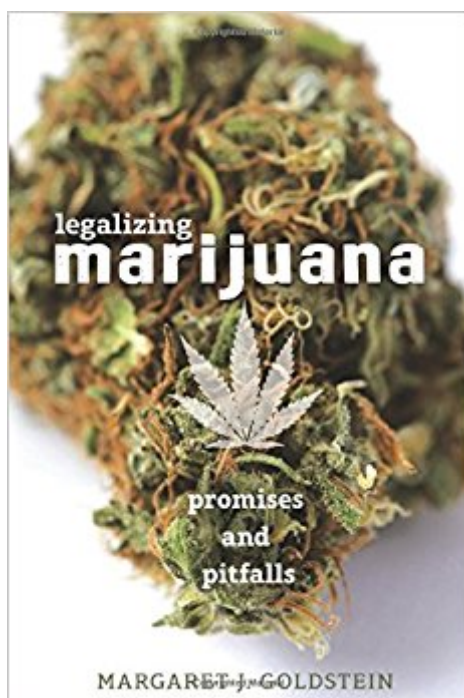


The book was found

Legalizing Marijuana: Promises And Pitfalls



Synopsis

With the increase in states legalizing marijuana, understanding the debate about marijuana is more important than ever. Learn about the movement to legalize, the arguments on each side, and what it means for patients, state economies, and legal systems. Examine issues including the history of the movement toward legalization in the United States, efforts toward legalization around the globe, the risks/benefits of marijuana use, how it works in the body, safety regulations, economic impact of legalization, problems surrounding patchwork legalization across the nation, and the dark side of marijuana: addiction.

Book Information

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Gr 9 Up
•This book outlines the history of marijuana cultivation and use, describes current attitudes toward marijuana, and details the movement toward legalization. While this is a worthwhile resource for students researching controversial issues, the text does tend to promote only one side of the issue (the legal use of marijuana for medicinal and recreational purposes as well as the cultivation of related hemp materials). The "pitfalls" alluded to in the title are mostly frustrations with the slow pace of legalization rather than arguments against legalization. Much of the evidence provided here is anecdotal, with some historical, political, and empirical evidence. Goldstein notes the lack of scientific and thorough studies as one of the frustrations facing the pro-marijuana movement, though it is unclear if additional studies would support legalization. There are some instances where the text seems contradictory. For example, the majority of the work emphasizes the minimal dangers of marijuana use, whereas the "Proceed with Caution" chapter notes the possible

permanent neurological damage in younger users. Still, the research is rigorous, complete, and an effective defense of the book's thesis. VERDICT Used in conjunction with other resources, this will be a useful addition for high school research collections. —Paige Rowse, Needham High School, MA

Margaret J. Goldstein was born in Detroit and graduated from the University of Michigan. She is an editor and the author of many books for young readers. She lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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