

# Why Not Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol?

- Marijuana is far safer than alcohol because it does not stimulate aggressiveness and is not nearly as addictive.<sup>1</sup>
- To save \$7.7 billion in enforcement costs.<sup>2</sup>
- To produce \$6.2 billion in tax revenue (which could be used to pay for education, treatment and prevention for all drugs.)<sup>2</sup>
- To deprive cartels and gangs of a major source of revenue.<sup>3</sup>
- To significantly enhance the effectiveness of our police and courts. (Current annual marijuana arrests exceed 700,000 per year.)<sup>4</sup>
- To separate marijuana from far more dangerous illegal drugs, ending the "gateway" to drug dealers we now have.<sup>5</sup>
- To reduce hypocrisy and make drug education more credible and effective.<sup>6</sup>
- To end prisons doing far more damage to users than the drug itself.<sup>7</sup>
- To end the breaking of the law by otherwise law abiding citizens, especially the more than 900,000 children under 18 years old who buy and resell marijuana.<sup>8</sup>
- To remove major barriers to research for medical use.<sup>9</sup>
- To reduce violence in general and safeguard law enforcers.<sup>10</sup>

**And because it would not have been banned at all but for a political scoundrel!"**

("...Anslinger's campaign may have been just a tool in the beginning, but fueled with this kind of racial tinder, it quickly got out of hand. The Treasury Department was barraged with cries for help from civic leaders: 'I wish I could show you what a small marijuana cigarette can do to one of our degenerate Spanish-speaking residents...') *To be continued next month.*

## **Common Sense for Drug Policy**

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