

# A Comparative History of Criminalization of Alcohol and Marijuana

Presenter: Josh Grove

## Lit Review Summary

- Related to my topic, scholars have found that proven by prohibition, it is predicted that regulated sale of illicit substances is technically practical and reasonable
- Studies show the connection between the war on drug and prohibition, this is important to see legislative and public opinion on both alcohol and marijuana through periods of time.
- As stated in scholarly literature, legalization of recreational marijuana affects not just the one state but other states as well.
- This study will highlight the patterns of alcohol and marijuana use in adolescence, this is important to see the affects of both substances on young adults and predict usage patterns for both their use, and future young adults.
- My topic is important because it shows the discrepancy of information given to the public by the media versus data and statistics given to policy makers for legislation regarding medical marijuana, this also affects public opinion on recreational use of marijuana.

## Hypotheses

1. In analyzing the history of these substances comparatively through criminalization, history in usage, ways of use, and social acceptance, I believe we will find a pattern between the two radically different substances; a pattern that may follow generational lines as well.

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## Data Sets

Percent Change 2005-2011, Both Sexes				Percent Change 2005-2011, Males				Percent Change 2005-2011, Females			
Rank	State	County	2011 Rate	Rank	State	County	2011 Rate	Rank	State	County	2011 Rate
1	Mississippi	Monroe County	39.2%	1	Texas	Uvalde County	23.4%	1	West Virginia	Boone County	28.7%
2	Texas	Loving County	35.2%	2	Kentucky	Letcher County	23.2%	2	West Virginia	Lincoln County	27.2%
3	Mississippi	Madison County	35.2%	3	Kentucky	Wayne County	22.7%	3	Texas	Brewster County	26.2%
4	North Dakota	Beulah County	34.2%	4	Kentucky	Pike County	22.6%	4	Virginia	Battle/Victa City	25.2%
5	South Dakota	Sioux County	33.2%	5	Kentucky	Madison County	22.5%	5	Texas	Jeff Davis County	25.2%
6	South Dakota	Sioux County	33.2%	6	Kentucky	Madison County	22.5%	6	Texas	Jeff Davis County	25.2%
7	South Dakota	Sioux County	33.2%	7	Georgia	Walker County	22.5%	7	Kentucky	Madison County	22.5%
8	Mississippi	DeWitt County	33.2%	8	Kentucky	Madison County	22.5%	8	Mississippi	Madison County	22.5%
9	Mississippi	Texas County	33.2%	9	South Dakota	Hawley County	22.5%	9	Colorado	Kiowa County	22.5%
10	South Dakota	Beulah County	33.2%	10	Kentucky	Wayne County	22.5%	10	Texas	Hemphill County	22.5%

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Age	A	B	C	D	E
1	age	n	alcohol-use	alcohol-freque	marijuana-us
2	12	2798	3.9	3	1.1
3	13	2757	8.5	6	3.4
4	14	2792	18.1	5	8.7
5	15	2956	29.2	6	14.5
6	16	3058	40.1	10	22.5
7	17	3038	49.3	13	28
8	18	2469	58.7	24	33.7
9	19	2223	64.6	36	33.4
10	20	2271	69.7	48	34
11	21	2354	83.2	52	33
12	22-23	4707	84.2	52	28.4
13	24-25	4591	83.1	52	24.9
14	26-29	2628	80.7	52	20.8
15	30-34	2864	77.5	52	16.4
16	35-49	7391	75	52	10.4
17	50-64	3923	67.2	52	7.3
18	65+	2448	49.3	52	1.2

Year	A	B	C	D	E
1	Year	Type	Substance	Past 30 Day Use	Percent
2	2016	Survey Resp	Alcohol	24.3	
3	2016	Survey Resp	Marijuana	16.1	
4	2016	Survey Resp	Prescription	5.4	
5	2016	Survey Resp	Prescription	4.2	
6	2018	Survey Resp	Alcohol	18.2	
7	2018	Survey Resp	Marijuana	18.3	
8	2018	Survey Resp	Prescription	5.6	
9	2018	Survey Resp	Prescription	3.9	
10	2020	Target Date	Alcohol	0	
11	2020	Target Date	Marijuana	0	
12	2020	Target Date	Prescription	0	
13	2020	Target Date	Prescription	0	

## Methods

- Being a research paper, all information was found from peer review journals, scientific articles, and government datasets.

## Results

- Data and research found during the study show that heavy and binge drinking rates and percentages are higher in states that have not made recreational marijuana use legal.
- Statistics also show that alcohol use increases from adolescence till the age range 35-49. Then drops dramatically from ages fifty onward.
- More data also shows a substantial difference in between the usage of alcohol and marijuana showing that there is less of a dramatic increase in marijuana usage over time, and that the age drop off for marijuana is around age 21 as opposed to 50 with alcohol.
- Research has shown an increase in social acceptance of marijuana, similar to the social acceptance of alcohol after prohibition. While marijuana is currently is in a rather similar prohibition, it is following patterns related to alcohol's criminalization and usage.
- Studies have shown that marijuana usage has increased at similar rates to alcohol use after prohibition.

## Conclusion

- Data shows that drug use changes throughout one's lifetime.
- It is clear that policies regarding alcohol and marijuana have affected both usage and public opinion of the two substances.
- Marijuana and Alcohol are closely related and affect one another, as more states continue to legalize recreational use, alcohol use especially, in the younger population, will likely decrease.



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