

Ten Key Values

1. GRASSROOTS DEMOCRACY
2. SOCIAL JUSTICE
3. ECOLOGICAL WISDOM
4. NONVIOLENCE
5. DECENTRALIZATION
6. ECONOMIC JUSTICE
7. GENDER EQUITY
8. RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY AND COOPERATION
9. PERSONAL AND GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY
10. FUTURE FOCUS

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Drug Policy:

Ending the “War on Drugs”
with Real Solutions

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The War on Drugs Has Failed

In 1971 President Nixon began the modern day War on Drugs, and the two main tenets are:

1. To reduce the amount of drugs coming into the U.S. in order to drive up their price to unaffordable levels.
2. To keep drugs out of the hands of young people.

The **results** of the War on Drugs:

Only 10% of illegal drugs are seized by law enforcement. Drugs are now more plentiful and cheaper than ever.

Drug use worldwide increases about 12% per year, with young people being a large part of that number. The only source of those drugs is the illegal drug industry.

We spend \$50 billion in the U.S. each year on an interdiction program that is 90% ineffective.

The Criminal Justice System Can't Keep Pace

There are 7.6 million people in the U.S. Criminal Justice System; 3%

of the adult population. Two thirds of that 7.6 million are black or Latino males. 70% of those have been charged with drug related crimes.

Connecticut Prisons

There are between 18 and 22 thousand people in prisons in Connecticut. Another 52 thousand are in Connecticut jails, half-way houses or on probation. Two thirds of these people are serving time for drug related crimes.

Connecticut spends \$600 million per year on its jails and prisons.

The Green Solution: Legalize Medicalize Decriminalize

Legalize: Cannabis and hemp should be regulated and controlled like cigarettes and alcohol.

Medicalize: The use of heroin, cocaine, ecstasy, and methamphetamines should come under the supervision of medical personnel.

Decriminalize: All the rest of the illegal drugs should be decriminalized for future debate and honest medicinal study.

Results:

When illegal drugs come inside of the law, illegal drug markets will collapse.

In European communities where the medicalization approach has been tried, the drug related crimes fell between 80% and 90%. 50% to 70% of those in the programs were reintegrated into their families and society

Without drug related crime the State of Connecticut will save \$400 million in prison costs.

Savings then can be used to finance the medicalization and drug education programs. Money will be available to finance public and higher education and training programs for people who were involved with either side of the criminal justice system.

Want More Information?

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