

Local Cannabis

David Zokaites

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Myth 1: Common Drugs

- Marijuana supposedly most common drug – wrong
- Most prevalent drugs are:
 - 1) Sugar (kids bounce off walls)
 - 2) Caffeine (always trying to do more)
 - 3) Alcohol (give me a break)
 - 4) Nicotine (people love that nicotine rush)

Myth 2: Sugar Not A Drug

- See "Evidence for sugar addiction: Behavioral and neurochemical effects of intermittent, excessive sugar intake"
- "Sugar is noteworthy as a substance that releases opioids and dopamine"
- "intermittent access to sugar can lead to behavioral and neurochemical changes that resemble the effects of a substance of abuse."
- Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews Volume 32, Issue 1, 2008, Pages 20-39 on <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0149763407000589>

Myth 3: Dangers of Cannabis

- Marijuana vilified for decades
- 1930's catch phrases from Anslinger:
- Marijuana turns nice people into vicious killers
- It makes white women want to have sex with black entertainers
- Alcohol is more dangerous

Old Propaganda Poster



Reality: Benefits of Cannabis

- Saner pain killer than opiates
- Treats PTSD, epilepsy
- Mitigates chemotherapy problems
- Helps people relax

Onerous Regulations

- Some states (California) have extreme regulations
- Deliberate barriers to entry
- Encourage consolidation, wealth, black market
- Bad for small, local business
- Discourage tax collection
- Not justified by the low danger

Mayor Paul's Stance

- Very anti-cannabis
- His Nov 2, 2020 tweet:



Paul TenHaken ✓
@paultenhaken

Important for SD residents going to the polls.

IM 26 would legalize medicinal marijuana.

Amendment A would change the state constitution to allow RECREATIONAL marijuana.

Ads show them as interwoven issues, but they are very different.

Get facts at nowayona.com

Stance Continue

- Might not allow dispensaries in Sioux Falls
- "I am going to be digging in and see what challenges it does present, and also what opportunities we have in the city of Sioux Falls ... to regulate this on our own in some way. For instance, in Colorado, there're some municipalities that choose not to enforce or not to allow the marijuana dispensaries to exist. They have home rule, they can do that on a local level. Do I want to do that? I'm not sure yet."
- <https://kelo.com/2020/11/06/tenhaken-worried-about-sd-marijuana-vote/>

Recommendations

- Cannabis should be less regulated than alcohol because it's safer
- Encourage small local business
- Create modest city regulations
- Allow local dispensaries
- Listen to the voters

Thanks For The Help

- Steven Siano – told me about Anslinger
- Sarah Zokaite – editing help
- Scott Kunze – sugar as a drug
- Don Schryver – that's his poster
- Reddit.com – pointing me to the issue

Enjoy

