CANNABIS 101

AN INTRODUCTORY OVERVIEW OF CANNABIS
We're here to help build a safe, legal, and sustainable global cannabis industry.
FOCUS: THE CANNABIS HEALTH AND SAFETY ORGANIZATION

Federal 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profit Health & Safety Organization

Voluntary Consensus Standards Development

Internationally Accredited Cannabis Specific Certification
• Cultivation, Manufacturing, Laboratory, Retail

No financial stake in, nor funding from the cannabis industry

Not an advocacy organization nor an industry trade association
If someone told us ten years ago that the government would pay us to stay at home the entire month of 4/20 and that you could only leave your house to pick up food and weed, we never would have believed them 😂

THE HISTORY OF 420
IS IT CANNABIS, HEMP OR MARIJUANA?

- Regulatory
- THC & CBD
- Psycho-activity
- Growing Requirements
- Appearance
- Uses

THE MANY USES OF HEMP

- TEXTILES
- INDUSTRIAL TEXTILES
- PAPER
- FOOD
- BUILDING MATERIALS
- BODY CARE
From 1850 to 1936, cannabis was used as the primary medicine for 100 illnesses/diseases in the US.
1950: CANNABIS LISTED IN US PHARMACOPOEIA

- Neuralgia
- Tetanus
- Typhus
- Cholera
- Rabies
- Dysentery
- Alcoholism
- Opiate addiction
- Anthrax
- Leprosy
- Incontinence
- Gout
- Convulsive disorders
- Tonsillitis
- Insanity
- Excessive menstrual bleeding
- Uterine bleeding
- And others
1930 | FEDERAL NARCOTICS BUREAU

Harry J. Anslinger, Commissioner of Narcotics, 1962, after his retirement.
OFTEN CITED AS THE FIRST STEP BY THE US GOVERNMENT THAT BEGAN THE BAN ON CANNABIS.
LAST WARNING TO ALL DOPE PEDDLERS AND GANGSTERS
BLACK - WHITE - PUERTORICAN
GET OUT OF HARLEM & NEW YORK CITY
We are going to return Harlem back into the hands of Decent People
DOPE ADDICTS ARE VIOLATING THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF BLACKS & WHITES
THIS MUST BE STOPPED NOW!
DOPE GANGSTERS ARE LYNCHING ADDICTS WITH OVERDOSES
1200 DEAD SINCE JANUARY 1ST, 1948
WE ARE CALLING FOR FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL
LAW ENFORCEMENT FORCES TO MOVE INTO THE STREETS
OF HARLEM AND NEW YORK CITY NOW AND CLEAN IT UP
ANTI-CRIME & ANTI-NARCOTIC COMMITTEE - REV. D.D. DEMPSEY, DIRECTOR
1970 | THE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT
US CANNABIS LAWS TODAY ARE ABOUT AS CLEAR AS MUD.
COMPLEX CELL SIGNALING SYSTEM TO CREATE HOMEOSTASIS

ENDOCANNABINOID SYSTEM

ANANDAMIDE (AEA)

2-ARACHIDONOYLGLYCYL OL (2-AG)

CB1 Receptors are primarily found in the brain & central nervous system, but are also present in nerves & in some organs.

CB2 Receptors are mostly in the peripheral organs especially cells associated with the immune system.
CANNABIS METABOLISM

Δ9-THC
“delta-9-THC”

11-OH-THC
“hydroxy-THC”

11-COOH-THC
“carboxy-THC”

psychoactive
CANNABIS DRUG-DRUG INTERACTIONS
CANNABIS REGULATORY CHALLENGES
REGULATORY CHALLENGE #1

NOT FIT FOR PURPOSE

NOT SAFE FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION
DETERMINING BARRIERS TO ENTRY

Balance potentials for supply issues with providing adequate access

OREGON:

PRODUCTION: 970 - 2,008 lbs.
CONSUMPTION: 185 – 373 lbs.
ANNUAL SURPLUS: 785 – 1625 lbs.

Law enforcement estimates $48 million was diverted from Oregon’s legal cannabis industry to the black market between 2015 – 2018.

Source: Oregon Secretary of State Audit Report 2019
DEVELOPING PROGRAM RULES

Balancing adequate protections for health & safety without over complicating the regulatory requirements

California Consumers pay 77% more for the same product from a legal vendor

Illicit operators: $8.7 billion | State-licensed operators: $3.1 billion

Complicated regulatory hurdles and lack of educational guidance for industry are primary barriers

Source: BDS Analytics January 2019
LICENSING

Expensive licensing fees and complex regulations are primary barriers.

California annual licensing fees: $2,000 - $75,000 per license.

9 individual licenses are required to get products on the shelves.

MO Applications: $3 million.

HIGH TAX RATES DRIVE CONSUMERS TO THE BLACK MARKET

California 2018

- Consumers are paying as much as 45% in aggregate tax
- After legalization, $500 million less spent on legal cannabis
- $84 million in cannabis tax revenues collected - $101 million below projections
### OTHER CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

- **Lack of Enforcement**
- **Inadequate Training – Labs/Operators/Inspectors**
- **Not Understanding the Cannabis Plant’s Lifecycle – Inspectors/Regulators**
- **Insufficient Resources – Programs, Physicians, Educators, Industry**
- **Communication Strategies – Regulatory, Industry, Interagency, Legislature**
LEGAL DOESN’T MAKE IT SAFE.
CANNABIS PATIENTS & CONSUMERS ARE BEING DENIED BASIC RIGHTS

RIGHTS OF CONSUMER

- Right to Safety
- Right to Information
- Right to Choice
- Right to be Heard
- Right to Seek Redressal
- Right to Consumer Education
- Right to Basic Needs
- Right to Healthy Environment
THE PATH FORWARD
CANNABIS DEEMED ESSENTIAL
CONGRESS & THE FDA
INDUSTRY SHARES THE RESPONSIBILITY
COMMUNICATION.
EDUCATION.
RESEARCH.
COLLABORATION.
We’re here to help build a safe, legal, and sustainable global cannabis industry.

The Cannabis Health & Safety Organization

LEZLI ENGELKING
lezli@focusstandards.org
866-359-3557
www.focusstandards.org