



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

**November 20, 2015**

## **Marijuana Action Alert**



### **Medical Marijuana launched in Illinois**

The *Chicago Tribune* reported more than 800 patients bought 13,000 grams of cannabis since the state's first dispensaries opened November 9, 2015. That's about half an ounce per customer, at an average price of \$16 per gram, or about \$450 per ounce. That's higher than the average black-market price for pot in Illinois, which runs at \$350 for an ounce.

### **Seattle's post-marijuana legalization crime wave**

Property crimes increased 14 percent from 2012 to 2013, and the 2014 data was 26 percent higher than the pre-pot legalization period. Burglaries are up 10 percent since marijuana legalization, larceny thefts have increased 27 percent, and motor vehicle thefts are 54 percent higher.

Violent crime is also on the rise. In 2012, Seattle had fewer than 3,500 violent crimes. By 2014, this had increased 6 percent to 3,700 and 2015 is on target for a further increase up to 3,800 - driven by more robberies and aggravated assaults. Read more [Read more.](#)

### **Colorado Experts Advise Other States to Plan to Prevent Marijuana Edible Overdoses**

Marijuana edibles are products such as candy, cookies and soda that look like regular food, and can be enticing to children. When edible products were first sold in Colorado, labels stated a single serving size contained 10 milligrams of THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana. However, a product such as a cookie could contain as much as 10 servings, or 100 milligrams of THC. "That

meant a serving size would be one-tenth of a cookie, but many people didn't realize that, even if it was on the label," Dr. Ghosh explained.

...Kennon Heard, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, agrees that accidental pediatric exposure to marijuana edibles is the biggest danger resulting from marijuana legalization. "We have seen 14 cases of pediatric exposures in local children's hospitals in the two years after legalization, compared with none in the several years before legalization. A few of the children have had severe symptoms from eating marijuana-infused products," he said. [Read more.](#)

### FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

**Contact** your [State Representative](#) and [State Senator](#) and ask ask them to OPPOSE the deregulation and legalization of marijuana.

**Contact** [Governor Rauner](#) and ask him to oppose the deregulation and legalization of marijuana.

**Forward** to 10 others.

Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action.

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Illinois Church Action on Alcohol and Addiction Problems | | [ilcaaap@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ilcaaap@sbcglobal.net) | 1132 West Jefferson  
Springfield, IL 62702

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