

Should Cannabis be a Class B or Class C Drug?

Developed by Steve Cooke.

Webaddress

<http://www.collaborativelearning.org/drugborc.pdf>

Last updated 29th June 2010

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING PROJECT

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We support a network of teaching professionals to develop and disseminate accessible talk-for-learning activities in all subject areas and for all ages.

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BRIEF SUMMARY OF BASIC PRINCIPLES BEHIND OUR TEACHING ACTIVITIES:

The project is a teacher network, and a non-profit making educational trust. Our main aim is to develop and disseminate classroom tested examples of effective group strategies that promote talk across all phases and subjects. We hope they will inspire you to develop and use similar strategies in other topics and curriculum areas. We want to encourage you to change them and adapt them to your classroom and students. We run teacher workshops, swapshops and conferences throughout the European Union. The project posts online many activities in all subject areas. An online newsletter is also updated regularly.

*These activities are influenced by current thinking about the role of language in learning. They are designed to help children learn through talk and active learning in small groups. They work best in non selective classes where children in need of language or learning support are integrated. They are well suited for the development of oracy. They provide teachers opportunities for assessment of talk.

*They support differentiation by placing a high value on what children can offer to each other on a particular topic, and also give children the chance to respect each other's views and formulate shared opinions which they can disseminate to peers. By helping them to take ideas and abstract concepts, discuss, paraphrase and move them about physically, they help to develop thinking skills.

*They give children the opportunity to participate in their own words and language in their own time without pressure. Many activities can be tried out in pupils' first languages and afterwards in English. A growing number of activities are available in more than one language, not translated, but mixed, so that you may need more than one language to complete the activity.

*They encourage study skills in context, and should therefore be used with a range of appropriate information books which are preferably within reach in the classroom.

*They are generally adaptable over a wide age range because children can bring their own knowledge to an activity and refer to books at an appropriate level. The activities work like catalysts.

*All project activities were planned and developed by teachers working together, and the main reason they are disseminated is to encourage teachers to work more effectively with each other inside and outside the classroom. They have made it possible for mainstream and language and learning support teachers to share an equal role in curriculum delivery. They should be adapted to local conditions. In order to help us keep pace with curriculum changes, please send any new or revised activities back to the project, so that we can add them to our lists of materials.

Some cannabis is not very strong and is not addictive

People can develop psychotic and other mental illnesses because of using cannabis.

Some people use cannabis for medical reasons. It can help to relieve pain when people suffer from multiple sclerosis.

Using cannabis leads young people to try other more dangerous drugs such as heroin and cocaine.

Cannabis is not as dangerous or addictive as other Class B drugs such as amphetamines or ritalin

'Skunk' is a much more powerful form of cannabis and it has become much more common in the last ten years.

Using cannabis may stop some young people from taking other more dangerous Class B or Class A drugs.





Punishments for using Class B drugs are greater than for Class C drugs and so making cannabis Class B is more of a deterrent.

Cannabis is less harmful to people's health than alcohol and tobacco.

Many people have to claim 'disability allowance' money because of illnesses caused by them using cannabis.

Because cannabis a class B drug it makes otherwise well-behaved young people into criminals.

Cannabis is the drug most likely to be tried out by young people under the age of 18 and so it should be made a more serious offence to possess it

Arguments for	Arguments against
Strongest argument 	Strongest argument 
Least strong argument 	Least strong argument 

Statement of issue.

What is the issue?

Preview: What are the opposing views?

Arguments for

Arguments against

Recommendation

Summary of arguments which you don't agree
with

Plus

Your opinion and why you think this.

Should Cannabis be a Class B or Class C Drug?

There has been a lot of discussion about whether

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Some people argue that

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while others argue

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Supporters of cannabis being a Class C drug maintain that

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They also suggest that

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Furthermore, they argue that

..

However, those who think that cannabis should be a Class B drug claim that

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They also strongly believe that

.....

Another point they make is that

.....

Although it is true that

.....

I think that

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