

Citizens for a Safe and Healthy Texas UNITING AND EDUCATION COMMUNITIES ON THE IMPACT OF MARIJUANA

ISSUE

Vape and smoke shops, gas stations, and various retailers are selling hemp-derived THC and its analogues, such as Delta-8-THC, which are synthetically produced from CBD. These products are being marketed as medicine and are being sold to Texas youth, contributing to severe mental and physical health issues and, in some cases, even death.

- Synthetic THC is being sold to Texas children, causing harm and, in some cases, fatalities.
- Any potential tax benefit pales in comparison to the destruction of people's health and the tragic loss of life caused by these synthetic THC products.
- The <u>FDA</u> should be the sole governing body responsible for regulating more drugs. The FDA has already approved medications derived from components of the cannabis and hemp plant, specifically <u>Dronabinol (THC)</u> and <u>Epidiolex (CBD)</u>. It is important to note that the FDA warns against exceeding a daily dose of 20mg of THC and lists the risks, including hallucinations.
- Even Colorado has banned synthetic THC manufactured from hemp due to the heightened risks associated with its use.

EDUCATION

THC is THC. whether it is Delta-8 or Delta-9.

- THC can cause the disease of addiction and can lead to the use of other drugs like fentanyl.
- Many young people who have been poisoned by fentanyl started by vaping some form of THC.
- THC can cause psychosis and progress to schizophrenia.
- The risk is higher when using high-potency THC (10mg of THC or higher).
- Out of all the drugs that can cause episodes of psychosis, THC has the highest conversion rate to chronic psychiatric disorders like schizophrenia.
- THC can lead to death.
- THC can worsen symptoms of PTSD and increase the risk of suicide by up to 7X.
- THC can <u>worsen depression</u> and <u>anxiety</u>, two epidemics threatening Texas children today.
- Cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome can lead to dehydration, seizures, and organ failure.

DECEPTIVE PRODUCTS - TARGETING OUR KIDS

Today's hemp products are intentionally designed to resemble everyday foods, like candies, to target children. <u>Sugary flavors are added to vapes and other THC products to conceal their toxic taste</u>.





SOLUTION

- 1. Support SB 3 banning all THC products in Texas. No amount of THC is safe to use under the age 25, and there is no proof that THC is safe for adults to use.
- 2. Allow the FDA to regulate these products.
- 3. We must follow the science and learn from other states.
- 4. Please use us, Citizen for a Safe and Healthy Texas and Every Brain Matters as a resource, not people who want to profit from selling these products.





How did THC become legal in Texas?

ONLY SAYS DELTA-8. THERE IS NO MENTION OF THC. EACH SMALL GUMMY HAS 250 MG OF THC!



500 mg in one cereal bar! There is no mention of THC!



Available in gas stations, Vape/smoke shops, and Dollar stores across Texas



THE 2018 FEDERAL FARM BILL LEGALIZED HEMP AND CBD, AND ALLOWS 0.3% DELTA-9-THC BY DRY-WEIGHT

THAT IS A LOT OF THC! ONLY 10 MG CAN INDUCE PSYCHOTIC SYMPTOMS.

> WHAT DOES 0.3% BY WEIGHT **ACUALLY MEAN?**

- 0.3% is the same as 0.3/100 or 3/1000
- So...3/1000 represents 3mg of THC per 1g (1,000mg=1mg) of product dry weight.



One Gummy weighs 3.2 grams, which could legally contain up to 9.6mg of THC

11 Gummies weigh 35.1 grams, which could legally contain up to 105.3 mg THC



grams, which could 12.3 mg THC

One Chip weighs 4.1 Bowl of Chips weighs 33.6 grams, which legally contain up to could legally contain up to 100.8 mg THC

IT ALSO ALLOWED A LOOPHOLE TO USE CBD TO SYNTHESIZE OTHER THC-VARIANTS, SUCH AS DELTA-8-THC.

The hemp industry uses a strong acid and a solvent, such as toluene, which is usually used to manufacture paint products, to change the chemical bonds.

Current list of THC variants available in Texas:

Delta-8 (3x weaker than Delta-9)

Delta-10

Delta-12

THC-0 (3x stronger than Delta-8)

THC-H (25x stronger than Delta-9)

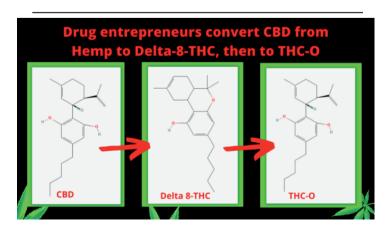
THC-P (33x stronger than Delta-9)

THC-V

HHC

HXC

New analogs are continually being formulated....



For more information, contact Aubree Adams at safeandhealthytx@gmail.com



https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/39805119/



https://www.regulatoryoversight.com/2025/01/the-current-landscape-oftexas-cannabis-policy-and-laws-a-2025-overview/







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https://nida.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/2023/05/young-men-at-highest-risk-schizophrenia-linked-with-cannabis-use-disorder







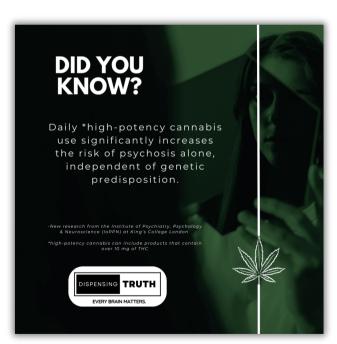
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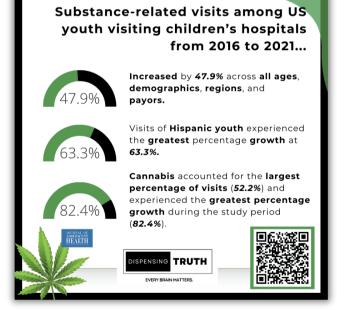


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https://www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X(24)00106-X/abstract





VOICES OF THE HEMP HARMS



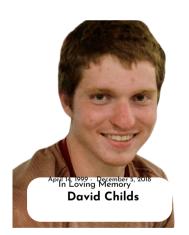
This was Joshua's vape. Weed killed my son. Everyone should know about CIP, Cannabis-Induced psychosis, and its link to suicide. Marijuana and hemp vapes should be pulled off the shelves just like Blue-Bell Ice Cream was.

Sonia Jimenez, Joshua's mother, Houston, Texas



Cannabis, Delta-8, caused my brother's psychosis, which led to his death. What happened to my brother is not rare. The days of harmless experimentation are gone. Now it's a game of Russian Roulette with your loved ones' brains.

Alex Hess, Joshua's sister, Houston, Texas



Marijuana kills! It killed my son. We will never escape David's loss, but we hope that by telling his story, we can help other parents and children understand that marijuana is far from harmless. David started using marijuana because he was convinced it was medicine and would help him with his anxiety. On December 5, 2018, David shot himself. He was suffering from Cannabis-Induced Psychosis.

Dr. James Childs, College Station, Texas

If you told me years ago that my brother would **end his life** in such a degrading state following **marijuana-induced psychosis**, I would have called you crazy. Unfortunately, I have lived with this reality every day. He told me that he wanted to find happiness outside of marijuana but could not imagine how. He told me that **he felt incapable of giving up the high.** David's sister, College Station, Texas

My son became addicted to marijuana and had episodes of psychosis in Colorado after it was legalized. I brought him to Houston, Texas, for recovery; he achieved 3 years of sobriety and then relapsed on **Delta-8** and **Delta-10** products readily available to young adults in smoke shops throughout Texas. We didn't see him for 2 years. When he called for help, he was skin and bones and looked like he was going to die. He couldn't eat. He had cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome. Hemp THC is toxic and needs to be banned!

Aubree Adams, former Houston, Texas residant

VOICES OF THE HEMP HARMS

Our 28-year-old son was a healthy young adult who was excited about life. He was a cameraman at a church in Houston, did freelance camera work for corporate events and political campaigns, and even was a stage cameraman when five former US presidents visited Texas A&M. But that all ended when our son used "Iollipops" with 86% delta-8 content. He began developing paranoia and later developed severe delusions. He lost his job. He erratically spent all of his money and got into debt from buying weed and THC products. He would go on late drives in the countryside and ended up in jail for three days for not cooperating with a police check. When we brought him home, initially, his cognition was like that of a two-year-old. He was absent-minded, didn't recognize himself in pictures, had paranoia and delusions, and did many bizarre things. Our family dynamics have changed to keep our son and home safe. We want these products banned to prevent other families from experiencing the loss, heartache, and pain we have gone through.

Charles and Maricruz Woelfel, Houston Texas

My 18-year-old son's story is like many others. He started using high-potency **THC carts** and dabs about two years ago, became aggressive and angry, was arrested at one point, spent a week living in his car, ultimately experienced a psychotic break, and was hospitalized for 11 days. He is still experiencing disordered thinking.

And it's sad, not surprising, that our representatives care more about the campaign contributions from Big Marijuana than they do about the health of their constituents. Most of those invited to speak during the legislative hearings across the country are big marijuana growers and representatives of smoke shop associations.

Courtney Myers, Montgomery County, Texas

As a primary care physician, I have begun seeing **marijuana-injured young people** on at least a weekly basis now. But nothing brought so much clarity to the crisis as seeing my own adopted son succumb to it. He dropped out of school, exhibited antisocial behaviors, and eventually committed a foolish but serious crime under the persistent influence of THC. He is now in **prison** and unable to be with us or his baby daughter. This vulnerable population is the primary customer for the marijuana industry, and it will take a concerted effort from the rest of society to protect them from these predators. But to protect them, we must do so for their sake and ours.

Dr. Matt Poling, College Station, Texas



Testimonies From Other States

My son was a free spirit with a promising future. At the age of 18, my son used **Delta-8**, which caused him to go into **cardiac arrest and almost died**. He mentally never recovered. He is now 20 and hasn't left our home in 3 years. He now tries to survive the **daily fear**, **deep anxiety**, **obsessive thoughts**, **and delusions Dleta-8 caused him**. We must ban Delta-8, so no one else has to experience this hellish nightmare.

Kelly Turner

My son is currently incarcerated for the attempted murder of myself; he has been smoking pot, the "Delta 8/9/10. He went into a paranoid state, flipped our canoe over, and tried to drown me. He was convinced that "Mexican gangs were "gang stalking" him everywhere. Since he has come off of all drugs in jail, his brain is healing. We are enraged that this president wants to legalize pot! We will do all we can to bring the dangers of this to the public!

Laurie (I cannot use my full name to protect my son)

My son was athletic and excelled in academics. He started using **Delta-8** in college, started isolating, and **became anxious. He was becoming delusional and evenly psychotic**. He was hospitalized after attacking my husband and I.

Delta-8 took our son's opportunities, plans, and future. He is having less severe psychotic episodes but has slipped into a deep depression.

I want **Delta-8 banned to prevent other families from the nightmare we've endured**.

Deniece Sanders

My son graduated near the top of his large high school class; he excelled in many things, especially the sciences. He scored 5/5 on his AP Psychology Test and did equally well in college, earning his Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and being accepted into a doctoral program.

He became **addicted to vaping Delta-8 and became psychotic.** He believed that cameras were watching him and that people whose cars had Texas license plates were sending him signals. He was fearful of electronics and stopped using his phone and television. He saw colors and heard voices that told him to get in his car and drive, even though he had no destination. He disappeared for a week, and we had no idea where he was.

After three-plus years of intensive (and expensive) medical treatment and abstaining from Delta-8 (which was hard - **Delta-8 is so addictive!**), our son is in recovery. While he is better, he is a long way from his baseline.

BAN Delta 8, the fact that it induces psychosis in people, is more than enough.

Laura Gunderson

My daughter was a well-adjusted honor student who was college-bound but **Delta-8**, which caused her to have **psychosis**. She felt cannabis was harmless. Her weight got down to 102 lbs because she also had cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome.

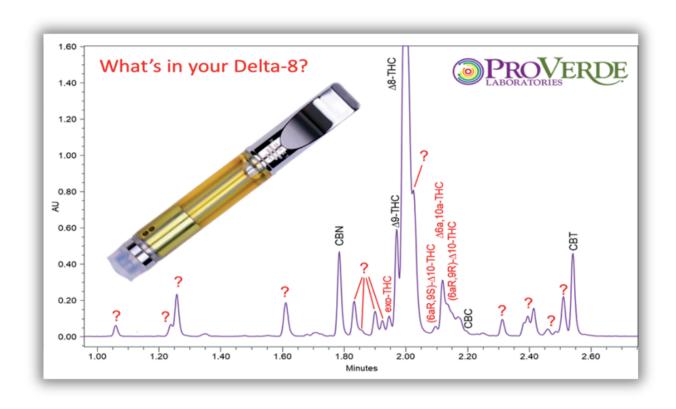
My daughter is now disabled due to the **damage THC caused her**. She has **schizoaffective** disorder.

These products need to be banned!

Renea Auckland

WHAT'S IN SYNTHETIC THC?

PROVERDE LABORATORIES FOUND THC AND 13 UNKNOWN CHEMICALS.



A PICTURE OF A STORE IN ODESSA, TEXAS THAT SELLS SYNTHETIC THC WITH A DRIVE-THRU THIS SMOKE SHOP IS NOT A PLACE TO BUY MEDICINE.

