



Friends & Families of Cannabis Consumers

You don't have to smoke pot to know that the marijuana laws are wrong. —

PO Box 1716, El Cerrito CA 94530 USA • Phone/ Fax: 510-215-8326 • www.equalrights4all.org • Email: chris@chrisconrad.com

Spring, 2002

Dear Friend,

I'm writing to you today about a problem that affects us both. More than 71 million Americans have tried marijuana. Everybody knows someone who uses it, whether we realize it or not. Most of us now know and love somebody who uses cannabis, perhaps for medical reasons. These are good people who contribute to society and deserve the same respect and legal rights as people who have an occasional drink or who use tobacco — as well as those who choose to abstain.

It can be amusing to see the mocking “stoner” stereotype created by the media. But that stigma, along with the lies in government propaganda, has led to discrimination, draconian penalties and the arrests of more than 13 million Americans for cannabis. Their reputations are smeared. Their lives turned upside down. Sometimes the government even takes away their children, homes, or businesses. Some 60,000 adults are locked behind bars today for cannabis. If any of your family members are discriminated against or arrested, you are also affected by the prejudice. All this over a natural herb, grown by our Founding Fathers — including Washington and Jefferson.

You don't have to use marijuana to know that the laws are wrong. For too long we have stood by as friends and family members have been denigrated and discriminated against in jobs, housing, education and custodial rights. This is a travesty. All that the hate-mongering, anti-cannabis bigots need to complete their “cultural cleansing” is for us to remain silent. Well, no more.

I have family members and lots of good friends who use cannabis, and I'm tired of seeing them treated as second class citizens. They do not deserve to be locked away. You may have heard about a “hidden agenda” of the reform movement. Well, here is mine: To make our message of dignity and tolerance heard. We must send the message that anti-cannabis bigotry is no more acceptable than is racism, sexism or homophobia.

So, please join our effort. Come to our website to become activated. We will not “out” anyone without permission. Fill out our survey and please **sign the “release” at the end of the form**, to give us permission to use your information. Any contributions are also appreciated. Thank you.

— Chris Conrad, Director, Friends and Families of Cannabis Consumers



Friends & Families of Cannabis Consumers Survey

Please complete as many as possible. Check every box that applies. Feel free to elaborate or add more pages as needed (refer to questions by number). Thanks.

- 1) Name _____ State _____
- 2) What word for cannabis do you prefer to use? _____
- 3) What word for cannabis do you most dislike? _____
- 4) How many of your friends or family members consume cannabis?
 One A few Not very many A lot About half Most of my friends seem to consume it.
- 5) Is there someone especially close to you who uses cannabis? Yes No.
- 6) If so, is this a member of your: Nuclear family Extended family Close friends Church
 Casual acquaintances Business acquaintances Other _____
- 7) Is their use medical? Yes No. What health problem? _____
- 8) Have you talked with them about cannabis? Yes No. What was said? _____

- 9) Are they fairly open and honest about it?
 Yes No. Not to their children or parents. Only to a few friends They advocate for it.
- 10) How often do they use it? I don't know. Rarely Once in a while Every month or so
 On weekends Several times a week Daily Varies.
- 11) How do they consume it? Smoke Vaporize Eat Tincture Tea Merry pills Hash
- 12) Have they turned down a job opportunity due to a drug test? Yes No.
- 13) Have you been around people using cannabis? Yes. No.
- 14) Did you see anything different about them? How did using cannabis make them appear or act?
 Nothing noticeable. Hungry Outgoing Energized Quiet Sleepy Relaxed Happy
 Philosophical Spiritual Better mood Silly Creative Distracted Focused Patient
 Cooperative Notices odd little things Enjoys music more. Other: _____

- 15) What do you think about the marijuana laws? _____

- 16) Do any of your mentors, heroes or role models use cannabis? Yes. No. In what fields of interest? E.g., Sports, music, politics, literature, physics or humanitarian. _____

17) Have any close friends or family members been arrested or convicted for it? Yes No.

18) How did that affect you? _____

19) How old do you think is an appropriate age of consent for adult use of cannabis?
 Parents choice Age 16 17 18 19 20 21 Other: _____

20) What do we need to do to fix the marijuana laws? _____

21) Are you active in the cannabis reform movement? Yes No.

22) Do you want to become more active? Yes No.

23) Do you know anyone who wants to “come out” as a cannabis consumer spokesperson in order to improve the public image? Yes No.

24) Will you refer them to our sister group, the **Cannabis Consumers Campaign** (Website: www.cannabisconsumers.org)? Yes No.

25) Additional comments: _____

26) Would you like to become a member of the **Friends and Families of Cannabis Consumers**?
 No Yes: \$10/year Token \$25/year Basic \$35/year Kind \$50/year Generous
 \$100/year Very nice \$420/year Couldn't resist Other \$ _____

27) Can you make a separate donation to help support this worthwhile project?
 No Yes: \$10 \$25 \$35 \$50 \$100 \$420 Other \$ _____

28) **Photo:** Please send us a flattering photo or two of yourself. Get permission before showing any friends or family members. We can process hard copies or most electronic files.

Release of liability: I hereby release Chris Conrad, Friends and Families of Cannabis Consumers, the Cannabis Consumers Campaign, Pot Pride, and all sponsors from any liability whatsoever in connection with release, dissemination, and publication of statements and information that I have provided here. All information is correct and true, to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Email address: _____

Please send completed forms and photos to:

**Chris Conrad / FFCC, PO Box 1716, El Cerrito, CA 94530
Tel/fax: 510-215-8326 / Email: mikki@cannabisconsumers.org**

