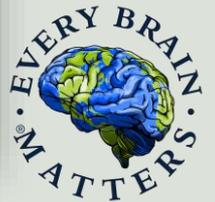


# Marijuana Changed My Home - Aubree Adams

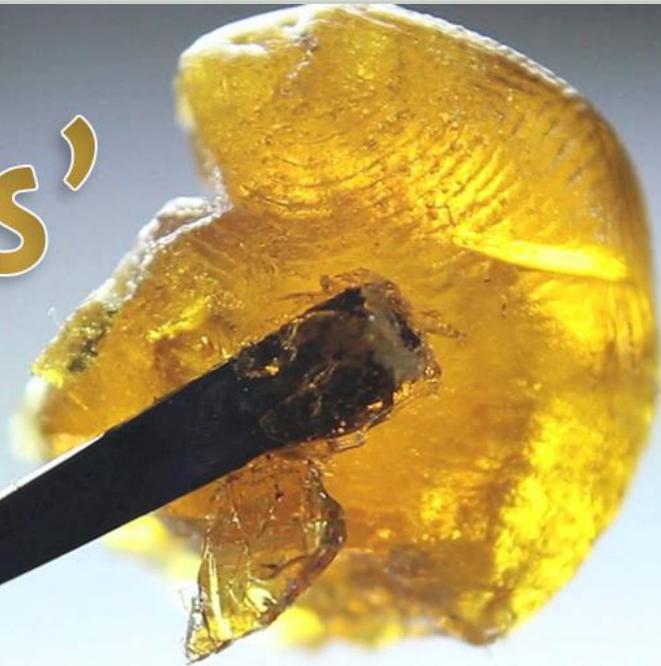
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# Marijuana Changed My Home



'Dabs'



## Marijuana Changed My Neighborhood - Home Cultivation Increases Violence



<https://www.kktv.com/content/news/3-Oklahoma-City-men-arrested-for-slaying-in-Colorado-414731133.html>

<https://www.chieftain.com/22376355-423f-5f5f-88be-d268646c467d.html>

<https://www.kktv.com/content/news/Pueblo-police-searching-for-suspects-after-shots-fired-near-Parkview-Hospital-443290193>



# Pueblo's Drug Culture Is A Crisis For The Whole Community

Fuck with one of us... FUCK with us all!

Like Comment Share

7 people like this.

snitched on me 🤔🤔 ass whoopin #2

🤔🤔 Snitching!

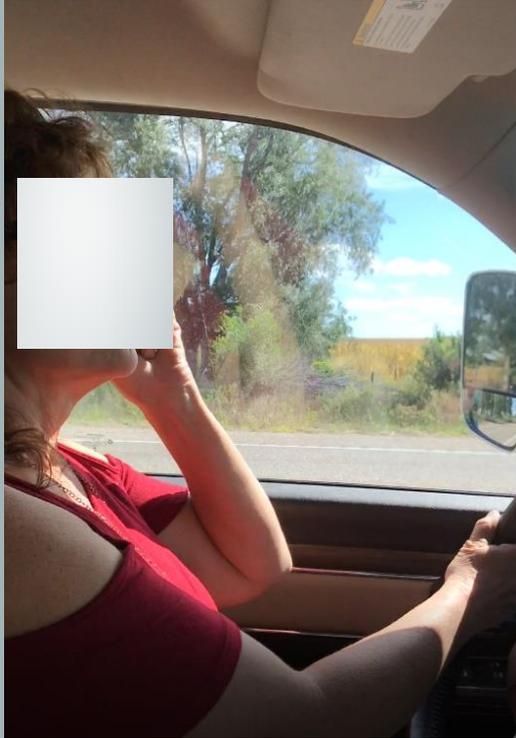
u gave me a black eye i went home late last night and she saw i told her not to do anything but she called the school its not my fault lmfao

Like · Reply · 3 hrs

Like · Reply · 1 · 2 mins

mind Yo Fucking business or ima send you to a Morge and I'm so serious!

Like · Reply · 3 · Just now



Marijuana Legalization Invited  
Criminal Drug Operations Into Our Neighborhood

# Road to Recovery – Out of Colorado













The Science Is Clear and Strong:  
THC can cause addiction and mental and physical illnesses.

## MARIJUANA (THC) EFFECTS

### Short-term use

#### Brain

- Altered senses, including time
- Changes in mood
- Euphoria
- Lethargy
- Hallucinations, delusions, paranoia, psychosis,
- Impaired motor skills
- Difficulty problem solving and thinking
- Impaired memory, learning
- Poor judgment
- Agitation
- Mania, anxiety
- Worsening of PTSD symptoms



#### Lungs

- Difficulty breathing
- Infections
- toxins in marijuana smoke are similar to tobacco smoke



#### Heart

- 4.8 Increase risk of heart attack within 60 mins of use
- increased heart rate and blood pressure

#### Other Systems

- Genetic damage
- impacts on the Endocrine system

#### Marijuana products are:

- **More Concentrated (Potent)**
- **More Accessible**
- **More Life-Threatening**
- **More Attractive**



.....than ever before.

#### References

[www.everybrainmatters.org/science](http://www.everybrainmatters.org/science)

Every Brain Matters is a community of support and advocacy based on science and experience. Join us as we call for a cultural change. Our logo unites us and symbolizes both "freedom from marijuana" and optimal brain and environmental health.

Join us to receive more information at:  
[EveryBrainMatters.org](http://EveryBrainMatters.org) @EveryBrainMatters



### Long-term use

#### Brain

- Cannabis dependence or addiction (CUD)
- Depression, anxiety, mania
- Chronic psychosis or schizophrenia (CIP)
- Increased risk for suicide
- Reduction in developmental pruning
- Smaller brain regions (hippocampus- memory region)
- Diminished visuospatial functioning, verbal learning, short-term memory, cognitive function, executive function attention, and motor skills
- Stroke

#### Kidneys

- Kidney failure due to CHS - Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome



#### Lungs

- EVALI (vaping injury), bronchitis, emphysema
- Increased risk for cancer



#### Heart

- Cardiovascular disease
- Heart failure due to CHS

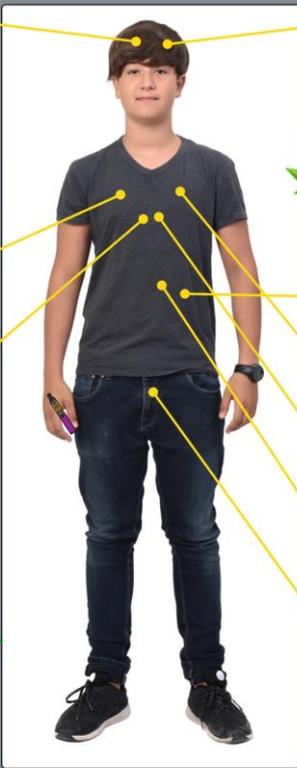


#### GI System and Pain

- Cyclic vomiting and abdominal pain (Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome)

#### Male/Female

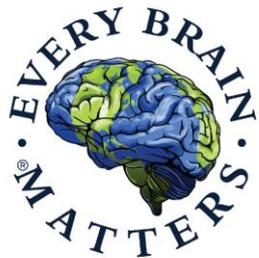
- Testicular cancer and sperm count
- Increased developmental and mental disorders in children of mothers who use cannabis when pregnant
- Reproductive issues in males and females



"This is not about a War on Drugs.  
This is about a Defense of our Brains, the  
repository of our humanity."

Dr. Bertha Madras

Learn about  
Cannabis-Use  
Disorder (CUD)



*Freedom From Marijuana  
and the  
Drug Culture Expansion*

EVERYBRAINMATTERS.ORG

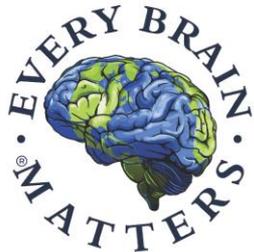
Learn about  
Cannabis-Induced  
Psychosis (CIP)



*Freedom From Marijuana  
and the  
Drug Culture Expansion*

EVERYBRAINMATTERS.ORG

Learn about  
Cannabinoid  
Hyperemesis  
Syndrome, (CHS)



*Freedom From Marijuana  
and the  
Drug Cultural Expansion*

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CAN MARIJUANA USE  
LEAD TO OPIOID USE  
DISORDER?

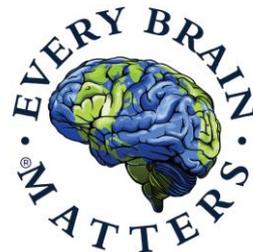
Legal medical and recreational  
marijuana plays a significant role  
in the still-worsening  
opioid overdose crisis in America.



*Freedom From Marijuana  
and the  
Drug Cultural Expansion*

EVERYBRAINMATTERS.ORG

DOES MARIJUANA USE  
INCREASE THE  
RISK FOR SUICIDE?



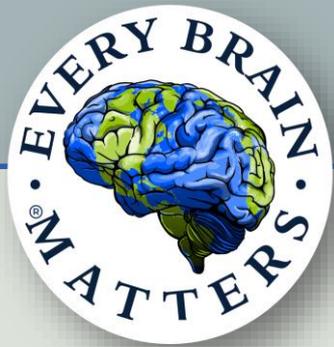
IT'S POSSIBLE TO GET THROUGH THESE  
PAINFUL MOMENTS, HOLD ON

CALL OR TEXT  
988  
FOR HELP

US NATIONAL SUICIDE & CRISIS HOTLINE

*Freedom From Marijuana  
and the  
Drug Cultural Expansion*

EVERYBRAINMATTERS.ORG



# Every Brain Matters Support Groups

## EBM Climber's Meeting



Interactive educational group for family members impacted by marijuana led by professional

## EBM Speakers Meeting



Join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month for a message of hope and healing. We welcome a different speaker who shares their experience, strength, and hope

<https://everybrainmatters.org/meetings/month/>

# Recovery Program

Mar-Anon.com



## **Mar-Anon Family Groups**

**SUPPORT AND HOPE FOR THOSE AFFECTED  
BY ANOTHER PERSONS MARIJUANA USE**

# Three types of Drug Policies



## Prevention

- Education
- Denormalize
- Deefund drugs
- Public Service Announcements
- Accountability/Boundaries/Roadblocks
- Healthy behaviors modeled by adults/peers
- Increase perception of harms
- Best drug prevention is to not legalize/promote more drugs



## Promotion

- Addiction economics
- Commercial sales
- Advertisements
- Normalizing
- Increase Use
- Lack of accountability
- Increase access
- lack of perception of harm
- Increase harms
- Funds drugs



## Recovery

- Variety of pathways, but needs accountability
- Support
- Programs
- Healthy family
- Healthy community
- Build healthy connections/peers
- Needs strong implementation in stage 1 not stage just 4 cancer (brains are broken) less chance of full recovery

# What are the costs of Promotional Drug Policies

Youth use

Addiction/poly  
substance use

Mental  
Illness/Suicide

Crime/Violence

Homelessness

Medical and  
environmental  
costs

Overdoses

DUIs

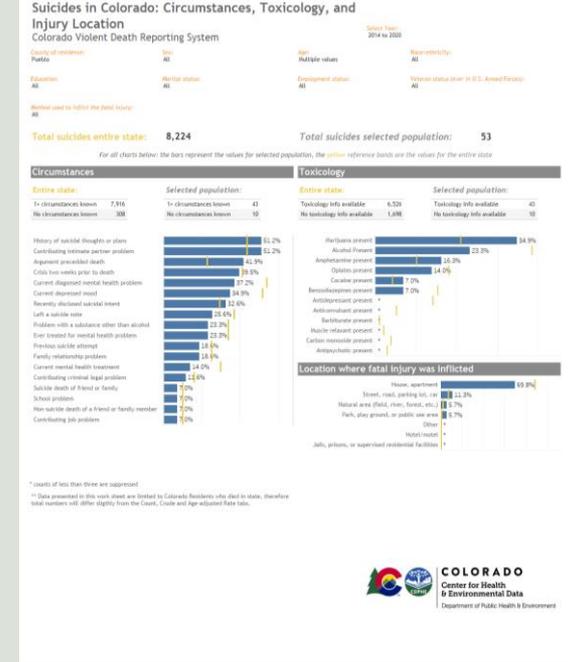
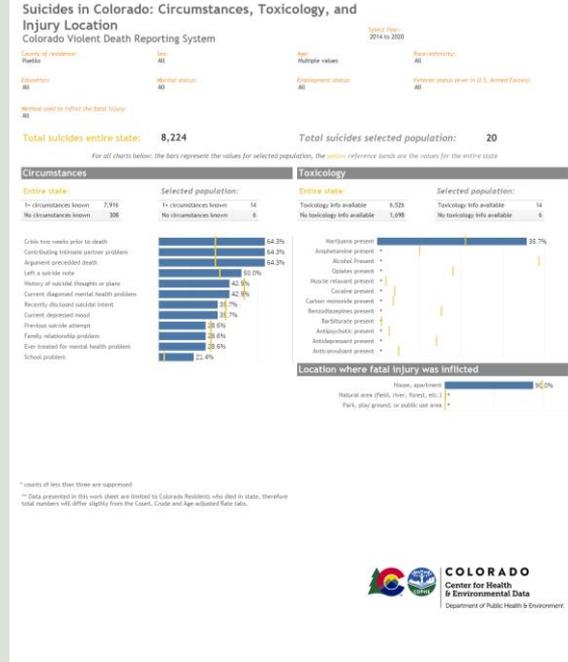
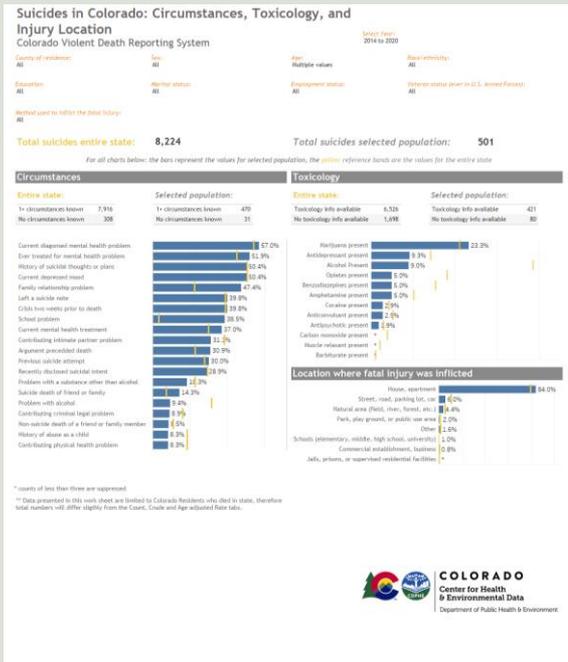
Black  
Market/human  
trafficking

# Toxicology Reports – Death by Suicide Pueblo County 2014 to 2020

All Colorado  
10 to 19 years old  
23%

Pueblo  
10- to 18-year-olds  
35.7%

Pueblo  
10 – 24-year-olds  
34.9%



[https://cohealthviz.dphpe.state.co.us/HSEBPublic/Views/CoVDRS\\_12\\_1\\_17/Story1?%3AEmbed=y&%3AShowAppBanner=false&%3AShowShareOptions=true&%3ADisplay\\_count=no&%3AShowVizHome=no#4](https://cohealthviz.dphpe.state.co.us/HSEBPublic/Views/CoVDRS_12_1_17/Story1?%3AEmbed=y&%3AShowAppBanner=false&%3AShowShareOptions=true&%3ADisplay_count=no&%3AShowVizHome=no#4)

1. Circumstances, Toxicology, and Injury location 2. Select the year slide from 2014 to present 3. Age (drop box): check only 10-14 and/or 15-18.

# CANNABIS TOPS THE LIST

Out of all the drugs that cause temporary psychotic symptoms, cannabis has the highest conversion rate from temporary psychotic symptoms to chronic psychotic disorders like schizophrenia or bipolar disorder.

**CANNABIS 47%**

**AMPHETAMINES 32%**

**HALLUCINOGENS 28%**

**OPIOIDS 21%**

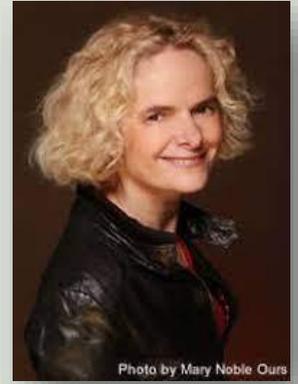
[HTTPS://AJP.PSYCHIATRYONLINE.ORG/DOI/10.1176/APPI.AJP.2017.17020223](https://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/doi/10.1176/appi.ajp.2017.17020223)

## Dr. Nora Volkow, Director of NIDA

“...As we see more and more people exposed to marijuana,...we are seeing a very strong association between marijuana exposure and suicidality.

The more content of THC there is, the more addictive and toxic it is.

We are seeing a significant rise in psychosis associated with the consumption of marijuana. The higher content of THC the higher the likelihood of a psychotic episode and **anyone** of us that consumes this high content of THC can become fully psychotic. It's not like we're questioning it, you can fully become psychotic...”



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=De-7Ba5poBs>



# HB-1317- Colorado Begins Legislation to Address A "Critical Public Health Challenge" Due to Marijuana Legalization



*.Inpatient psychiatrists have a front-row seat to the **emerging epidemic of cannabis abuse and addiction that threatens to swallow the lives of a whole generation of Coloradans.***

*On our adult inpatient unit, it's hard to keep count of the number of psychotic and suicidal patients that are admitted with THC on board, and regardless of the data and clear evidence of how cannabis contributes to their illness, person after person refuses to accept that marijuana could be bad for them. How could it be? They've been taught to believe this is a harmless plant and a medicine that is good for everything from headaches, to cancer, to anxiety. It's natural, without side effects without the risk of addiction. This is the lie that is ruining the lives of far too many people in our state.*

*The story on our adolescent unit is even more tragic, as we repeatedly treat kids that are too psychotic to know what's real, who they can trust, or where they are. The rates of adolescent psychosis have risen steadily since legalization, and in almost every case it's linked to high potency THC concentrates. Products known as dabs, wax, and shatter that are made in the lab by distilling down the most psychoactive component of the marijuana plant and concentrated into what's better described as a hard drug that (is not) the 'weed' people voted for with Amendment 64..."*



<https://youtu.be/PsgRJ6-q92A>

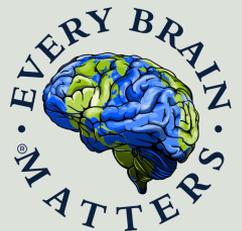
# Marijuana Legalization Was A Mistake



That's why a [bipartisan legislature](#) this year passed a bill that begins to rein in this monster. [The bill](#):

- ▶ Authorizes a study on the effects of high-potency THC products on the developing brain and how to keep those products away from teens. These unbiased experts will make a recommendation for next steps to the legislature.
- ▶ Requires doctors issuing medical marijuana recommendations to consider the person's mental health history.
- ▶ Orders a report on hospital discharge data when marijuana use is likely.
- ▶ Directs coroners to screen for THC in nonnatural deaths.
- ▶ Reduces the amount an 18-year-old medical card user can purchase in a single day. This closes a loophole that could be exploited to stock up on marijuana concentrates, which they sell to their younger friends.

It's a baby step, but it's significant that the state that pioneered marijuana legalization is finally recognizing there are harmful consequences.



# Where Do We Go From Here?



## Admit Problem, Active Plan

- Clear and kind active responses
- Need a community recovery plan

## Stop Expanding Use and Access

- Policies that defund drugs and discourage use like
- Increase taxes and regulations

## Fund Education

- Not from the industry
- Continue conversations and presentations

## Decrease Stigma & Drug Biases

- Denormalize marijuana use
- Allow families to speak up without being harassed and laughed at

## Focus on Prevention and Recovery

- Learn about the disease of denial and enabling
- Addiction is not only a family disease, but also a community's disease

## Strong Boundaries/Laws

- Without some type of accountability there is no opportunity for recovery
- Enforce law and offer support (pathways to health)
- Roadblocks

# Let's Stop Destroying Lives And Start Saving Lives, What Happens in Pueblo Changes The World

- Stop Politicizing Health Issues
- Fund clean up efforts, but they won't last unless you have prevention and accountability in place.
- Drugs are disconnectors; let's build a recovering (healing) community

