

8. Funds used to determine physical and psychological effects could be better spent for research on more promising therapeutic remedies.

9. Perceptions and attitudes toward other more powerful drugs might be altered for the worse.

10. Legalization may attract many youths who might otherwise not use the drug or bring them in contact with deviant subcultures.

11. It may well add to the toll of home and highway accidents.

12. Legalization would be contrary to our position on other hallucinogenic drugs.

13. Persons of borderline or unstable adjustment might become social liabilities if marihuana were freely available.

III. REDUCE PENALTIES BUT LEAVE WITH FBN

Advantages

1. Eliminates any administrative interruption in enforcement.

2. Eliminates any confusion as to the Federal agency which has had jurisdiction over marihuana for many years.

3. Eliminates the immediate need for the training of new personnel for enforcement.

Disadvantages

1. FBN would be handling drugs with differing penalties.

2. Educational and research efforts would not be undertaken to the degree that a socially and public health inclined agency such as HEW might.

3. FBN would have to change its position of some 30 years on the social consequences of marihuana use which would require an admission of misjudgment.

4. FBN may be embarrassed because it asked for stronger penalties a few years ago (mandatory sentencing) and yet the traffic has flourished.

5. Major traffickers in marihuana are more closely allied with LSD and other hallucinogen traffickers than narcotics traffickers.

6. Except for asking for more stringent criminal penalties, FBN has not undertaken a vigorous enforcement policy toward marihuana.

IV. CONTROL AS AN HALLUCINOGEN UNDER DACA

Advantages

1. Uniform handling and classification of all hallucinogens.

2. Consistency in the treatment of offenders.

3. There is a growing sentiment for placing control of marihuana, along with other hallucinogens, under DACA.

4. Philosophy of control of abusers by HEW (and BDAC) is consistent with the latest scientific thinking in that the abuser must be educated and treated, but the trafficker should be punished.

5. A new organization with a fresh approach may do more to control the problem than the status quo methods which are not working.

6. The methods and philosophy of HEW and its Bureau of Drug Abuse Control would be supported by scientific and public health groups.

7. Marihuana and LSD trafficking are interrelated. BDAC field offices report that in the vast majority of their LSD arrests, marihuana is found on the person arrested or in his residence.

8. Transfer would minimize overlapping of investigations and prosecutions by BDAC and FBN.

9. More research would be possible under BDAC-NIMH auspices than under FBN because BDAC-NIMH are under the same administrative leadership.

Disadvantages

1. A segment of the public may not understand and adversely react to a lessening of controls and penalties.

2. Transfer of jurisdiction may adversely affect morale in FBN.

3. Current budgetary limitations in HEW's BDAC do not provide for handling a problem drug such as marihuana and financial relief is unlikely because of the Vietnamese situation.

4. Youth may feel LSD is not dangerous if marihuana is classified with it.