

Dear Legislator, 7/17/2019

MVA is dedicated to supporting victims harmed by the marijuana industry and the normalization and promotion of the marijuana culture. We inform the public, government officials and legislators of the personal damage that marijuana causes.

<u>PROTECTING THE MARIJUANA INDUSTRY BY PASSING THE STATES Act</u> (S. 1028 by Warren/Gardner and H.R. 2093 by Blumenauer/Joyce) <u>WILL CAUSE MORE DRUGGED DRIVING VICTIMS.</u>

Marijuana significantly impairs driving ability including time and distance estimation and reaction times and motor coordination.

[1] The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration lists marijuana as the most prevalent drug in fatally injured drivers with 28% testing positive for marijuana.

NHTSA, Use of Controlled Substances and Highway Safety; A Report to Congress (U.S. Dept. of Transportation, Washington, D.C., 1988)

[2] The crash risk for a driver drunk on alcohol is higher than a driver on marijuana, but to suggest it is safe to drive after using marijuana is irresponsible. An even greater danger is the combination of alcohol and marijuana that has severe psychomotor effects that impair driving ability.

http://cesar.umd.edu/cesar/cesarfax/vol19/19-49.pdf

[3] What about our kids? Vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among those aged 16-25. https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6448a1.htm?s cid=mm6448a1 w

[4] Weekend nighttime driving under the influence of marijuana among young drivers has increased by 48%. Ibid.

[5] About 13% of high school seniors said they drove after using marijuana while only 10 % drove after having five or more drinks.

Ibid.

[6] Another study showed about 28,000 seniors each year admitted to being in at least one motor vehicle accident after using marijuana.

https://archives.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/drug-impaired-driving-by-youth-remains-seriousproblem

[7] The marijuana industry is backing legalization. Do we want more dangerous drivers on our roads so they can make money from selling marijuana?

"Unsafe Driving by High School Seniors: National Trends from 1976 to 2001 in Tickets and Accidents After Use of Alcohol, Marijuana and Other Illegal Drugs." Journal of Studies on Alcohol. May 2003

By: David G. Evans, Esq. I managed the New Jersey Intoxicated Driving Program that included drugged drivers.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sally Schindel, Marijuana Victims Alliance

A MARIJUANA RELATED FATAL CRASH

It's criminal to legalize THC marijuana, a powerful and addictive drug, that is killing our youth in so many ways. The death of my innocent 22-year-old daughter is another tragic example.

My daughter Jennifer Corinne Hrobuchak was vibrant, intelligent, and driven to be a productive and meaningful member of our society. She was tall, had the most beautiful hair and the brightest smile, with green eyes to match. Jen played lacrosse well and earned a college scholarship to a small school in Northern Ohio where she blossomed into an incredible woman.

She graduated with honors in May of 2012 with a degree in Intelligence and Analysis Research. She now spoke Spanish and Arabic fluently and could translate both languages, which in the world of today is critical in her field. My heart swelled with pride as she accepted her diploma and glided across the stage. Her goal was to work for the FBI or another intelligence organization. Her work as an intern for HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking of Ohio) earned her a plaque stating she made outstanding contributions to the program.

After a cruise with a friend to celebrate her years of hard work, she began a new job. Not more than a couple of weeks into training, one of the store managers she oversaw called her at about 12:30 a.m. to say there was an alarm going off in her store. She asked Jennifer to meet her at the store, and my daughter, being the responsible person she was, got up, got dressed, and made her way to the location in her new Camry, given to her as one of the perks.

As she crossed an intersection not far from her home, a man came racing through the intersection at 82mph, speeding through the red light. He slammed into the side of my daughter's car, sending it over the embankment and straight into the front wall of a Lube Stop building, collapsing it on Jennifer's car.

Jennifer passed away at the scene from the severe injuries she sustained. The 26-year-old man who caused her death was not injured. He was high on "medical marijuana" given to him in his home state of Michigan. He was just passing through our state and decided he would break every law and kill my daughter.

After he took a plea and his charges were severely reduced to a felony 3, he spent a total of only 15 months in prison. This man had several previous intoxicated driving charges and run-ins with the law. He admitted he was smoking marijuana before the crash, and there was marijuana in the car. His life goes on with a slap on the wrist and our life is devastated forever. He obtained this marijuana legally which is another slap in the face for our family.

Every day of my life is difficult now. I see all of my daughter's friends getting married and starting their families. These events were taken away from Jennifer and our family. The pain I live with is so intense that, as I write this account, tears of sadness and pain run down my cheeks. The world has lost a beautiful woman and one who would have made a difference.

My mission is to tell the account of what took her incredible life away so that others become aware of the dangers on our roads. It's criminal to legalize this powerful and addictive drug that is killing our youth in so many ways. We need to wake up to what this is really about and become aware of how we are just pawns in the game plan of the marijuana

By Jennifer's Mom, Corrine Gasper, Ohio Corinne.lamarca@gmail.com



