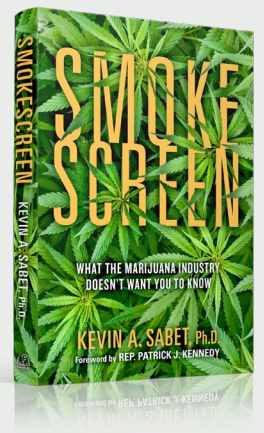


# TEN THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

BY KEVIN SABET



# THE MARIJUANA OF TODAY IS MUCH STRONGER THAN THE MARIJUANA OF THE PAST, CONTAINING UP TO 99.9% THC.

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- This isn't your mother's marijuana; the marijuana of today is significantly more potent.

OFFICE OF THE U.S. SURGEON GENERAL

- Regular high potency marijuana users are 5 times more likely to develop psychosis compared to 3 times more likely for regular users of lower potency of marijuana in the past.

LANCET 2019 POPULATION-LEVEL STUDY CONCLUSIONS

## TOBACCO & ALCOHOL COMPANIES HAVE BOUGHT THE POT BUSINESS.

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- Altria Group, maker of Marlboro, invested \$1.8B in Cronos for a 45% stake in the Canadian-based marijuana company.

LAVITO & HIRSCH, 2018

- Anheuser-Busch invests \$50M; partners with Tilray through subsidiary brand Labatt to create a marijuana infused drink.

TOBIN, 2018

- Constellation Brands, maker of Corona, upped an initial investment in Canopy Growth from a 9.9% stake to a 38% stake valued at an additional \$4B; the beer maker will be eligible to purchase 139.7 million more shares for \$5B.

SHEETZ, 2018

# WHILE THE INDUSTRY DOES NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE U.S. FINANCIAL SYSTEM, IT IS DESPERATELY TRYING TO CHANGE THAT, INCREASING THE RISK THAT ILLEGAL DRUG COMPANIES CAN GAIN ACCESS IN THE PROCESS TOO.

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- The SAFE Banking Act (H.R. 1595/S. 1200) contains no public health guardrails to deal with the incredibly potent flavored marijuana vapes that have been warned about by the Surgeon General, and the many of harms caused by marijuana use.

OFFICE OF THE U.S. SURGEON GENERAL

- Access to banks would radically increase investment in the marijuana industry, accelerating its transformation into the next big tobacco.

HIRSCH, 2018

- In Canada, where marijuana banking is legal, anonymous offshore firms, possibly with links to organized crime, have infiltrated the marijuana industry.

BLAIS & CLOUTIER, 2018

# MARIJUANA WILL NOT HELP THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC.

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- Marijuana has had no impact on opioid prescriptions or reduced prescribing.

THE LANCET JOURNAL, 2018

- Marijuana users are more likely to abuse prescription opioids.

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY, 2017

- The opioid crisis appears to be worsening where marijuana has been legalized.

JAMA INTERNATIONAL MEDICINE JOURNAL, 2018

# LEGALIZING AND TAXING MARIJUANA WON'T COME CLOSE TO SOLVING STATE BUDGET ISSUES.

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- Almost every state that legalized marijuana came up short on initial revenue targets. In Massachusetts, the first year of tax revenue from marijuana sales was less than half of the anticipated \$63M.

POLITICO, 2019

- Even as marijuana markets grow, research shows tax revenue quickly tapers.

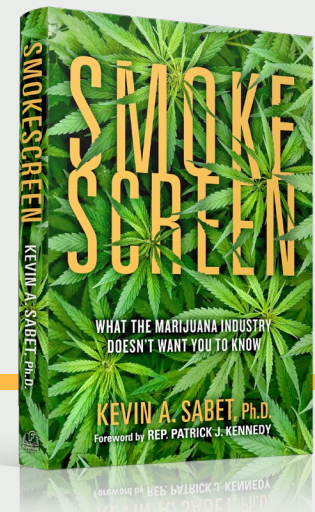
PEW TRUSTS, 2019

- Revenue projections are unreliable. As states seek to fill budget gaps, researchers advise against marijuana tax revenue to fill long-term holes.

PEW TRUSTS, 2019



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RETAILER!**





# DISPENSARIES ARE RECOMMENDING THC PRODUCTS TO PREGNANT MOTHERS FOR NAUSEA, EVEN THOUGH THE SCIENCE SAYS THE OPPOSITE.

- In Alaska, for example, 9% of women who delivered a baby in 2017 reportedly used marijuana during their pregnancy.

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES [ADHSS], 2020

- In Colorado, researchers found that seven in 10 dispensaries recommended marijuana to women posing as pregnant women

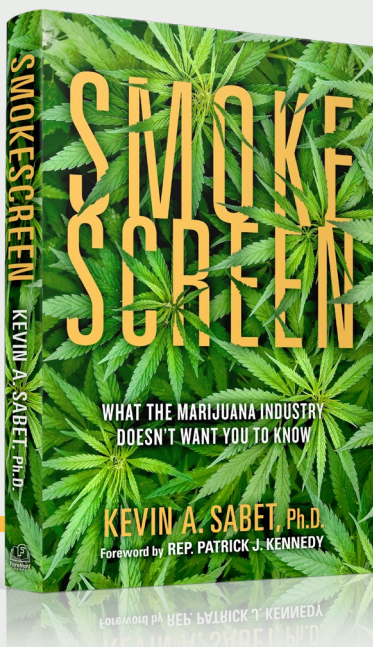
NEDELMAN, 2018

- In 2019, the U.S. Surgeon General issued an advisory on marijuana use during pregnancy.

OFFICE OF THE U.S. SURGEON GENERAL, 2019

- In 2019, a newborn whose mother reportedly used marijuana while pregnant was found dead at just 11 days old and doctors believed the cause was acute marijuana toxicity.

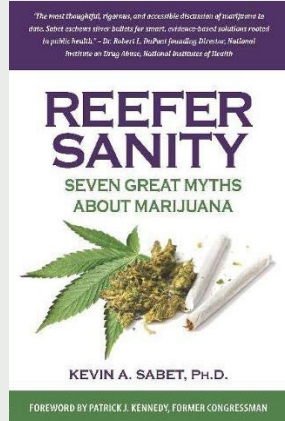
BAO & BAO, 2019



## ABOUT SMOKE SCREEN

From the leading authority on marijuana—a man who has served as White House advisor on drugs to three different administrations and who NBC News once called “the prodigy of drug politics”—comes the remarkable and shocking exposé about how 21st century pot—today’s new and highly potent form of the drug—is on the rise, spreading rapidly across America by an industry intent on putting rising profits over public health.

## MORE FROM AUTHOR KEVIN A. SABET



## “MEDICAL MARIJUANA” IS A MISNOMER— AN EFFECTIVE YET DECEPTIVE MARKETING TERM.

- There is scarce evidence that marijuana can improve depressive disorders; anxiety disorders; ADHD; Tourette syndrome; PTSD or psychosis.

BLACK ET AL, 2019

- Pain is one the most commonly reported qualifying conditions in “legal” states, in spite of evidence suggesting marijuana fails to mitigate pain.

CDPHE, 2019; TAMPA BAY TIMES 2019; CAMPBELL ET AL, 2018

- A large study found the majority of marijuana products available in “medical” marijuana storefronts featured THC levels too high to be considered effective at treating chronic pain.

CASH ET AL, 2020

- Evidence for effectiveness of cannabinoids in CNCP (Chronic Non-Cancer Pain) is limited...It seems unlikely that cannabinoids are highly effective medicines for CNCP.

STOCKINGS ET AL, 2018

# INCREASES IN WORKPLACE PROBLEMS, INCLUDING LABOR SHORTAGES AND ACCIDENTS ABOUND.

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- Marijuana positivity climbed by double digits across nearly all employee testing categories, while opiate and heroin positivity decline.

QUEST DIAGNOSTICS, 2020

- Many states—such as Nevada—now prohibit employers from testing employees or requiring job applicants to be tested for marijuana. Many employers are also prohibited from firing medical marijuana users.

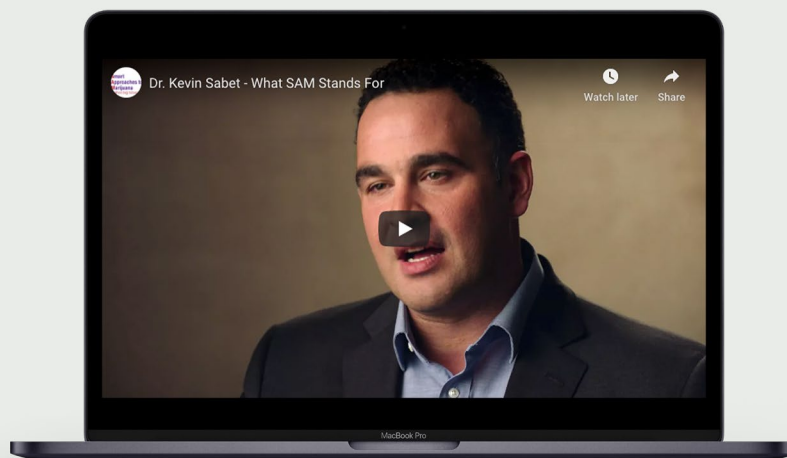
LAM, 2019

- A 2014 survey showed that 10% of Americans admit to having gone to work stoned.

MASHABLE, 2014

## SMART APPROACHES TO MARIJUANA

Smart Approaches to Marijuana (SAM) is a nonpartisan, non-profit alliance of physicians, policy makers, prevention workers, treatment and recovery professionals, scientists, and other concerned citizens opposed to marijuana legalization who want health and scientific evidence to guide marijuana policies.



## **MARIJUANA-IMPAIRED DRIVING FATALITIES HAVE MORE THAN DOUBLED IN COLORADO AND WASHINGTON STATE SINCE BOTH STATES HAVE LEGALIZED RECREATIONAL USE AND SALES.**

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- Federal legalization would bring 7,000 more stoned driving deaths nationally.

**KAMER ET AL, 2020**

- In Colorado, marijuana-related traffic deaths increased by 48% after the state legalized recreational use of the drug.

**HALSEY III, 2017**

- In Washington State, 18.6% of all DUI cases in the state tested for drugs were positive for THC; from January through April 2015, 33% were positive for THC.

**COUPER, 2015**

## **AFRICAN AMERICANS ARE TWICE AS LIKELY TO BE ARRESTED FOR MARIJUANA IN COLORADO AND WASHINGTON, A FACT THAT NEEDS TO BE EXPLORED MORE DEEPLY IN THE NATIONAL DISCUSSION ON ACHIEVING SOCIAL JUSTICE.**

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- Colorado's marijuana arrest rate for African Americans (233 per 100,000) was nearly double that of Caucasians (118 per 100,000) in 2017.

**CDPS, 2018**

- In Colorado, on-view arrests are up 26% since 2015 (1,074 to 1,353 in 2017). Blacks (39%) were 21% more likely to experience an on-view arrest than whites (18%) in 2017.

**CDPS, 2018**

- Marijuana arrests nearly tripled after legalization of marijuana in Washington, D.C.

**WASHINGTON POST, 2017**