



Fantasy Free Advantage

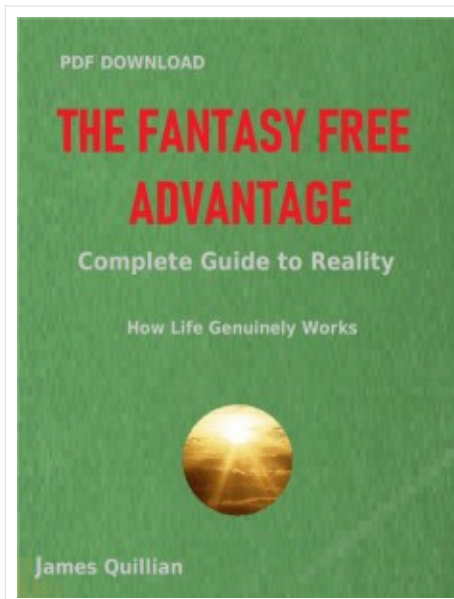
The Light of Reality

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Natural Law Economics Political Analysis

Logical Reasons For Legalizing Marijuana

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One important aspect of any law is how effective the law is in preventing the behavior it is designed to prohibit

When I taught high school I became certain that heavy marijuana use by teens and pre-teens destroys any chance they have of gaining much academically, by going to school. As a special education teacher, I learned that many of the students who qualified for the special education program were heavy marijuana users. A great number of those qualifying around middle school were actually stoned on the day they were tested. Marijuana was present all over campus and any student who wanted some did not have to look hard to find it

Knowing this, should marijuana be legalized? Well, the laws we have now are completely useless in keeping it out of the hands of students. Where students are concerned, it doesn't matter whether

it is legal or not. They get all they want anyway. There is no point in wasting money trying to enforce a law that is so easy to violate, even children can do it.

People are not offended enough by marijuana use to have an effective law that is devoted to eliminating its use. When no less than half of the population is not offended by marijuana use there is no point in trying to make it illegal. This is true of any law. Laws need to have the cooperation of at least 80% of the population. Most compliance has to be voluntary. There are exceptions. But enforcement has to be brutal, like shooting users and dealers on sight, with no trial.

Current drug laws allow supporters to enhance their self esteem by showing their disdain for what they deem bad behavior. Organized crime gets a great deal of utility out of drug laws because high profit margins are guaranteed. The pharmaceutical industry, of course, is opposed to legalizing marijuana.

I study issues thoroughly before coming up with opinions. The medicinal aspects of cannabis appear to be highly valuable. With the state of healthcare in disaster mode, it is wrong to deny responsible people access to natural herbs that have strong curative powers. Certainly research into medical uses should be encouraged. There are no reasons to prevent adults from trying to cure themselves with any safe herb where traditional medicine fails. As it turns out, traditional medicine is failing miserably these days.

I have made some observations that some might find interesting. The people who want pot legalized the most are also the ones who are doing the most to keep it illegal. These are the stoners. No offense intended towards stoners. It is just that the public largely sees stoners as the face of legalization efforts.

I took the time to study who gets arrested for drugs, where and when. Almost never is a person arrested in his own home for indulging. This is all a matter of public record. Check the arrest records for any county that makes the information available online. You might go blind before finding one arrest of a stoner at home minding his own business. Also, it is rare for an arrest to be made for marijuana alone. The vast majority of marijuana charges are made in addition to other charges. The other charges are almost always for some kind of bad behavior like getting a DWI or committing another crime. Marijuana is almost never the original reason for arrest.

There are hundreds of laws on the books that have no utility to society. Supporting these laws makes certain folks feel morally superior. Marijuana laws fall into this category. As a retired teacher, I would certainly like to see pot kept out of the hands of kids. I would support the current law, if it was effective in doing this. Why support laws that do no good at all ?