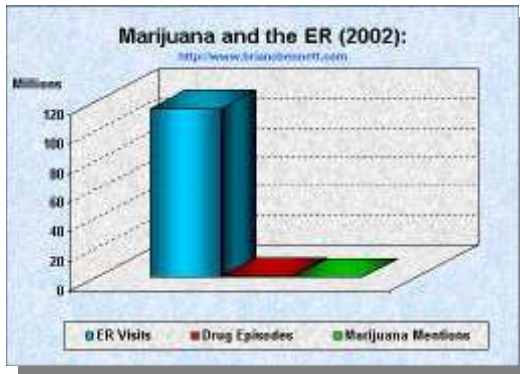


“We've had a doubling of emergency room cases involving marijuana, either people seeking treatment for addiction or as the result of accidents.”

— ONDCP Director John P. Walters,
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Jun 3, 2004

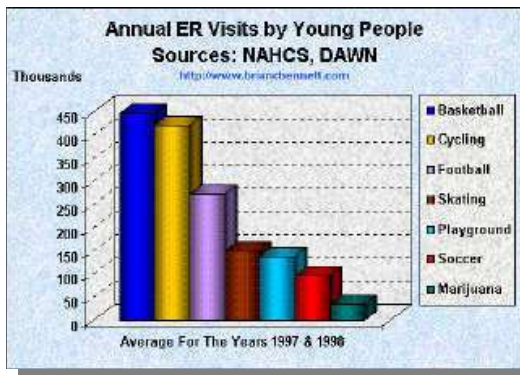


Of the nearly 103 million ER visits in 2002:

670,307 (0.65%) of them involved a drug “episode”

119,472 (0.12%) of them involved a marijuana “mention”

At most, only 0.46% of the nearly 26 million past year marijuana users in 2002 made a marijuana “mention”



Note: “Young people” is defined as those aged 5 to 24 for the sports injury data, and those aged 6 to 25 for the marijuana mentions data.

Data Sources:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): On-line Mortality Database, CDC WONDER

Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN): Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies. *Emergency Department Trends From the Drug Abuse Warning Network, Final Estimates 1995-2002*, DAWN Series: D-24, DHHS Publication No. (SMA) 03-3780, Rockville, MD, 2003

FBI Uniform Crime Reports (UCR): Annual *Crime in the United States* Reports, various years.

Marijuana Potency Monitoring Project (MPMP): ElSohly M.A., National Center for Natural Products Research, School of Pharmacy, University of Mississippi, **Quarterly Report, Potency Monitoring Project**, Report #87, Aug 9, 2004 - Nov 8, 2004. The Marijuana Potency Monitoring project is sponsored by the US National Institute on Drug Abuse.

National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH): Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2004). *Results from the 2003 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: National Findings* (Office of Applied Studies, NHSDA Series H-25, DHHS Publication No. SMA 04-3964). Rockville, MD

Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP): Annual *National Drug Control Strategy*, various years.

Treatment Episode Data Sets (TEDS): Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies. *Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS): 1992-2002. National Admissions to Substance Abuse Treatment Services*, DASIS Series: S-23, DHHS Publication No. (SMA) 04-3965, Rockville, MD, 2004

Drug war: the more you learn, the more it stinks!

To see more, visit:

truth: the Anti-drugwar

<http://www.briancbennett.com>

MARIJUANA:



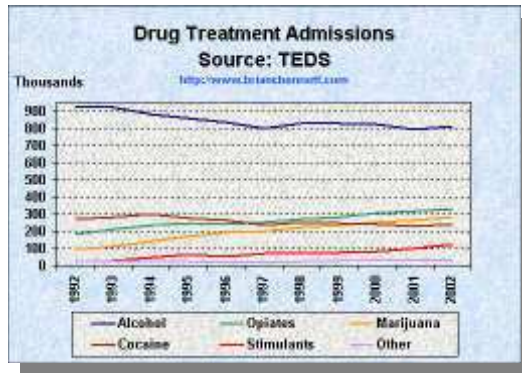
... it's nowhere near as scary as they want you to think.

Here's the Claim:

"Sixty percent of the estimated 7 million people we have to treat for addiction are dependent on marijuana. Nationally, more teens seek treatment for marijuana than for all other drugs combined."

— U.S. Drug Czar John P. Walters, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, Jun 3, 2004

Here's the Data:

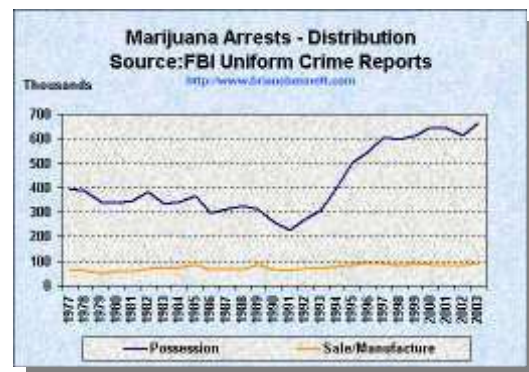


Here's the Claim:

We are a long way from seeking to "arrest our way" out of the drug problem.

— ONDCP, 2004 National Drug Control Strategy, p.6

Here's the Data:



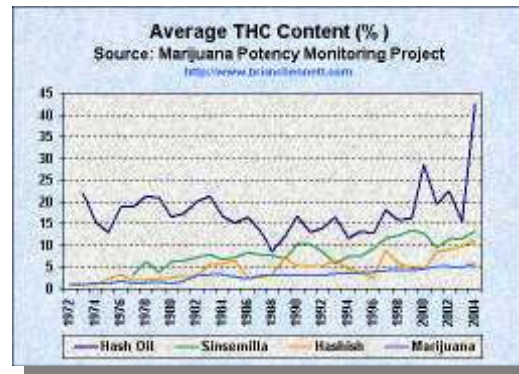
But why do we arrest marijuana users at all?

Here's the Claim:

"Parents are often unaware that today's marijuana is different from that of a generation ago, with potency levels 10 to 20 times stronger than the marijuana with which they were familiar."

— U.S. Drug Czar John P. Walters, *The Myth of 'Harmless' Marijuana*, Washington Post, May 1, 2002

Here's the Data:



Clearly, significantly powerful cannabis preparations have always been available. Indeed, you can legally obtain synthetic 100% THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) with a prescription from your doctor. Ask for Marinol®

Let's Review:

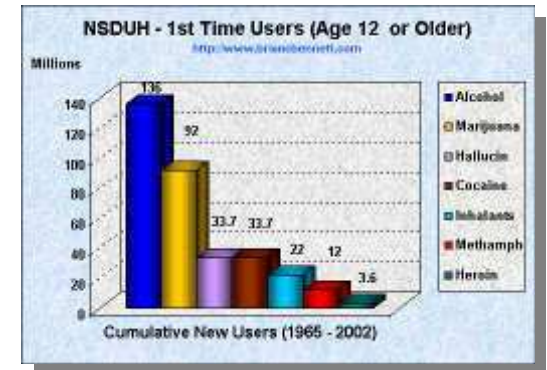
— Marinol® (manmade THC) is a "safe and effective" Schedule III medicine

— Marijuana (natural THC) is a Schedule I "dangerous" drug with no accepted medical use

Now That's "Reefer Madness"

"A direct cause-and-effect relationship between marijuana use and subsequent use of other drugs is hard to prove."

— "What Americans Need to Know About Marijuana," ONDCP, Oct 2003, p.9



At most, only 4 percent of marijuana users ever even try heroin.

"The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate that 19,102 people died in 1999 (or 52 such deaths per day) as the direct result of drug-induced causes."

— 2002 National Drug Control Strategy

