagingPain.org](http://www.ManagingPain.org), [www.DrugWarDistortions.org](http://www.DrugWarDistortions.org), [www.AddictInTheFamily.org](http://www.AddictInTheFamily.org)**

Notes:

1) "Alcohol Use and Delinquent Behaviors among Youths," April 2005, SAMHSA, USDHHS. 2) Monitoring the Future, "National Survey Results on Drug Use, 1975-2003: Volume I," 2004. 3) "Marihuana: A Signal of Misunderstanding," Natl. Comm. on Marihuana & Drug Abuse, March 1972. 4) Monitoring the Future, "Overview of Key Findings 2004," 2005 5) Monitoring the Future, "National Survey Results." 6) Monitoring the Future, "Overview."