

Dear Subscriber of Parenting Magazine,

As a recipient of the Tampa Parenting Magazine I wanted to bring to your attention that the October issue has an article encouraging parent to support the legalization of marijuana AND to volunteer helping with the legalization process of 'medical' marijuana. This goes against all research, studies and advice from the medical field and statistics and data especially from Colorado that verify the side-effects and consequences outweigh any potential benefits.

Their article is based on **anecdotal statement** of parent's whose child is suffering from cancer and has episodes of epilepsy. Although I am very sympathetic and compassionate for anyone suffering from such painful diseases and understand parents who feel helpless, encouraging parents to go against the advice of the medical field not only brings parents false hope but is unethical.

The magazine reached out to me for information on the subject of legalizing marijuana. I referenced documentations from medical associations, statistics from Colorado and other data all resourced. Instead the magazine chose to write about the "journey" of the family concluding they were forced to go to Colorado for treatment. **The magazine ignored warnings from the American Epilepsy Society, medicine: Children's Hospital in Colorado reported that "artisanal high CBD" oils resulted in no significant reduction in seizures in the majority of patients and in those for whom the parents reported improvements, these improvements were not associated with improvement in electroencephalograms (EEGs), the gold standard monitoring test for people with epilepsy.** **The American Cancer Society** advises "Better and more effective treatments are needed to overcome the side effects of cancer and its treatment."

It appears as though the editors are trying to convey medical expertise and encourage parents to experiment with anecdotal hearsay or participate in the political marijuana legalization arena? Regardless they are doing a disservice to parents, families, and our community. **I encourage subscribers to cancel their account! Clearly, this magazine is not about the health and safety of our children.**

For additional information please contact me at [tmiller@stoprxdrugabuse.org](mailto:tmiller@stoprxdrugabuse.org).

Sincerely,

Teresa M. Miller  
Community Substance Abuse Prevention Volunteer  
[StopRxDrugAbuse.org](http://StopRxDrugAbuse.org)  
[No2Pot.org](http://No2Pot.org)

**Of grave concern to schools should be the data from Colorado.**

- Since marijuana has been legalized youth usage is 56% higher than the national average which will impact the graduation rates and limit employment opportunities of students.
- Drug related suspensions have increased 40% in four years. School resource officers report that 51% of those students were under the influence during school hours.
- "One junior boy, while in class and trying to pick up girls in his class. Offered to share marijuana edibles (infused Rice Krispy treats) to three girls in his class while asking for their phone numbers."