

Parents and Grandparents

FAST FACTS on Marijuana Risks



Marijuana is illegal, addictive and harmful to the body, especially developing brains.

TODAY'S Marijuana is a Powerful Drug

THC is the mind-altering chemical found in marijuana.
THC changes the way a child's brain works.

Short-term memory loss
Attention problems
Judgment changed
Thinking distorted

Coordination lessened
Balance lessened
Heart rate jumps 20-100%
Chance of psychotic episode

TODAY'S Marijuana has a High Potency

Intoxication and Impairment

Poor Judgment: Marijuana use compromises judgment, which can lead to engaging in risky behaviors.

Accidents: Marijuana use raises the risk of injury or death from accidents, such as in sports or autos. These effects can last up to 24 hours after use.

Leads to Other Drugs: Youth who start using marijuana early are more likely to use other drugs.

PROBLEMS in School

Lower Grades: Students who smoke marijuana tend to get lower grades.

Drop Out Rates: Students who use marijuana before age 15 are 3X more likely to leave school by age 16.

Mental Health: Marijuana use is associated with anxiety, depression, a-motivational syndrome and schizophrenia.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

Watch for behaviors:

Marijuana causes changes in behavior such as lethargy, listlessness, food cravings, lack of coordination, very red and bloodshot eyes, acting unusually giggly or having a hard time remembering things.

Watch for weed, buds, oils, dabs, edibles, vaping:

Note: Potent hash oil is used in vaporizing devices, and does not emit an odor. (Is marketed for 'discreet use.')

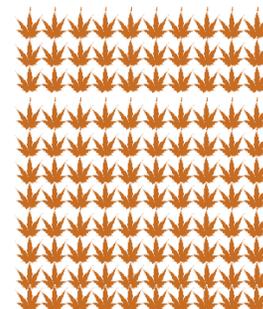
THC Levels and Increased Potency

In 1970 3% 

THC in today's marijuana:

Smoked
From 15% to 30%

Oils
Vaped or in food
From 50% to 80%



45% of the marijuana consumed in Colorado is in edible form.



What is in your child's future?

Lower Intelligence – 8 point IQ drop

Studies show, young and frequent marijuana users can have a drop in IQ of 8 points, lowering intelligence.

Addiction

17% of youth who start using marijuana in their teens, will become dependent upon it.

25% to 50% of those who smoke marijuana daily are more likely to become dependent upon it.