

William's View of Cannabis

My parents are quite typically middle class; they are quite different from me, growing up in other parts of the country and amongst a different generation. Cannabis is the anti-Christ in their eyes and the catalyst to blame for my entire mishap of adolescence. The term 'cannabis' itself is heard, by me especially, with disdain by those who enjoy a joint as it is commonly aligned with the 'reports' and 'findings' which demonise it so regularly in today's press.

Cannabis is something I love; it calms me down and helped me to unwind from stressful weeks at my previous public school. There I was amongst a strong, rebellious fifty-strong section of my year with whom I would I would drink and smoke socially, not excessively but enough to think ourselves rebellious. I thought nothing of it. I smoked it through my exams and achieved what I thought a great set of grades, (mostly A's and B's). My mother merely told to imagine what I could have achieved if I had worked! My parents had been telling I didn't work since I joined the school, I'd ask for help from my Dad on a Latin paper and it would always end up in a fight without fail. I became bored with school it wasn't interesting and I truanted a bit towards the end, something I'd never done. I don't feel cannabis is to blame, I feel it's society's portrayal of it that frustrates your modern day teenager who is so sick of being stereotyped.

I began smoking more, staying at friends' houses not coming home, my mum is sometimes impossible and constant blame was being shed upon me. Frequently my parents will sit me down and tell me what they think is wrong with me, which is usually considerable. Add to this that my mum is the kind that thinks MSN messenger is 'disgusting and pornographic' and when I arrived on my book return day at school wearing irregular trousers, as I had somehow lost my others in a friend's bedroom she screamed at me in front all my friends.

Looking for ways to help your wayward youth? Don't alienate them and push them away, but if you refuse to make any kind of compromise you are always going to lose.