YOUTH vs ADULTS

PERCEPTION OF HARM IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Of youth believe recreational marijuana is a problem in Contra Costa County 44%
Of adults believe recreational marijuana is a problem in Contra Costa County 38%

Of Youth believe marijuana is safer than Alcohol 54%
Of adults believe marijuana is safer than Alcohol 34%

Of youth believe marijuana is addictive 61%
Of adults believe marijuana is addictive 68%

Of youth disapprove of their peers using marijuana 60%
Of adults disapprove of youth using marijuana 86%

Of youth believe their peers obtain marijuana from family/friends 56%
Of adults believe youth obtain marijuana from family/friends 71%

Of youth believe that it is easy to obtain marijuana 77%
Of adults disapprove of youth using medical marijuana 42%

FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MARIJUANA

YOUTH HARM FROM MARIJUANA USE

MENTAL HEALTH
Teens who smoked marijuana were 2 times more likely to develop anxiety or depression.

SCHOOL
Using Marijuana while in school lowers a teen’s performance, and also increases the risk of students dropping out.

COMBINING WITH OTHER SUBSTANCES
Mixing marijuana with alcohol hides feelings of nausea, leading teens to drink too much. Mixing with nicotine increases risk of addiction and lung damage.

LUNG HEALTH
Even without nicotine, marijuana smoke contains carcinogenic hydrocarbons that will harm the lungs.

1 IN 6 TEENS WHO TRY MARIJUANA WILL BECOME ADDICTED

FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MARIJUANA

THC POTENCY ON THE RISE

1993 8.8%
2008 3.4%

“The Marijuana Prevention Action Team (MPAT) of Contra Costa County is a group of community-based organizations combining their efforts to reduce youth access to marijuana and increase data collection on marijuana. The group composed a survey to gauge perceptions of marijuana and its harm amongst a portion of youth and adult populations within Contra Costa County. The results from this survey are not a representation of all of the residents of Contra Costa.”