

## GLOBAL ISSUE DEBATE OUTLINE

**Directions:** Make a copy of this doc for yourself. Research both sides of an argument. Use current, reliable sources. Never use “I, me, my” or any other first person pronouns! Yes, this takes work.

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The global issue debate question is:

*Example: Should marijuana be legalized or remain illegal?*

**I. Introduction: Set up the basics. Think global audience!**

1: Strong hook that easily grabs the listener and relates to your argument (quote, shocking fact).

The amount of THC content in marijuana has seen a dramatic 26 percent increase since the 1980s according to cbsnews.com.

Source used:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/marijuana-far-more-potent-than-it-used-to-be-tests-find/>

2. Summarize **side one (the opposing side)** of the issue without giving your opinion.

- a. *Some people believe that...* marijuana should be legalized
- b. make money
- c. spend less on nonviolent crimes
- d. medical benefits

3. Summarize **side two (your side)** of the issue without giving your opinion.

- a. *On the other hand, some individuals feel that...* marijuana should not be legalized
- b. minimal tax benefits
- c. black market issues
- d. Amsterdam

4. **Thesis!** Provide 3 main points for *your side* of the issue without saying “I think that...”.

- a. more than half addicted
- b. mental health damage
- c. (Most important point here!) destroys lives

**II. Pro 1 paragraph: See point “a” of your thesis.**

1. Topic sentence: *For example, ... more than half addicted*

a. Support your point with evidence (facts, statistics, research). *"Of the 7.3 million persons aged 12 or older classified with illicit drug dependence or abuse in 2012, 4.3 million persons had marijuana dependence or abuse."*

**Sources used:**

<http://townhall.com/columnists/johnhawkins/2014/01/21/5-reasons-marijuana-should-remain-illegal-n1782086/page/full>

b. Explain how the facts support your point. *That's more than half.*

i. *Therefore, ... the world is more competitive, can't afford more addiction*

**III. Pro 2 paragraph: See point “b” of your thesis.**

1. Topic sentence: *Likewise, ... mental health damage*

a. Support your point with evidence (facts, statistics, research).

*In its own report arguing against marijuana legalization, the American Medical Association said: "Heavy cannabis use in adolescence causes persistent impairments in neurocognitive performance and IQ, and use is associated with increased rates of anxiety, mood and psychotic thought disorders."*

**Sources used:**

<http://townhall.com/columnists/johnhawkins/2014/01/21/5-reasons-marijuana-should-remain-illegal-n1782086/page/full>

b. Explain how the facts support your point.

i. *As a result, ... less stress not more, already crises in mental world wide*

**IV. Pro 3: See point “c” of your thesis. This is your most important point.**

1. Topic sentence: *Most importantly, ... destroys lives*

a. Support your point with evidence (facts, statistics, research).

*A study of postal workers found that employees who tested positive for marijuana had 55% more accidents, 85% more injuries and a 75% increase in being absent from work. In Australia, a study found that cannabis intoxication was responsible for 4.3% of driver fatalities.*

**Sources used:**

<http://townhall.com/columnists/johnhawkins/2014/01/21/5-reasons-marijuana-should-remain-illegal-n1782086/page/full>

b. Explain how the facts support your point.

i. *For this reason, ... unemployment issues, accidents, fatalities increasing*

**V. Refutes: Respectfully refute the opposition's points with facts. Use what you said in your introduction for your summary of the opposing side. This would artfully bring back points you already mentioned.**

1. Topic sentence: *Conversely, ...marijuana should be legalized to make money*

a. Respectfully refute it using facts/statistics: *However, ... Of the \$373.9 billion spent by federal and state governments, some 95.6 percent was spent to "shovel up the consequences and human wreckage of substance abuse and addiction," while only 1.9 percent was spent on prevention and treatment, 1.4 percent on taxation and regulation, and less than 1 percent on research and interdiction, says the report from Columbia University's National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse.*

Sources used: <http://www.cnn.com/2009/HEALTH/05/28/addiction.costs/>

2. Give another of the opposition's points. *Likewise, they feel that...medical benefits*

a. Respectfully refute it using facts/statistics: *Even so, ... lacks FDA-approval, and that various legal drugs make marijuana use unnecessary according to procon.org*

Sources used: <http://medicalmarijuana.procon.org/>

3. Clincher: How your refutes respectfully show that the opposition is incorrect and that your way of thinking is best. *Because of this... costs and risks too high*

## VI. Conclusion:

1. Why should readers care about this issue? **(Restate your 3 main arguments in new words.)**  
*Overall, ... more than half addicted, mental health damage, destroys lives*

2. Summarise: Why is this a global issue, and in what ways could this issue impact the future if we do not take action?

*In the event that... marijuana legal = global drug trafficking leads to harder drugs (heroin), larger legal problems, more fatalities*

3. What simple action can we do to make a change TODAY? How can we do this? If possible, connect this

sentence to your HOOK!

*Ultimately, ... anyone can join the fight by going to calmus.org and complete the brief Google form to get involved in "stop pot 2016". If THC content in marijuana really has jumped from 4 to*

30

*percent, there is no time to waste.*

**VII. Annotated Bibliography**

**Copy and paste your Google doc version of your annotated bibliography to the next blank page of this document.)**

\*\*A minimum of 3 current, reliable sources must be annotated with 4-5 sentences of information.

**Works Cited**

"2.5 Million Alcohol-Related Deaths Worldwide- Annually." *NCADD*. N.p., n.d. Web. 20 Apr. 2015.

This was a website that gave information about alcohol abuse. I used it to prove that a legal substance (alcohol) can be extremely dangerous, while marijuana is less deadly but illegal. It was a valuable resource for comparing two substances.

"A Brief History of the Drug War." *A Brief History of the Drug War*. N.p., n.d. Web. 20 Apr. 2015.

This website told about all of the drugs and their history, so it wasn't very useful to me because I wanted to only research marijuana. I did find statistics about how long it has been a problem in the United States.

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 03 Feb. 2015. Web. 20 Apr. 2015.