## **PLEASE VOTE NO!**

When you vote on March 20th, a question will be on the ballot about legalizing marijuana in Illinois for 21 and older.

Colorado legalized pot in 2013. What's happening there is tragic:

- **66% increase** in pot-related deaths
- > 72% increase in pot-related hospitalizations
- Colorado youth now rank #1 in the nation for past month use
- Colorado college-age adults now rank #2 in the nation for past month use
- **8%-10% of newborns now test positive** for marijuana at St. Mary-Corwin Hospital in Pueblo, Colorado
- There are 491 marijuana stores in Colorado, compared to 392 Starbucks and 208 McDonald's
- **Crime rose 17%** and the Black Market is thriving

THC is what causes the "high." In the 70's, **THC levels were 2%-3%. THC levels in today's products are 20%-90%.** 

THC potent products have caused violent psychotic episodes, poisonings, and even death.

Marijuana is not at all like alcohol. Smoking or eating even a small amount of marijuana will result in intoxication. Moreover, marijuana stays in your system and can affect fine motor skills for 72 hours or longer.

Scripture exhorts us to be sober minded (1 Peter 4:7 & 5:8; 1 Thes 5:16; Titus 2:2; 2 Tim 4:5; Rom 13:13) and warns against intoxication repeatedly (Eph. 5:18; Gal. 5:21; Prov. 20:1; Is 5:22). Instead, Christians must recognize that we are not our own, but are called to do everything for the glory of God and be filled with the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19-20; 10:31; Eph. 5:18).

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