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(Parvin/AB)
December 1, 1981

MRS. REAGAN: AMERICAN COUNCIL ON MARIJUANA CONFERENCE
DECEMBER 4, 1981

- Right at the start, let me thank the American Council on Marijuana for its work in publicizing the harmful effects of illicit drug use. I believe ACM is in the same business as the American Cancer Society and the National Safety Council -- that of saving lives.

- Most Americans, especially those of my generation, do not realize the tragic effects of drug abuse. Our lives have been something like stones skimming across water. Occasionally we touch down and see the effects of drug abuse when it strikes a friend's child. But most of us never know the real depth of the problem until it involves our own family.

- During the campaign last year, I visited Daytop Village, a drug treatment center in New York. I was genuinely stunned by the magnitude of America's drug problem. Our young people are being poisoned. And they are smoking, shooting, or sniffing that poison while parents stand by feeling confused and heartsick.

- Since my first visit, I've taken an active interest in drug abuse, learning its causes and consequences and

trying to bring public awareness, particularly parental awareness, to the drug disaster. But the most unforgettable moments have been with the kids themselves. Some you can tell will make it; others are hanging on by their very fingertips to the hope for a new life. The drama is that much greater when you realize the only thing these kids want is their own minds and bodies back.

-- Those of you attending this conference already understand the need to confront this problem. I believe that if parents, educators and private groups work together -- and this conference is the fruit of such cooperation -- we can make great strides against drug abuse.

-- You know, when our children are young we inoculate them against polio and diphtheria and whooping cough -- if only we could do the same for drug abuse. But by understanding the problems, I believe we can largely immunize our children to the drug epidemic. Thank you for being part of this crusade.

(Parvin/4)
~~Working Draft~~
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Lee Dogoloff 984-5700

~~SENSITIVE~~

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING E.O. 12958, Sec. 1.3(a)

By NARA *Shj* Date 7/6/04

MEMO TO: MIKE DEEVER
JOE CANZERI
~~TONY DOLAN~~
LONDON PARVIN

REMARKS NEEDED BY December 1, 1981

Aram Bakshian

FROM: ANN WROBLESKI VIA PETER McCOY

DATE: November 23, 1981

RE: NANCY REAGAN REMARKS REQUEST

EVENT: American Council on Marijuana Conference
"Marijuana; The National Impact on Education"

DATE: December 4, 1981 TIME: Luncheon

GROUP: Educators and parents NUMBER: 80 plus

PLACE: Sheraton Washington

BACKGROUND:

Dr. Bob DuPont, former head of the Nixon Office of Drug Abuse policy and NIDA, briefed Mrs. Reagan earlier this year on youthful drug abuse. Bob now heads the American Council on Marijuana--a non-profit research institution--and in the course of the conversation, Mrs. Reagan asked what schools were doing about drugs. Bob told her of this upcoming conference and she asked if he would keep her up to date on it. We subsequently agreed to speak.

SCENARIO:

Mrs. Reagan will enter the conference as lunch is concluding. She will be introduced, and take her place on the dias as the main luncheon speaker, Dr. Sidney Cohen, is introduced. Dr. Cohen will speak for approximately 20 minutes, at which time Mrs. Reagan will make brief remarks.

Mrs. Reagan has not met Dr. Cohen. He is currently at UCLA's Neuropsychiatric Institute as a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

I am attaching an ACM newsletter, a sheet about the conference, and a Q and A on drug abuse prepared for Mrs. Reagan for her appearance on Good Morning America. Mrs. Reagan should commend ACM, a private sector organization, for its involvement. She also needs to recount what she has done and pitch to parents, educators and the private sector to work together.

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1/2 page

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TO: Sheila
FROM: Ann
RE: Drug Q & A for AMA and Good Morning America
DATE: November 9, 1981

Mrs. Reagan's posture during both of these interviews should be one of a concerned mother. I think she needs to be hopeful, eager to listen and learn, and she needs to project a non-blaming attitude. She is not an expert in drug abuse, drug treatment, or prevention. She is, however, a woman who, because of her position, has a marvelous opportunity to effect change through what she says and what she does about the problem.

1. Why are you interested in drug abuse?

When I was on the campaign trail last year I had the opportunity to visit a drug treatment center in New York City. I was stunned to find out just how large the problem of drug abuse really is. It borders on being an epidemic among our young people.

I also have many friends whose children have been involved in drugs and I have seen firsthand what it can do to a family to have a child who is heavily into drugs.

When I came to the White House in January I made it my business to try to learn as much as I could about why children do drugs, and how I could help to overcome this tremendous problem.

2. How did you first become interested?

As I said, it was during a campaign visit to Daytop Village, a drug abuse treatment center in New York City. I was so impressed with what I saw at Daytop Village--children who were climbing out of the mess that they had made of their lives because of their dependency on drugs--that I told them that I would come back and visit again. Later on in the campaign I found time to go back to Daytop Village and explain to them how concerned I was about the problem and how I wanted to help.

-more-

3. As a parent, how did you deal with your children?

Sheila, I think we should let her look at this one. I would again stress, though, the need to be non-blaming, the need to be conversational and not to lecture.

4. Tell us what you hope to accomplish.

I would hope that we would be able to shut down all of the treatment centers in this country, because we wouldn't need them any longer.

I feel my best role is to try to bring public awareness, particularly parental awareness, to the problems of drug abuse. It's just like any major problem, until you understand the scope of the problem, you can't do anything about it.

We are a generation, particularly my generation, of parents who don't know anything about drug abuse. There were no drugs when we were growing up--so we don't know how to deal with our children's drug use.

Understanding what drugs can do to your children, understanding peer pressure and understanding why they turn to drugs is, I think, the first step in solving the problem.

5. What have you done so far?

My first step was to organize a series of briefings on drug and alcohol abuse. I felt that until I had consulted with the experts in the field I really didn't have more than just a tremendous feeling that something needed to be done. As I said, I was lucky with my own children and I did not have to go through the terrible experience of having a child get into the drug scene, so I needed to educate myself. I attended six or seven briefings with people who are eminent in the field, during the spring and the summer of this year.

Then in July of this year I went to visit Second Genesis, a therapeutic treatment center in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, to talk to the kids about what they thought I could do and where they thought the problem areas were.

Last month I went to visit the Phoenix House Program in New York, and there I talked to both kids and their parents about what I could do, what parents could do, what we could all do together.

Earlier this week I met with 36 parents group leaders from around the country to try to find ways that I could encourage the parents group movement.

6. Tell us about Phoenix House.

Phoenix House is one of the oldest drug treatment program in the nation and they have, over the last ten years, treated many, many children who are drug dependent. It is what is called a therapeutic treatment program--in that the child comes and lives at Phoenix House. He is separated from his environment and really it is an effort to take kids away from the environment in which they do drugs and put them in a whole separate environment where the peer pressure is not to do drugs.

Recently Phoenix House, in an effort to reach out to the community, has started doing a lot of work in after school programs with kids and their parents. I had an opportunity to chat with several children who were in the residential treatment program at Phoenix House and to sit down and talk to some kids who come in after school and whose parents also come in for therapy.

Perhaps the one thing that sticks in my mind about Phoenix House was the mother whose son had been in the program several months who said to me that she herself had smoked marijuana and that she subconsciously passed on to her son, the idea that marijuana was okay to smoke.

I think during the last couple of years we have seen a lot of kids and a lot of parents take another look at what was thought for a long time to be a very harmless drug. I think that one of the messages that is coming out of our national ten year experience with drugs is that marijuana is not the benign drug that we all thought it was.

7. I understand you have some pen pals after your last visit to Daytop Village.

Yes, I shared a dias in New York a couple weeks ago with two kids who had made that long climb back to a normal way of life from drug dependency. After the dinner I had an opportunity to meet with some of the other kids who were in treatment at Daytop Village.

You know, as a mother you look at those kids and you are filled with tremendous hope. You are impressed by just how much determination and how much guts they have to say, "I am not happy with my life, I am not happy being dependent on drugs, and I am going to do something about it."

I asked all of the kids that I was with that night to please write me and let me know how they are progressing.

8. And you visited a program in the D.C. area called Second Genesis?

Yes, the Second Genesis program is also a therapeutic community, much like Phoenix House and Daytop Village. I visited there in July of this year because I wanted to have the opportunity to talk to kids about how they got involved in drug abuse, and what made them want to get control of their lives again.

I asked all of the kids, there were probably 30 of them, what was their initial starting drug--the gateway drug I believe they call it. Do you know that every single one of them told me they started out on pot. I then asked them if they thought it should be legalized and every single one of them said no.

Every time I go to a program like Phoenix House and Daytop and Second Genesis, I have to keep reminding myself that the kids that I see there are those kids who are lucky enough to be in a good treatment program. How many thousands of other kids won't be that fortunate?

You know, drug abuse is a very democratic problem. It affects all races, it affects single parent families, as well as families where the mother stays home all day. It affects every socio-economic group in our nation.

9. Earlier this week you brought parents groups concerned about drug abuse to the White House. What did they have to say?

Yes, I met earlier this week with the Board of Directors of the National Federation of Parents for Drug Free Youth. I have always believed that your children are your responsibility, and I think that during the 60's and the 70's parents went through a period where they felt powerless. We had a lot of people telling us that we should be friends with our kids, that maybe alcohol and marijuana weren't bad for our kids, that we needed to be less of a disciplinarian and more of a friend. Well, I'm happy to say that it seems as though we turned the corner in the 80's.

Across the nation, more than a thousand parents groups have sprung up. These parents groups bring together parents in a single community to talk about the problems of raising their children with the specific idea of keeping them off drugs.

You know, my heart goes out to people who suddenly wake up one day and find that their son or daughter has been thrown out of school and is a chronic marijuana user. If that parent had had the opportunity to sit with other parents who were facing the same kinds of discipline problems, perhaps they could have kept that son or daughter in school and on the right path.

I think that parents are really the first line of defense in our battle against drug abuse. I'm greatly encouraged by the activity of these parents groups and I want to try to act as an advocate for these parents groups.

And you know, my staff is going to kill me, because I understand from the National Federation of Parents that two of their Board Members were on Good Morning America earlier this year and they received 17,000 letters. But I would say if there are any mothers and fathers who are worried about their children and who want to join a parents group, if they could write to me at the White House, we would be more than happy to try to get them in touch with a parents group in their area.

I asked the parents who I met with on Monday what I could do. I've looked at their suggestions and there are several things that I want to try to do as soon as possible to encourage the growth of the parents movement in this country.

First of all, I am going to continue to speak out on the subject of drug abuse and parental involvement. I am going to use forums such as this to try to get people thinking about the problem and hopefully, to act.

Secondly, I am also going to visit as many parents groups as I can in as many communities as I can. I think that if I can draw attention to the parent groups movement in such a way as to make mothers and father across the country think, "Hey now, wait a minute--maybe this is something I should look into," it's a good way for me to attack the problem.

Third, I think that this battle will really be won at the grass roots level in every community in this country. I would like to organize a series of seminars for wives and mothers. I would like for women across this country to have the opportunity to hear the facts from the experts, to hear how to organize a parent group in their community, and then to go out and try to combat this problem.

I'd like to start in Washington with a series of seminars for wives of members of the House of Representatives and the Senate--and I'd also like to enlist all of the Governors wives in this campaign. I think that together this is a problem we can beat.

The American
Council
on Marijuana

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Topeka, Kansas

Dear Colleague:

The American Council on Marijuana is sponsoring a conference "Marijuana: The National Impact on Education" which will take place on Friday and Saturday, December 4 and 5, 1981. This two day conference is the first of its kind in the nation to discuss marijuana's impact on the classroom and those programs and policies which have been found to be useful in addressing this problem.

We are pleased to provide you with specific information as follows:

Dr. Robert L. DuPont will lead off the conference with an overview of the background and psychological aspects of marijuana, followed by Dr. Lloyd D. Johnston who will review the nature and extent of marijuana use among children. The luncheon speaker will be Dr. Sidney Cohen whose rich experience as a drug abuse expert will be reflected in his talk titled "Mind: Memory, Motivation, and Mental Capacity."

Different perspectives of the educational system will be featured in four discussion sessions. Panels will feature principals and superintendents, teachers and counselors, parents, youth, and school board members. Each session will provide information regarding programs and policies that may be pursued to effectively deal with marijuana related problems in the educational system. The impact of marijuana on the student's capacity to function in a learning environment under the influence of marijuana will also be discussed.

The conference will be held at the Sheraton Washington Hotel, 2660 Woodley Road and Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008.

The registration fee is \$150.00 per person. To allow for maximum discussion by participants, seating will be limited to 150 participants.

We will look forward to seeing you and should you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact us.

~~SENSITIVE~~

DETERMINED TO BE AN
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING
E.O. 12958, Sec. 1.3(a)

By NARA *lij*

Date

7/6/04

MEMO TO: MIKE DEAVER
JOE CANZERI
TONY DOLAN
LANDON PARVIN

REMARKS NEEDED BY December 1, 1981

FROM: ANN WROBLESKI VIA PETER McCOY

DATE: November 23, 1981

RE: NANCY REAGAN REMARKS REQUEST

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"Marijuana; The National Impact on Education"

DATE: December 4, 1981 TIME: Luncheon

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PLACE: Sheraton Washington

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#

ACM NEWS

The American Council
on Marijuana
and Other Psychoactive
Drugs, Inc.

Volume 3
Issue 4
Fall 1981

December Educational Conference Full Speed Ahead

Excitement is mounting as ACM completes the final details of its December conference, titled "Marijuana: The National Impact on Education."

This two day conference is the first of its kind in the nation to discuss marijuana's impact on the classroom and those programs and policies that have been found to be useful in addressing this issue.

Dr. Robert L. DuPont will lead off the conference with an overview of the background and psychological aspects of marijuana, followed by Dr. Lloyd Johnston with a review of the nature and extent of the marijuana problem.

The luncheon speaker will be Dr. Sidney Cohen, whose rich experience as a drug abuse expert will be reflected in his talk on "Mind: Memory, Motivation, and Mental Capacity."

Different perspectives on the educational system will be featured in four discussion sessions. Panelists will include: principals and superintendents, teachers and counselors, parents and youth, and school board members. Each session will provide information regarding programs and policies that may be pursued to deal effectively with marijuana-related

problems in the educational system. The student's capacity to function in a learning environment under the influence of marijuana will also be discussed.

Many organizations have been involved in an all-out effort to bring educators together at this conference. They include: American Association of School Administrators, American Federation of Teachers, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Association of State Boards of Education, National Education Association, National Federation of Parents for Drug Free Youth, the National P.T.A., Parent Resources and Information for Drug Education, the National School Boards Association, and the American Lung Association of Southeast Florida.

CONFERENCE DETAILS:

Date and Location:

"Marijuana: The National Impact on Education" conference will be held Friday and Saturday, December 4 and 5, 1981, at the Sheraton Washington Hotel. The hotel is located at 2660 Woodley Road and Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008.

Accommodations:

For out-of-town participants, rooms may be reserved at the hotel on a space availability basis at a rate of \$55.00 single and \$70.00 double. Write directly to the Sheraton Washington Hotel or call toll free (800) 325-3535.

Registration:

To allow for maximum discussion, seating will be limited to 150 participants. The total conference fee is \$150.00 per person and will include five sessions plus luncheon and coffee breaks.

Cancellations:

The registration fee is refundable in full if written notice is received by Monday, November 30. Registrations taken by phone are considered firm unless cancelled in writing. ACM regrets that it will be impossible to make refunds or cancellations after this time.

For More Information:

Write: The American Council on Marijuana, 6193 Executive Blvd., Rockville, Maryland 20852 or call (301) 984-5700.



The conference will take place at the Sheraton Washington hotel.

ACM news — A time of change

This fall the American Council on Marijuana and Other Psychoactive Drugs has made some major changes.

The first change concerns the newsletter. Not only have we changed its appearance, but as of this issue, we have also included three new sections that will be regularly featured in the newsletter. The new sections are Parent-Power Line, Youth Connection and Publication Update. The second change is ACM's new statement of purpose, which you will find featured on page 2 and the third change is ACM's new membership policy, featured on page 3.

ACM's Statement of Purpose

On September 15, 1981, ACM's Board of Directors approved a revised statement of purpose updating the purpose and goals of the organization and highlighting past, present, and future projects. The Council reaffirmed ACM's dedication to the principle that an informed public is the nation's best defense against drug abuse. Also the Council reviewed its status as the only national, private, non-profit membership organization whose primary purpose is to publicize information about the harmful effects of illicit drug use. ACM will continue to do this by reviewing scientific findings, disseminating information, organizing conferences and promoting research. Specific groups have been designated by ACM as needing this information, namely parents, youth, educators, health and social service professionals and industry. And because of the vulnerability of youth, special emphasis will be accorded to them.

GOALS

The statement of purpose emphasizes ACM's goal to promote positive, drug-free living. The Council plans to meet this objective by influencing public policy, attitudes and behavior in opposition to illicit and non-medical drug use in our society. ACM also hopes to become a primary resource for current, accurate information about the health hazards of substance use.

PAST PROJECTS

At the September meeting, the Board of Directors reviewed ACM's past projects and they include:

- Sponsorship of a university-based conference on "Drugs and the Modern World" at Columbia University.
- Production of a major film titled, "Danger Ahead: Marijuana on the Road," featuring Jason Robards, produced and distributed in cooperation with the National Association of Independent Insurers.
- Symposia discussing the specialized treatment needs of the 23 million marijuana smokers in our country; defining recommendations and guidelines for marijuana research and for education, treatment and legal policies at national and international levels; and developing policy and programs for urine testing of marijuana users.
- Publications that respond to public requests of information in

various monographs describing the proceedings of all conferences and symposia.

PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY

Board members also reviewed ACM's current projects, which include:

- Production of a 30-minute television documentary that will be made available to schools and community groups nationally. This film will educate youth about the negative consequences of marijuana use in order to help them choose a drug-free life.
- Sponsorship of a conference titled, "Marijuana: The National Impact on Education." This conference will provide a forum on programs and policies that can effectively address the issue. A conference monograph will be produced and widely distributed to the educational community.
- Development of a physicians speakers kit to provide accurate information to doctors as they speak with community, family, youth and professional groups about marijuana and health.

The Board of Directors look forward to sponsoring specific programs in the coming year that will continue to effectively communicate accurate, objective information about the harmful effects of marijuana to youth, parents, educators, physicians, social service professionals, industry and the general public.

ACM's Scientific Advisory Board Meeting

The Scientific Advisory Board reviewed ACM's current activities and publications at an annual meeting held on October 21, 1981 in Washington, D.C.

It is the Board's goal that ACM continue its primary commitment to a solid and accurate scientific base for all its activities and publications. Therefore, the Scientific Advisory Board agreed to having each publication reviewed for both its accuracy and objectivity by all members of the Board. The Board also discussed future publications that would provide information on the following three topics: a shortened version of ACM's upcoming monograph titled *Cocaine Today*; a pamphlet on the possible medicinal uses

Parent Power Line

by Thomas J. Gleaton, Jr.
President, National Parent Resources Institute for Drug Education

There is a popular theory on child behavior which, in essence, continues to blame parents for the child's actions and excludes other influencing factors. Often we hear that "if parents set a good example for their children and will communicate with them," all will be well. This is only a part of a more complex psychological theory but when used to blame parents for drug experimentation by their children can cause the parent to feel very guilty.

I hope that the parent will consider the following factors that influence the child's behavior. Beginning at about age eight or nine, the child begins listening to popular music with lyrics that often encourage the use of drugs. Dr. Hook's 1972 "Freakers Ball" encourages the listeners to "roll a little something (marijuana) to take along." In the Cheech and Chong movies (gross estimated at \$60 million), the use of drugs is depicted as fun and the police are the "bad guys." The paraphernalia industry manufactures toys such as the "Buzbee" — a Frisbee which has a bowl to hold marijuana and the players are encouraged to "catch a buzz." Often on popular TV shows the host makes a joke of drug use, or on shows such as Saturday Night Live, we can watch a commercial on how it will be when we legalize marijuana. Also, be aware of the T-shirts which advertise drugs, such as: "Thank you for Pot Smoking, The American Cannabis Society" or "Drugs, Sex, and Rock-N-Roll." When your child hears on TV and reads from popular press that "*Marijuana Has Been Legalized for Cancer Patients*," ask for the child's interpretation of that message.

I congratulate you as parents for being loving, caring, and concerned about your child. I think you need more encouragement and a little less criticism. The most helpful thing that you can be for the child is an informed parent. Your understanding of a society that is encouraging our youth to take drugs is a must. Begin now to gather information, attend a rock concert, go to see a drug movie, listen to the lyrics of the child's favorite music, and you may feel that the factors that

Five Options to Become a Member of ACM

As ACM continues to grow so do our audiences. We have expanded our membership policy to include five categories. The five membership categories, effective as of November 16, 1981, are youth, general, associate, sponsor and patron. All previous members will continue to hold their present standing until receipt of their annual renewal letter. Because of the special emphasis that ACM accords children, we felt it important to offer our membership on an affordable basis to youth under the age of 18.

The policy also opens the door to new members to participate at different levels in the organization. All five memberships are tax deductible and provide the following varied services:

Youth Membership (\$5.00 annually for members under 18)

Quarterly newsletter.
List of available publications.
Announcements of all conferences, seminars, and exhibits.

General Membership (\$20.00 annually)

Quarterly newsletter.
List of available publications.
Announcements of all conferences, seminars, and exhibits.
Priority consideration for ACM conference registrations.

Associate Membership (\$50.00 annually)

Quarterly newsletter.
A 20% discount on individually ordered publications.
Announcements of all conferences, seminars, and exhibits.
Priority consideration for ACM conference registrations.

Sponsor Membership (\$100.00 annually)

Quarterly newsletter.
A 20% discount on individually ordered publications.
A complimentary copy of *Marihuana Today: A Compilation of Medical Findings for the Layman*.
Announcements of all conferences,

seminars, and exhibits.
Top consideration for ACM conference registrations.
Membership certificate suitable for framing.

Patron Membership (\$250.00 or more annually)

Quarterly newsletter.
A complimentary copy of each ACM publication.
A monthly report of ACM activities.
Announcements of all conferences, seminars, and exhibits.
Top priority consideration for ACM conference registrations.
A plaque signifying support.

We ask you to consider one of the above memberships, because as of this newsletter ACM will only send the four quarterly newsletters to paid members. However, if at this time you do not wish to join but desire to be maintained on our mailing list, you must check-off the attached membership application and you will receive one newsletter annually.

Never before have so many publications been made available to the public by ACM.

During the past year the Council has been busy compiling information in the form of monographs. These pamphlets contain up-to-date factual information from conferences and symposia held by ACM and from our Scientific Advisory Board members who represent the most knowledgeable experts in the drug field.

Nine new publications are being added to our list. Four of these publications currently available are:

The Marijuana Controversy: Definition, Research Perspective and Therapeutic Claims, by Dr. Carlton E. Turner, (\$1.99 per copy). This monograph provides a framework that places marijuana research findings into proper perspective. Its purpose is to help the reader grasp marijuana research and to fully define what marijuana is, how its chemicals are derived from the Cannabis plant and how they are used in biomedical research.

Marijuana Smoking and Its Effects on the Lungs, by Dr. Donald P. Taskin and Dr. Sidney Cohen (\$2.50 per copy). The purpose of this monograph is to summarize what is currently known concerning effects of marijuana and tobacco separately and together on the lung and to discuss the clinical implications of these effects with respect to the development of respiratory disease.

Publication Update

Urine Testing for Marijuana Use: Implications for a Variety of Settings, edited by Margaret Blasinsky and Dr. George K. Russell (\$2.50 per copy). This monograph includes presentations by Drs. Robert L. DuPont, Richard Hawks, Richard H. Bucher, Herbert Kleber, Arthur J. McBay, Herbert Moskowitz, Donald I. Macdonald, Richard Hawley, and also Nancy Wynster, Hugh Alcott, William L. Barton, and James L. Francek. Topics range from "Urine Testing for Marijuana Use — Methods of Testing and Analysis" to "Summary of Technical Presentations and Discussions," which includes "Marijuana Testing — Implications for Highway Safety," "Juvenile Marijuana Use" and "Implications for Marijuana Testing in the Workplace and the Military."

Marijuana and the Brain, by Dr. Robert G. Heath (\$1.50 per copy). This monograph presents current research on how marijuana affects the brain from both a behavioral and physical perspective.

Marihuana Today: A Compilation of Medical Findings for the Layman, by Dr. George K. Russell (\$3.00 per copy). This book is a new 1982 edition describing up-to-date information concerning the harmful effects of marijuana. It is written for the purpose of carefully and objectively explaining the latest research on marijuana and the user.

Additional publications that may be ordered year round from ACM include:

Marijuana: Biomedical Effects and Social Implications, transcript of day two of ACM's Second Annual Conference on Marijuana (\$5.00 per copy).

Marijuana Smoking — A National Epidemic, by Dr. Robert L. DuPont, (25¢ per copy).

Marijuana El Dia, a pamphlet of marijuana information for Spanish speaking adults and young adults (50¢ per copy).

Two publications that will be available in December are *Cocaine Today*, by Dr. Sidney Cohen and *Treating the Marijuana Dependent Person*, edited by Robin DeSilva and Dr. Robert L. DuPont. Publications that will be available in early 1982 are *A Pediatrician's View of Marijuana*, by Ingrid Lantner and Rose Barth, *Marijuana and Driving*, by Herbert Moskowitz, and *Marijuana and Reproduction*, by Carol Smith and R.H. Asch.

To purchase ACM publications, please send titles, quantity, plus payment for the total order including postage and handling to ACM, 6193 Executive Blvd., Rockville, Maryland 20852. Postage and handling costs for 1 to 5 copies are an additional \$1.25, an additional \$2.00 for 6 to 15 copies, and orders for 16 copies or more will be invoiced separately. Bulk rates are available upon request.

Youth Connection

— **Youth Connection is a new column** for youth. Each issue will feature information of special interest to young adults.

— **RECENT HIGH SCHOOL SURVEYS** show that an increasing number of youths are saying "no to pot." While there is still some confusion over marijuana's undeserved reputation for safety, the latest research indicates that youth all across the country are becoming aware of the harmful effects of marijuana.

— **THC**, one of the 400 chemicals found in marijuana and the agent that causes the "high," has been proven to be the greatest threat to the user's body. Studies show that the major reason for this concern is because THC lingers in the body even after the "high" is gone. Unlike alcohol, which leaves the system after only a few hours through urine and sweat, traces of THC have been found in the brain, reproductive organs and fatty tissues of the body for as long as 30 days after smoking a single marijuana cigarette. So even if marijuana is smoked just once a month, the body will continuously contain some amount of THC.

— **PHYSICIANS CONCERNED** about marijuana use emphasize that regular use can be particularly damaging for adolescents because of its effects on the reproductive organs, heart, lungs and brain.

Marijuana affects the reproductive organs, the testes and ovaries, by changing the network of glands and hormones that are involved in reproduction. In males it decreases the level of sperm hormone and sperm production and increases abnormal sperm production. In females it causes increases in menstrual irregularities and decreases ovulation.

Marijuana affects the heart by increasing the heart rates as much as 50% and may contribute to heart disease.

In the lungs, marijuana produces bronchitis, sore throats, coughs and chest pains just as smoking tobacco does, only it does it in a shorter period of time.

Marijuana affects the brain by disrupting thinking, learning, remembering and being able to finish a sentence or thought in an understandable way.

— **OPPOSITION TO MARIJUANA USE** among adolescents is growing. To learn more about this issue, you may join ACM through its youth membership program or write the Council for a publication list.

The American Response to Marijuana

by Dr. Robert L. DuPont, ACM President

This is the first of a two-part series reviewing marijuana use in America. Part one is a historical review; part two, to be featured in the ACM winter issue, will offer personal perspectives of the last three years.

For the purposes of this review, I have divided the American response to marijuana into five time periods, as follows:

1900 to 1930—the Period of Neglect

1930 to 1937—the Period of Moral Concern

1937 to 1965—the Period of Prohibition

1965 to 1978—the Period of Decriminalization

1978 to the present—the Period of Health Concern.

While there is little interest today in the first three periods, I will briefly sketch them so that the more important issues, particularly the shift from decriminalization to health concern, can be understood. At the outset, I should emphasize that the turning points I have chosen are somewhat arbitrary and that within each period there were a variety of opinions being expressed in the United States. Nevertheless, I believe the divisions I have made are generally correct in terms of both the times of change between periods and the characterizations of the dominant national sentiments within each period. It should also be said at the outset that marijuana policy only became a serious national issue in the U.S. during the last two decades; the earlier eras were relatively less significant in the nation's political history. Today, by contrast, marijuana policy is a major issue, with few people, whether average citizens or active politicians, not aware of the problem.

1900 TO 1930

THE PERIOD OF NEGLECT

The earliest era, which I characterize as the Period of Neglect, began with modest use of cannabis (later to be called marijuana) as a folk medicine, but ended with the virtually total displacement of marijuana by newer more specific pharmacologic agents. Use of marijuana as an intoxicant was virtually unknown during this period. Legal restrictions were not relevant because there was practically no use

1930 TO 1937
THE PERIOD OF
MORAL CONCERN

Beginning roughly in the 1930's, however, marijuana use became more widespread especially among Mexican Americans. At this time, the drug got its lasting American name from the Spanish word, "marijuana." The alarm over its use had, in the 1930's, a distinctively racial or ethnic bias and centered on legal and moralistic concerns. I have called this the Period of Moral Concern. Many of those attitudes toward marijuana use in the 1930's could be traced to the temperance movement which had suffered in 1933 its greatest setback in the United States with the repeal of national alcohol prohibition. Some states outlawed marijuana use in the early decades of the 20th century (especially those with significant Mexican-American populations) leading to national prohibition in 1937.

1937 TO 1965

THE PERIOD OF PROHIBITION

From 1937 until approximately 1965, the use of marijuana was prohibited and use was uncommon. Prohibition worked. The modest spread of use in the 1930's seemed to have been halted. However, beginning in the 1950's, there was a small, but influential, interest in some academic centers for "consciousness expanding" drugs, particularly hallucinogenic drugs such as LSD. Later this movement, led by former Harvard Professor, Timothy Leary, took up the cause of marijuana use. However, as recently as 1962, only 1% of Americans, aged 12 to 17, and only 4% of Americans, aged 18 to 25, had used marijuana even once during their lives.

In the mid-1960's, this pattern changed abruptly. Marijuana use in the United States was caught up in the Youth Culture, reflecting the impact on our society of the large number of people born following World War II and the general weakening of control exerted by the society over potentially destructive youthful behavior. Marijuana use resonated culturally with the anti-Viet Nam War Movement and the Civil Rights Movement, giving some legitimacy to the use of the drug. Use of marijuana was promoted by popular musicians and other youth-culture leaders. By 1967, the percentage of American 12- to 17-year-olds who had

The American Response to Marijuana (continued)

7% of the total in this age group) and the percentage of young adults who had used the drug increased over 300% (to 13% of this group).

1965 TO 1978 THE PERIOD OF DECRIMINALIZATION

From 1965 to 1978, the marijuana movement peaked. Use rates rose progressively, especially among youth. Use, at least once, by those 12 to 17 rose to 31% in 1979, among young adults it hit 68% and among older adults (those 26 and older) it reached 20% of the U.S. population. Thus, for the first time ever, marijuana joined alcohol and tobacco as mass-consumed drugs in the United States. This was the time I have called the Period of Decriminalization. Most intellectuals and liberals in the nation, to say nothing of most youth, became convinced that marijuana use was harmless and that legal prohibition was ill-founded, ineffective, and even specifically destructive. This view was contained in a Presidential statement by Jimmy Carter in 1977. Eleven states decriminalized possession of small amounts of marijuana and national legislation for decriminalization was introduced, and later supported by President Carter. Most observers felt that it was "only a matter of time" before the political process caught up with the tide of pro-pot attitudes and that the drug would be "legalized" in similar fashion to alcohol and tobacco. The prestigious, private Drug Abuse Council and a Presidential Task Force called for the study of legalization programs with the expectation that marijuana prohibition would soon be ended.

1978 TO THE PRESENT THE PERIOD OF HEALTH CONCERN

Then, abruptly in 1979, the trend in the United States changed. Decriminalization became "old fashioned" and no new states enacted decriminalization laws. The initiative for federal decriminalization faltered and, in 1980, was easily defeated in the United States Senate. What happened? Why did this "modern" movement suddenly falter and apparently collapse? Is the pro-pot crusade really dead or just dormant under the new politically conservative climate in the United States?

To understand the shift of public sentiment toward marijuana use, you must first understand that the public

sentiment during the Period of Decriminalization was based on several important assumptions, all of which have recently been shown to be false. The first was that the drug itself was harmless, that it was, in the words of former Beatle singer, John Lennon, "a harmless giggle." The second assumption was that few users would use the drug heavily — most would try it and discard it. The third assumption was that use of marijuana did not lead to use of more worrisome drugs, such as heroin. The final assumption was that the typical initial user would be a relatively healthy college student.

Within the last few years, evidence of health hazard from marijuana use has mounted progressively. The evidence has been well documented by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (in publications such as *Marijuana Research Findings: 1980*) and by private, non-profit organizations such as the American Council on Marijuana (in publications such as *Marijuana Today*). This is not the place to review this important area, but it is now clear that marijuana has severe, negative effects on human lungs, reproduction, and brain function, and that THC, the major psychoactive chemical in marijuana, stays in the body for a long time (up to 30 days following a single use of the drug) thus even occasional use of marijuana may have long-range ill effects. The first major presentation of this data occurred in 1974, when the Senate Internal Securities Committee held its initial Hearing. This process was repeated and expanded by the Committee in 1975. Later, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare began to change its tone on the marijuana research. The health concerns spread in the late 1970's.

More careful research has shown that marijuana use clearly leads to use of other dangerous drugs including heroin. For example, one recent study found that, among those young men who had never used marijuana, less than one in 1,000 had ever used heroin, while among those who had used marijuana over a thousand times by the time they reached their 30th year, over 50% had used heroin.

Also central to the shift in attitude was the alarming evidence that marijuana use was a spreading epidemic involving ever younger and more vulnerable segments of the population. By 1979, 31% of the nation's 15-year-old students had used marijuana at least once. Among the nation's 12- to 17-year-olds, 4,000,000 had used marijuana, while "only" 2,800,000

had ever used tobacco cigarettes in 1979. Contrary to earlier belief, there was a strong move toward daily use of marijuana as the dominant pattern of use. In addition, the potency of the material smoked rose from an average of roughly 0.2% THC in the mid-1960's to over 4% in 1980. Thus, potency rose about 20-fold in less than two decades. It was found in 1978 that 11% of all the nation's 18-year-old students (high school seniors) smoked marijuana daily consuming an average of 3½ marijuana joints each. The alarms went off across the nation when it was recognized that daily marijuana use had risen from 6% in 1975 to 11% in 1978, although daily alcohol use among high school seniors was stable in 1978 at 6%, the same level it had been in 1975. Thus, daily marijuana use in this key segment of the population had roughly doubled in four years and, by 1978, was nearly double the rate of daily drinking.

Training Institute on Addictions Conference

"The Third Annual Training Institute on Addictions," conference sponsored by the U.S. Journal and the Institute for Integral Development, will be held on November 29 through December 4, 1981.

The conference will be at the Diplomat Hotel in Hollywood, Florida and will offer two separate programs.

The physicians program will run from Sunday, November 29 thru Tuesday December 1, and will offer C.M.E. category I and family practice credits. The addictions program will run from Sunday, November 29 thru Friday, December 4, and will offer academic and nursing credits.

For more information, please write:

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