THE LINK BETWEEN Marijuana & Schizophrenia

There are many different forms of mental illness, but two severe types can be brought on or made worse by using THC:

1. **Psychosis:** symptoms of delusional thinking, paranoia, and/or hallucinations
2. **Schizophrenia:** a mental disorder including chronic mood symptoms and symptoms of psychosis

Recent research suggests that using high-potency marijuana every day could increase the chances of developing psychosis by nearly five times compared to people who have never used marijuana. The amount of drug used, the age at first use, and genetic vulnerability have all been shown to increase your chance of psychosis.

If marijuana use caused schizophrenia, you would see more cases of schizophrenia in a population as marijuana use and potency increased over time. That's what happened in Denmark. Denmark has a national healthcare registry of 7 million people, which enables researchers to study the entire population. In this case, they looked at diagnoses of schizophrenia and cannabis use disorder. Due to the increases in the use and potency of cannabis, their schizophrenia rate went from 2% to 8% between 1995 and 2010.

7M people.

2% schizophrenia before cannabis.

8% schizophrenia after cannabis.

8%
2%
1995   2010

Research:
www.thelancet.com/article/S2215-0366(19)30048-3/fulltext
www.jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapsychiatry/article-abstract/2782160

QUESTION: How would you feel about not being able to distinguish fantasy from reality?

REFLECT

YOUTH MARIJUANA PREVENTION

JOHNNY'S AMBASSADORS