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**How Medical Marijuana is Beneficial to Healthcare**

**Introduction:**

 Marijuana is the drug which is in spotlight because of various reasons for positive and negative consequences. The government of America had made marijuana illegal as smoking marijuana can be harmful for the citizens. The consequences of smoking marijuana are severe. The key states Colorado, Nevada, and California voted to legalize the recreational marijuana. The government is concerned about the result of legalizing marijuana in the state. Many researchers claimed that legal marijuana can bring a boom in healthcare as well as in the economy. However, the misuse of the new law can bring harmful impact to the society. In both the cases, the result will be critical for both the government and citizens of the America. There are various reasons which indicate that marijuana can be beneficial for the healthcare and economy of the country.

**Marijuana for Smoking:**

 Marijuana is in radar right now because of the healthcare. Healthcare can be improved by using marijuana in medication. However, government needs to measure the effect that country will have in future in terms of revenue and life standard. For instance, smoking is a bad habit and harmful for lungs. It can pollute the lungs which results in lungs cancer and difficulty in breathing. In addition mouth cancer can be the other harmful impact of smoking. Therefore, it is possible that if marijuana gets legalize in the states, more people will purchase it for smoking. Though marijuana is illegal where people are still using it through illegal purchasing, therefore, there is no doubt that people will not be using it due to healthcare concern if it gets legalized. Here, some researcher believe that it is beneficial to smoke marijuana instead of cigarettes as there is least evidence which indicates that marijuana can cause chronic disease than smoking. Hence, it can be safer alternative to use marijuana rather than cigarettes and alcohol. In addition, it can result in saving billions of dollars.

**Benefits to Healthcare:**

 The death rate due to fewer opioid overdoses can be minimized by legalizing marijuana. Everyday 115 people die due to the overdose of alcohol or other drugs. In addition, use of marijuana can save twenty five percent of lives that means twenty nine fewer overdose deaths every single day. Researchers have found that marijuana is useful for the patients who have chronic pain. Marijuana works as an analgesics and blocks the pain signals within the nervous system of the patients(“Legal Marijuana”). Marijuana is also beneficial for the patient with anxiety and depression disorder. Doctors prescribe medication that uses marijuana as it can exacerbate various mental health conditions. The use of medical marijuana shows the rapid changes in the state where government have legalized its use. The result also indicates the positive impact of marijuana in medication. The negative impact as well as cost of marijuana is less than the alternative drugs being used in medication.

**Benefits to Economy:**

 The way marijuana can have positive impact on healthcare system, it can also boom economy in many ways. The marijuana market reached to about nine billion dollars in 2016 where number is increasing every year. Both legal and illegal markets of marijuana are showing the positive trend that means if the government legalizesthe marijuana in all the states, the illegal shares of marijuana market can come under the umbrella of government revenue. Only two states that are Colorado and California are making 92 percent of America’s medical marijuana sales and there are more than 25 million eligible patients in the country. Many other states like Maine, Rhode Island, Vermont, and New Mexico are making revenue by using marijuana in healthcare field.

 If government legalizesthe marijuana, it will increase the substantial amount of revenue. Both federal and state government will be able to increase its economic growth. The revenue can be generated by applying the business tax, payroll tax deductions, and retail tax. Through these taxes not only revenue will increase but the job opportunities will also increase. The job market can be accelerated as with the increase in sale of marijuana, demand for labor in farming, processing, distributing, and retailing will also rise. In other words cannabis supply chain will be the main cause of rise in jobs. When both the government and citizen will get the benefits, investors will also get attracted to the marijuana industry. As government already legalizes the marijuana in some of its states, these changes can be observed easily. Marijuana is one of the most growing industries in America. Therefore, investors are more willing to invest in this industry.

 Another benefit to the economy of the government through legalization of marijuana can be observed through law enforcement costs. Billions of dollars are being saved in the states where marijuana is fully or partially legal. Reports indicate that enforcement costs of marijuana in federal are about 3.6 billion dollars each year. This cost can be dropped by legalizing the marijuana in the federal state. Lastly, the price of marijuana can be reduced by legalizing it. When people can buy marijuana legally, its price will automatically reduce and all the revenue can be used legally for the positive growth of the economy(*The Economic Effects of the Marijuana Industry in Colorado*).

**Conclusion:**

 Marijuana is the drug which is beneficial for healthcare as well as economy of the country. Many doctors prefer marijuana for the treatment of their patients and research indicates that marijuana is more beneficial for patient with chronic disease, anxiety, and depression. The economy can also be strengthened by legalizing the marijuana as it will lead to the increase in revenue, investment, high jobs, and low price of marijuana.

**Work Cited**

“Legal Marijuana: It Could Save Our Health Care Industry and Economy.” *IVN.Us*, 9 Aug. 2017, https://ivn.us/2017/08/09/marijuana-could-save-health-care-industry-economy/.

*The Economic Effects of the Marijuana Industry in Colorado*. https://www.kansascityfed.org/publications/research/rme/articles/2018/rme-1q-2018. Accessed 18 Apr. 2019.