

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW about teens & marijuana

ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES?
ADDICTIVE?
LOWER GRADES?
DEPRESSION?
IMPAIRED DRIVING?
RESPIRATORY DISEASE?
BRAIN DEVELOPMENT?
HIGHER POTENCY?
LEADS TO OTHER DRUG USE?
MOTIVATION?
HARMFUL?
RISKY BEHAVIOR?



MARIJUANA is the most commonly used illegal drug by youth, second only to alcohol. All forms of marijuana are mind-altering. They change the way the brain and the body work.



ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAMS
Ventura County Health Care Agency

IS MARIJUANA MORE POTENT TODAY?

Yes! THC potency of marijuana has increased from 4% in 1983 to more than 20% in 2011 and it keeps increasing every year.

CAN IT LEAD TO OTHER DRUG USE?

Marijuana users that begin early in age and use a lot, are the most likely to use other drugs.

IS IT ADDICTIVE?

Long-term marijuana use leads to addiction in some people. The risk of addiction to marijuana is about 1 in 6 for those who start using as adolescents. About 9% of marijuana users become dependent.

DOES IT AFFECT GRADES?

Students with lower grades in school report higher rates of marijuana use.

CAN IT LEAD TO DEPRESSION?

Marijuana use may increase the risk of mental illness by 40%.

CAN IT AFFECT MY KID'S DEVELOPMENT?

Marijuana exposure during teen years can affect brain development, memory, judgment, perception and motor coordination.

For more resources on marijuana and other drugs, visit venturacountylimits.org.

Source: Marijuana in Ventura County: A Gateway for Discussion, Ventura County Behavioral Health, 2011. National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA).



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