



What Are Brits Smoking?

England's Parliament To Vote On Enacting Stiffer Pot Penalties

Prime Minister Gordon Brown Calls Cannabis "Lethal;" Urges Parliament To "Send A Message"

London, United Kingdom (UK): Home Secretary Jacqui Smith announced plans this week to reclassify cannabis as a Class B drug under British law. If the change is approved by Parliament, it would increase the penalties for minor pot possession from a verbal warning (under current policy) to up to five years in jail.

Smith's recommendation contradicts the findings of Britain's Advisory Panel on the Misuse of Drugs, which issued a report this week calling for cannabis to remain classified as a Class C 'soft' drug. The panel determined that pot lacks the health risks of other Class B drugs such as amphetamines and barbiturates, and concluded that use of the drug is unlikely to cause mental illnesses such as schizophrenia.

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Pot Potency Claims Unfounded, Study Says "Claims ... about a 20- or 30-fold increase in cannabis potency and about adverse mental health effects are not supported by the evidence"

Sydney, Australia: Allegations of a dramatic increase in worldwide marijuana potency are not supported by available evidence, according to a literature review to be published in the journal *Addiction*.

Investigators at the University of New South Wales, National Drug and Alcohol Research Center, conducted a meta-analysis of worldwide trends in cannabis potency. Researchers reviewed nine international studies, which analyzed the potency of more than 100,000 marijuana seizures over a period of three decades.

"Increased potency has been observed in some countries, but there is enormous variation between samples, meaning that cannabis users may be exposed to greater variation in a single

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Past Cannabis Use Not Associated With Injury Severity, Study Says

The Hague, The Netherlands: The use of cannabis and other psychoactive substances is not associated with an increase in the severity of car-crash related injury, according to data published in the current issue of the journal *Traffic Injury Prevention*.

Investigators at the Netherlands Forensic Institute and Utrecht University assessed the relationship between substance use and injury severity in a group of crash-involved drivers admitted to a regional trauma center. Authors determined that drivers who tested positive for the presence of drugs or alcohol in their blood or drug metabolites in their urine were no more likely to suffer from more severe injuries than were drivers who tested negative for the presence of psychoactive substances.

Authors wrote: "There is much evidence that driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs

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The Willamette Valley NORML News Report

is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit project to record and broadcast news, announcements and information about cannabis law reform.

The W-V-NORML News Report is produced by the Eugene, OREGON chapter of NORML, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws

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Check 'em out on-line! *visit:*

WillametteValleyNORML.org

A Voice for Responsible Marijuana Smokers

Since its founding in 1970, NORML has provided a voice in the public policy debate for those Americans who oppose marijuana prohibition and favor an end to the practice of arresting marijuana smokers. A nonprofit public-interest advocacy group, NORML represents the interests of the tens of millions of Americans who smoke marijuana responsibly. During the 1970s, NORML led the successful efforts to decriminalize minor marijuana offenses in 11 states and significantly lower marijuana penalties in all others.

The oldest and largest marijuana legalization organization in the country, NORML maintains a professional staff in Washington, DC, and a network of volunteer state and local [NORML Chapters](#) across the country. Check 'em out, and find the one nearest you!

The NORML mission is to move public opinion sufficiently to achieve the repeal of marijuana prohibition so that the responsible use of cannabis by adults is no longer subject to penalty.

When marijuana is enjoyed responsibly, subjecting users to harsh criminal and civil penalties provides no public benefit and causes terrible injustices. For reasons of public safety, public health, economics and justice, the prohibition laws should be repealed to the extent that they criminalize responsible marijuana use. **NORML, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws – is located at 1600 K Street, NW, Suite 501, Washington, DC 20006-2832. Phone (202) 483-5500, Fax: (202) 483-0057 or visit: www.norml.org**

Today Willamette Valley NORML joins the fight to reform state and federal marijuana laws, whether by voter initiative or through the elected legislatures. W-V-NORML will serve as an informational resource to media on marijuana-related stories, providing a perspective to offset the [anti-marijuana propaganda](#) from the government; lobby state and federal legislators in support of reform legislation; publish a regular [newsletter](#); host an informative web site; and serve as the umbrella group for a regional network of citizen-activists committed to ending marijuana prohibition and legalizing marijuana.

Along with their parent organization, W-V-NORML will sponsor public advertising campaigns to better educate the public about marijuana and alternatives to current marijuana policy; provide legal assistance and support to victims of the current laws; and promote relevant research.

W-V-NORML supports the right of adults to use marijuana responsibly, whether for [medical](#) or [personal](#) purposes. All penalties, both civil and criminal, should be eliminated for responsible use. W-V-NORML also advocates the legalization of [hemp](#) (non-psychoactive marijuana) for industrial use. **To find out more, like how you can help, call, write or visit our website. You'll be glad you did!**

<continued from BRITs BALMY?, page 1 > "The evidence for the existence of an association between frequency of cannabis use and the development of psychosis is, on the available evidence, weak," the Panel found. "The council does not advise the reclassification of cannabis products to Class B; it recommends they remain within Class C."

It is the third time in six years the Advisory Panel has recommended to Parliament that cannabis be classified as a Class C drug, a category that includes anabolic steroids and Valium.

Since taking office last June, Prime Minister Gordon Brown (Labour) has consistently pushed for increasing British pot penalties, claiming that marijuana's use can be fatal. "[T]he cannabis on the streets is now of a lethal quality and we really have got to send out a message to young people," Brown stated last week. "[T]his is not acceptable."

Parliament downgraded cannabis possession to a non-arrestable offense in 2004. Since then, marijuana use by young people age 16 to 24 has fallen approximately 20 percent. According to the statistics published by the British Home Office last year, only eight percent of Britons now report using cannabis, the lowest percentage ever recorded by the agency.

Home Office statistics also indicate that police seizures of cannabis have increased since 2004, though the total number of Britons arrested for pot-related violations has fallen.

A spokesperson for the Association of Police Officers told the UK *Guardian* newspaper that police would continue to issue verbal warnings to most minor pot offenders – regardless of whether Parliament eventually reclassifies cannabis.

For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director, at (202) 483-5500, or Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org.

<continued from POTENT POT, page 1 > year than over years or decades," authors concluded. "Claims made in the public domain about a 20- or 30-fold increase in cannabis potency and about the adverse mental health effects of cannabis contamination are not supported currently by the evidence."

The study criticizes a 2006 United Nations report that claimed, "[T]oday, the characteristics of cannabis are no longer that different from those of

other plant-based drugs such as cocaine and heroin."

A previous study of European marijuana potency trends published by the European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction reported: "There is no evidence of a significant increase in potency. ... [The] effective potency of cannabis in nearly all EU countries has remained quite stable for many years, at around 6-8 percent THC."

Earlier this month, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown called on Parliament to recriminalize pot possession, alleging that the potency of cannabis had increased to "lethal" levels. *For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director, at (202) 483-5500, or Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org. Full text of the study, "Cannabis potency and contamination: a review of the literature," will appear in Addiction.*

<continued from PAST USE, page 1 > of abuse is related to an increased accident risk. A remaining question is whether the use of psychoactive substances is also related to clinically more severe accidents." They concluded, "[W]e found no relation between the use of psychoactive substances (alcohol, drugs) and the severity of injury. ... More research is needed and blood sampling of all crash-involved drivers [to more accurately determine recent substance use] is recommended to confirm the[se] results and to [better] study the relation between the different classes of drugs and injury severity."

Previous studies of on road accident data have indicated that recent use of cannabis, as determined by the presence of significant levels of THC in the blood, is associated with an elevated risk of accident compared to drivers who test negative for the presence of THC. By contrast, motorists who test positive for the presence of THC metabolites in their urine - indicating their past use of cannabis at some unspecified point in time - do not appear to have an elevated accident risk compared to other drivers.

Full text of the study, "The relation between the use of psychoactive substances and the severity of the injury in a group of crash-involved drivers admitted to a regional trauma center," appears in the journal Traffic Injury Prevention. Additional information regarding marijuana use and on-road accident risk is available in the NORML report "Cannabis and Driving: A Scientific and Rational Review," available online at:

http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=7459

Idaho: City Voters Once Again Approve Pot Liberalization Measures

Hailey, Idaho (ID), USA: For the second time in seven months, Hailey voters approved a trio of municipal ballot measures liberalizing local marijuana law enforcement policies.

On Tuesday, voters endorsed language legalizing the use of medical cannabis and hemp, and calling on local police to make marijuana law enforcement its lowest priority.

Voters had previously approved all three ballot measures in November, but city council members sued in January to have the measures declared illegal.

The council's lawsuit remains pending.

"In the coming weeks and months, we will learn whether the long-held democratic notion of a government "by the people for the people" applies in Idaho or whether lawmakers are willing to cast democracy aside in order to bow at the altar of pot prohibition," NORML Executive Director Allen St. Pierre said.

For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director, or Keith Stroup, NORML Legal Counsel, at (202) 483-5500.

Hawaii: Legislature Approves Medical Marijuana Task Force Measure

Honolulu, Hawaii (HI), USA: The Hawaii legislature has approved legislation to establish the formation of an eleven-member task force to investigate options for providing legal cannabis for Hawaii's state-qualified medical cannabis patients. The bill now awaits action from Gov. Linda Lingle (R).

An estimated 3,000 Hawaiians are registered to use medical cannabis under state law.

As approved by the legislature, House Bill 2675 calls on the task force to make recommendations regarding "the feasibility of developing safe growing facilities ... for qualified patients with written certification to grow medical marijuana for their medical use." The task force is also mandated to review statewide guidelines authorizing the amount of medical cannabis patients may legally use and possess under state law.

The task force must submit its recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of

the 2009 regular session. *For more information, please contact Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org or visit: <http://www.mccfdia.com>. Full text of the bill is available online at:*

http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2008/bills/HB2675_HD2_.htm

Massachusetts: Legal Challenge Argues State Pot Laws Are Unconstitutional

Boston, Massachusetts (MA), USA: A Boston judge will rule this month whether to allow evidence to be presented at a pre-trial hearing regarding the constitutionality of the state's marijuana prohibition laws. The legal challenge, launched by NORML Legal Counsel Keith Stroup and High Times Magazine Associate Publisher Rick Cusick, argues that scientific and epidemiological evidence affirming the relative safety of marijuana does not support a criminal ban on the drug's possession and use.

Stroup and Cusick, who are expected to acknowledge at trial that they were sharing a joint when arrested at the 2007 Boston Freedom Rally, are prepared to call numerous experts – including Dr. Lester Grinspoon (Harvard Medical School), Richard Bonnie, Esq. (University of Virginia Law School), Dr. Jeffrey Miron (Harvard University), and Dr. Keith Saunders (Northeastern University) – if their request for an evidentiary hearing is granted.

The defendants and their counsel are scheduled to appear at trial in Boston Municipal Court, courtroom #10, at 9:00 AM, Monday, May 12.

For more information, please contact Keith Stroup, NORML Legal Counsel, at (202) 483-5500, keith@norml.org or visit:

http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=7494

Survey: One In Seven Public School Districts Drug Test Students

Chapel Hill, North Carolina (NC), USA: One in seven public school districts randomly drug tests their student body, according to survey data published this month in the *American Journal of Public Health*.

The percentage is approximately 50 percent higher the total number of schools that reported performing suspicionless drug testing five years ago.

Among the schools that employ random drug testing, 93 percent test student athletes, while 65

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Twenty-nine percent of school districts that perform drug testing impose it upon the entire student body, a practice that extends "beyond current Supreme Court sanctions."

Last year the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Council on School Health resolved, "There is little evidence of the effectiveness of school-based drug testing," and warned that students subjected to random testing programs may experience "an increase in known risk factors for drug use." The Academy also warned that school-based drug testing programs could decrease student involvement in extracurricular activities and undermine trust between pupils and educators.

A 2003 cross-sectional study of national student drug testing programs previously reported, "Drug testing, as practiced in recent years in American secondary schools, does not prevent or inhibit student drug use." *For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director, at (202) 483-5500 or Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org. Full text of the study, "Random drug testing in US public school districts," appears in the American Journal of Public Health.*

Oral Pot Preparation Effective For Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Journal Reports

Berlin, Germany: Oral administration of synthetic THC capsules (dronabinol) mitigates symptoms in patients with treatment-resistance obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), according to a pair of case studies published in the April issue of the American Journal of Psychiatry.

Investigators at Berlin's University of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, reported two cases of OCD patients augmenting their treatment regimens with oral THC.

For the first patient, a 38-year-old female, dronabinol administration three times daily significantly decreased OCD symptoms within ten days. For the second patient, a 36-year-old male, dronabinol treatment twice daily significantly decreased symptoms of OCD within two weeks. Neither patient reported any physical or mental health side-effects from dronabinol.

Prior to their use of oral THC, both patients had been unresponsive to standard treatment medications. *For more information, please contact Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org. Full text of the case study, "Improvement in refractory obsessive compulsive disorder with dronabinol," appears online in the American Journal of Psychiatry at: <http://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/cgi/content/full/165/4/536>*

Pot's Effects On Driving Performance Contrast Alcohol's, Study Says

Jerusalem, Israel: Low doses of cannabis and alcohol have contrasting effects upon psychomotor performance, according to clinical trial data published in the current issue of the journal *Accident Analysis and Prevention*.

Investigators at Hebrew University and the University of the Negev in Israel assessed the impact of alcohol and THC on simulated driving performance in fourteen subjects.

Researchers reported that volunteers' subjective and actual performance differed under the influence of THC compared to alcohol.

"Average speed was the most sensitive driving performance variable affected by both THC and alcohol but with an opposite effect," authors wrote. "Smoking THC cigarettes caused drivers to drive slower in a dose-dependent manner, while alcohol caused drivers to drive significantly faster than in 'control' conditions."

Both alcohol and low doses of cannabis impaired drivers' ability to maintain lane position and significantly increased subjects' reaction time. Neither low doses of alcohol nor THC significantly increased subjects' total number of collisions.

In terms of overall driving performance, subjects administered cannabis performed in a manner similar to drivers with a blood alcohol concentration of 0.05, authors determined.

"The present study reveals that although some similarities in the degree of impairment could be observed – mainly with the lower level of THC and alcohol, where both increased reaction time and [lane position variability] – some discrepancies also appeared between the two drugs," authors concluded. "In particular, subjects seemed to be aware of their impairment after THC intake and tried to compensate by driving slower; alcohol seemed to make them overly confident and caused

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Two recent examinations of fatal accident crash data indicate that alcohol, even at low doses, greatly increases drivers' crash risk compared to cannabis. A 2007 case-control study published in the *Canadian Journal of Public Health* reported that US drivers with blood alcohol levels of 0.05 percent were three times as likely to have engaged in unsafe driving activities prior to a fatal crash as compared to individuals who tested positive for marijuana. Similarly, a 2005 review of French auto accident data reported that drivers who tested positive for any amount of alcohol had a four times greater risk of having a fatal accident than did drivers who tested positive for marijuana in their blood.

For more information, please contact Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org. Full text of the study, "Effects of THC on driving performance, physiological state, and subjective feelings relative to alcohol," appears in *Accident Analysis and Prevention*. Additional information regarding marijuana use and on-road accident risk is available in the NORML report "Cannabis and Driving: A Scientific and Rational Review," available online at:

http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=7459

New Study Indicates Cannabis-Associated Psychosis Risk Is Minimal

Albany, New York (NY), USA: There is little increased risk of incidences of psychosis or schizophrenia stemming from the use of cannabis, according to clinical data to be published in the journal *Human Psychopharmacology*.

The study found that participants who used cannabis, but no other illicit substances did not score higher on a Schizotypal Personality Questionnaire (SPQ) compared to those respondents who used legal drugs only. However, those participants who used cannabis and other illicit drugs such as ecstasy and cocaine did score higher on the SPQ tests.

The study's results contradict widely reported news reports alleging that marijuana use is associated with a much higher risk of psychosis.

"Some previous work on the link between marijuana use and psychotic symptoms has not controlled for other drug use at all," said NORML Advisory Board member Mitch Earleywine, who co-authored the study. "Other studies only use rough measures of lifetime use of a few drugs. We focused on nine different drugs and emphasized the stimulants,

which work in a neurotransmitter system linked closely to psychosis."

A prior review of cannabis and psychosis conducted by Britain's Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) stated in a 2006 release that, "the current evidence suggests, at worst, that using cannabis increases lifetime risk of developing schizophrenia by one percent."

Earleywine concurs with that assessment. "In my opinion, if cannabis has any impact on psychosis at all it would only appear in folks who have a genetic predisposition who also use heavily early in life," he said.

NORML published a white paper last May which called for the regulation of cannabis as a means to discourage its use by patients who may be predisposed to certain mental illnesses.

Advocates for tougher marijuana laws in Britain have been trumpeting the pot-and-psychosis link as a major impetus for Prime Minister Gordon Brown's expected move to elevate cannabis from a Class C to a Class B drug. The ACMD declined to back the move in a recent meeting on April 4, with 20 out of the panel's 23 experts deciding there was not sufficient new scientific evidence to justify a change. For more information, please contact NORML Deputy Director Paul Armentano at paul@norml.org. Full text of the study, "Polydrug Use, Cannabis Use, and Psychosis-Like Symptoms," will appear in *Human Psychopharmacology*.

Inhaled Cannabis Reduces Central And Peripheral Neuropathic Pain, Study Says

Davis, California (CA), USA: Cannabis significantly reduces neuropathic pain compared to placebo and is well tolerated by patients with chronic pain conditions, according to clinical trial data to be published in *The Journal of Pain*.

Investigators at the University of California at Davis, in conjunction with the University of California Center for Medical Cannabis Research (CMCR), assessed the efficacy of inhaled cannabis on pain intensity among 38 patients with central and/or peripheral neuropathic pain in a randomized, placebo-controlled, crossover trial. Researchers reported that smoking low-grade (3.5 percent THC) and mid-grade (7 percent THC) cannabis equally reduced patients' perception of spontaneous pain.

"[A] significant ... reduction in [a 100-point visual analog scale of] pain intensity per minute was noted from both 3.5 percent and 7 percent

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<continued from previous page> cannabis compared to placebo," authors wrote. "Separate appraisals using the patient global score and multidimensional [eleven-point neuropathic pain scale also] revealed that both active agents alleviated pain compared with placebo."

Investigators added: "[N]o participant withdrew because of tolerability issues. Subjects receiving active agent endorsed a 'good drug effect' more than a 'bad drug effect.'"

They concluded: "In the present experiment, cannabis reduced pain intensity and unpleasantness equally. Thus, as with opioids, cannabis does not rely on a relaxing or tranquilizing effect, but rather reduces both the core component of nociception (nerve pain) and the emotional aspect of the pain experience to an equal degree."

The study is the second clinical trial conducted by CMCR investigators to conclude that inhaled cannabis significantly reduces chronic neuropathy, a condition that is typically unresponsive to both opioids and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen.

Commenting on the study's findings, NORML Deputy Director Paul Armentano said: "With the results of each published study it becomes increasingly apparent why the US government has tried consistently to stonewall clinical research on the therapeutic effects of inhaled cannabis. Each new trial the Feds approve provides additional evidence undermining the government's 'flat Earth' position that cannabis is without medical value."

For more information, please contact Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org. Full text of the study, "A randomized, placebo-controlled, crossover trial of cannabis cigarettes in neuropathic pain," will appear in the Journal of Pain.

Hepatitis C Patient Denied Transplant Based on State and Doctor Approved Medi-Pot Use

Seattle, Washington (WA), USA: University of Washington Medical Center (UWMC) officials have denied a 56-year-old hepatitis C patient from receiving potentially life-saving surgery because of his state-approved medical cannabis use, according to a news wire report by the *Associated Press*.

According to the report, Timothy Garon may die within days without a liver transplant. Previously, Garon has used medical cannabis under his doctor's supervision – and in accordance with state law -- to treat his hepatitis C related nausea, abdominal pain, and lack of appetite. Garon's physician has stated that he was not aware that his patient's medicinal cannabis use would deny him transplant eligibility.

UWMC said it would reconsider its denial if Garon enrolled in a 60-day drug treatment program. After Garon's attorney urged the hospital to reevaluate its position, given that Garon would likely not survive a 60-day program, UWMC reaffirmed its prior decision.

Individual hospitals adopt their own criteria for transplant eligibility, as there are no national or statewide standards.

"Marijuana, unlike alcohol, has no direct effect on the liver," said Dr. Robert Sade, director of the Institute of Human Values in Health Care at the Medical University of South Carolina, in an AP interview. Dr. Jorge Reyes, chief of the transplant division at UWMC, said that is not the only issue at hand. "The concern is that patients who have been using [medicinal cannabis] will not be able to stop." While declining to comment on Garon's case specifically, a statement released by the hospital said, "The committee looks at the period of abstinence the candidate has demonstrated to date, efforts made to maintain this abstinence and the potential to abuse again."

Doctors generally try to discourage smoking after transplant surgery because of the increased risk of infection from the administration of immunosuppressant drugs.

Garon was arrested in December for cannabis cultivation, which he states is legal under Washington State's medical marijuana law. Washington's statute provides allowances for a '60 day supply' but does not define that term.

"I'm not angry, I'm not mad, I'm just confused," Garon said last Thursday after hearing of the committee's decision. Garon's son, Lennon, is concerned that similar scenarios may occur in the future. "He's not the first person that this happened to. He's not going to be the last person until these policies are changed."

For more information, contact NORML Executive Director Allen St. Pierre at (202) 483-5500.



News From *your* local affiliate of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws

Attorneys And Activists Make Plans To Join NORML In Aspen At The 3rd Annual Legal Seminar

Washington, DC, USA: NORML was still accepting registrations from criminal defense attorneys and the general public late into May for its third annual Aspen Legal Seminar. This year's event takes place on Friday, June 6 and Saturday, June 7 at the Gant Hotel in downtown Aspen - one of the nation's most marijuana-friendly cities.

Speakers at this year's event include John Wesley Hall, president elect of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; Jeralyn Merritt, television legal analyst for MSNBC and host of the popular website TalkLeft.com; Gerald Goldstein, past president of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) and legal counsel for the late-Hunter S. Thompson; NORML Deputy Director Paul Armentano; and Paul Wright, editor and co-founder of *Prison Legal News*, the longest publishing independent prisoner rights magazine in US history.

Social events at this year's conference include an opening night reception, a benefit dinner catered by Aspen chef Chris Lanter of Cache Cache, and an afternoon cookout at the fabled Owl Farm, the legendary Woody Creek home of the late Hunter S. Thompson.

"NORML is proud to make this once-a-year legal seminar open to lawyers and the public," said NORML founder and Legal Director Keith Stroup. "It's a rare opportunity to join NORML's staff and some of the nation's top pot lawyers and activists in this "highly" unique and intimate setting."

Conference agenda and registration information (members of the general public may sign up at a reduced rate) for the 2008 Aspen Legal Seminar is now available online at:

http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=6823

*** NOTE! The Willamette Valley NORML Public meeting * Happens every 4th Sat. of the month and will be at h'ERb'S Toasted Subs, 1210 Willamette St, Eugene call: 541.517-0957 -or- visit: <http://WillametteValleyNORML.org>**



It's One Hell of A Joint!

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More Than 230 Cities, 35 Countries Hold Rallies and Demonstrations for Million Marijuana March Weekend

New York City, New York (NY), USA: Marijuana law reform activists in over 230 cities across the globe will hold marches the first weekend in May to protest the criminal prohibition of cannabis. The worldwide event, known as the "Global Marijuana March," will be held on Saturday, May 3rd. Over 400 cities since 1999 have participated in the event, which is coordinated by Cures-Not-Wars in New York City and Cannabis Culture Magazine in Vancouver. The following NORML affiliates are participating in this year's marches: University of Arkansas NORML, Arizona NORML, Bakersfield NORML, Cascadia NORML, Dallas/Fort Worth NORML, Houston NORML, Humboldt State University NORML, Maui NORML, Illinois NORML, Maine-ly NORML, MassCann NORML (MA), Missouri NORML, Oregon NORML, Philly NORML, Greater St. Louis NORML, Texas NORML, Willamette Valley NORML, Nevada NORML, New Zealand NORML, NORML Canada, NORML Saskatchewan, and Norway NORML. *A full list of cities participating in this year's event, along with contact information, is at:*

<http://www.globalmarijuanamarch.org>

*** THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY (W-V) NORML NEWS REPORT > * P.O. Box 10957, EUGENE, OREGON, 97440 * PH: (541) 517-0957 * EMAIL: newsroom@willamettevalleynorml.org * OR VISIT: www.WillametteValleyNORML.org**

