
As mental health professionals for forty years, we testify to the tragic and unnecessary tearing apart of people’s lives due to entirely inappropriate draconian marijuana laws. Fathers sent to jail leaving mothers without resources for years is unconscionable. In our practice, we have diagnosed and treated many patients for PTSD. We have witnessed the value these people have received from the State’s medical marijuana program, including significant alleviation of stress symptoms. In our professional opinions, many other clients who do not have a qualifying diagnosis, could benefit from marijuana as a resource, as well. The time is now to legalize marijuana, expunge records for marijuana charges, and provide business opportunities for people in the hardest hit Drug War communities, rather than allow corporate entities to control the new marijuana industry.

It is time to allocate any type of substance or behavioral abuse to the realm of Public Health, adequately funding community resources to support people into regaining balance in their lives. We unequivocally support G.B. 16.

Sincerely,

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