

Marijuana Use Risk Factors Literature Review

Risk Factor	Brief Findings	Literature (not exhaustive list)
Social Access	Many earlier studies repeatedly found higher rates of substance use among individuals with substance-using peers and among individuals in social and environmental contexts where drugs are easily available (Hofler et al. 1999; Coffey et al. 2000; Alexander et al. 2001; Korf, 2002; Freisthler et al. 2005; Gillespie et al. 2007).	Little, M., S. et al. (2008). "Historical Change in the Link between Adolescent Deviance Proneness and Marijuana Use, 1979–2004." <i>Prevention Science</i> 9(1) NA Gillespie, et al., (2007). "Longitudinal modeling of genetic and environmental influences on self-reported availability of psychoactive substances: alcohol, cigarettes, marijuana, cocaine and stimulants". <i>Psychological Medicine</i> 37:7
Availability	The illicit marijuana market has been booming in recent years (Little, et al., 2008) In a recent study, Cannabis availability explained almost all the shared environmental risks in cannabis initiation and abuse. The influence of availability on the symptoms of abuse was indirect and mediated entirely by cannabis initiation. These findings have begun to elucidate the causal processes underlying the liability to drug use and abuse in terms of putative risk factors. Specifically, the results showed that the latent shared environmental factors in cannabis initiation and abuse can be explained by measured aspects of the shared environment—those responsible for variation in cannabis availability. (Gillespie 2009)	Gillespie, 2009 Pathways to cannabis abuse: a multi-stage model from cannabis availability, cannabis initiation and progression to abuse. <i>Addiction</i> , vol:104 iss:3
Prior ATOD Use	1) Research shows that substance use initiation is typically characterized by a developmental sequence, which usually begins with involvement with alcohol or tobacco followed by marijuana, then other illicit drugs (Kandel and Faust, 1975; Welte and Barnes, 1985; Kandel and Davies,1996), (Agrawal, 2009). 2) In one study, early exposure to tobacco had a strong effect on use of cannabis or other drugs during adolescence. (Korhonen, 2008).	Degenhardt (2001). Alcohol, cannabis and tobacco use among Australians: a comparison of their associations with other drug use and use disorders, affective and anxiety disorders, and psychosis. <i>Addiction</i> . Korhonen, T., A. C. Huizink, et al. (2008). "Role of individual, peer and family factors in the use of cannabis and other illicit drugs: a longitudinal analysis among Finnish adolescent twins." <i>Drug And Alcohol Dependence</i>
Family Norms	1) Low parental attachment in adolescence were associated with cannabis use by age 15 (McGee, Williams, Poulton, & Moffitt, 2000) DiClemente R, et al. (2001). While being in a	DiClemente R, Wingood G, Crosby R, et al. (2001) Parental Monitoring: Association With Adolescents' Risk Behaviors. <i>Pediatrics</i>

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	<p>two-parent home has a significant negative effect only on the likelihood of onset of marijuana use (Miles et al 2001), while the effects of family adversity/conflict (mainly among the adults) on marijuana use in young adults are statistically significant (Aseltine, 2000) (Fergusson and Horwood 1997) (Hayatbakhsh, Najman, Jamrozik, Mamun & Alati, 2006).</p> <p>2) Positive family relations and parental monitoring are strongly associated with the decreased likelihood of initiating marijuana use but only among those most knowledgeable about drugs. Ramirez, J., et al (2004). Brook, et al. (2001).</p> <p>3) One of the strongest family predictors of marijuana use in one integrated analysis was parental marijuana use. Additionally, parental marijuana use predicted adolescent marijuana use in the individual studies as well. (Brook, et al. 2001). Sibling marijuana use has a direct effect on the participant's marijuana use as a result of the participant modeling the drug use of his/her siblings. The central findings of one study were that earlier marijuana use within the familial environment (ie, parental and sibling marijuana use) was related to marijuana use in the non-familial environment (ie, among one's peers and/or significant other), which in turn was related to the participants' marijuana use in the fourth decade of life. Specifically, the influence of earlier parental marijuana use on their offspring's later marijuana use as an adult was mediated through sibling marijuana use, which in turn was related to peer and significant other marijuana use". (Brook, et al. 2001)</p> <p>4) Similar to major depression, maternal depressed mood is associated with adolescent alcohol, cigarette, and marijuana use, indicating that depressive symptomatology of lesser severity than that associated with major depressive disorder is a risk factor for adolescent substance use. (Cortes, 2009)</p>	<p>Ramirez, J., et al (2004). Acculturation, Familism, Parental Monitoring, and Knowledge as Predictors of Marijuana and Inhalant Use in Adolescents. <i>Psychology of Addictive Behaviors</i></p> <p>Brook, Judith S., et al. (2001). "Risk Factors for Adolescent Marijuana Use Across Cultures and Across Time." <i>Journal of Genetic Psychology</i></p> <p>DiClemente R, et al. (2001). "Parental Monitoring: Association With Adolescents' Risk Behaviors". <i>Pediatrics</i></p> <p>Ramirez, J., et al (2004). "Acculturation, Familism, Parental Monitoring, and Knowledge as Predictors of Marijuana and Inhalant Use in Adolescents". <i>Psychology of Addictive Behaviors</i></p> <p>Hyman, S. M. and R. Sinha (2009). "Stress-related factors in cannabis use and misuse: Implications for prevention and treatment." <u><i>Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment</i></u> 36(4): 400-413.</p> <p>Fergusson, D., & Horwood, L. (1997). "Early onset cannabis use and psychosocial adjustment in young adults". <i>Addiction</i></p> <p>Korhonen, T., A. C. Huizink, et al. (2008). "Role of individual, peer and family factors in the use of cannabis and other illicit drugs: a longitudinal analysis among Finnish adolescent twins." <i>Drug And Alcohol Dependence</i></p> <p>Brook, J. S., C. Zhang, et al. (2008). "Pathways from earlier marijuana use in the familial and non-familial environments to self-marijuana use in the fourth decade of life." <u><i>The American Journal On Addictions</i></u></p> <p>Cortes, R. C., C. B. Fleming, et al. (2009). "Risk Factors Linking Maternal Depressed Mood to Growth in Adolescent Substance Use." <i>Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders</i></p>

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Peer Norms	<p>Some researchers believe that the effects which encourage delinquency and marijuana use will be dependent upon one's social and personal resources as well as the extent to which deviance is present in the immediate social environment. (Aseltine, 2000)</p> <p>Peer use and peer norms provide a subgroup for adolescents to engage in use and a medium for adolescents to access marijuana (Conrad, Flay, & Hill, 1992; Kaplan et al., 1984).</p> <p>Regardless of how social networks are formed and altered among adolescents, friendships and social capital have profound effect on the decision to engage in delinquent behavior, i.e. marijuana use. (Corwin, 2008)</p> <p>Establishing an overarching environment of disapproval appears to be an effective means of preventing cannabis use by adolescents (Kuntsche and Jordan 2006)</p>	<p>Korhonen, T., A. C. Huizink, et al. (2008). "Role of individual, peer and family factors in the use of cannabis and other illicit drugs: a longitudinal analysis among Finnish adolescent twins." <i>Drug And Alcohol Dependence</i> 97</p> <p>Brook, J. S., C. Zhang, et al. (2008). "Pathways from earlier marijuana use in the familial and non-familial environments to self-marijuana use in the fourth decade of life." <i>The American Journal On Addictions / American Academy Of Psychiatrists In Alcoholism And Addictions</i> 17(6)</p> <p>Kuntsche, E. and M. D. Jordan (2006). "Adolescent alcohol and cannabis use in relation to peer and school factors. Results of multilevel analyses." <i>Drug And Alcohol Dependence</i> 84(2)</p>
Low Risk of Harm	<p>In general, adolescents tend to perceive themselves as being invulnerable to harm and make decisions about health risk behaviors based on this perception (Arnett, 1995; Elkind, 1967).</p> <p>The illicit nature of marijuana means that external influences (e.g., peer pressure and parent concerns) have a strong impact on how adolescents formulate their opinion about it. Fleary, et al. (2010).</p>	<p>Creemers, H. E., T. Korhonen, et al. (2009). "The role of temperament in the relationship between early onset of tobacco and cannabis use: the TRAILS study." <i>Drug And Alcohol Dependence</i> 104(1-2): 113-118.</p> <p>Korhonen, T., A. C. Huizink, et al. (2008). "Role of individual, peer and family factors in the use of cannabis and other illicit drugs: a longitudinal analysis among Finnish adolescent twins." <i>Drug And Alcohol Dependence</i> 97(1-2): 33-43.</p> <p>Fleary, S. A., et al. (2010). "Using the bioecological model to predict risk perception of marijuana use and reported marijuana use in adolescence." <i>Addictive Behaviors</i> 35(8)</p>
Low Commitment to	<p>The successful internalization of normative behaviors is</p>	<p>Corwin, T. (2008). "Examining the Relationship between Network</p>

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School	<p>dependent upon a social environment’s capacity to attach an individual to non-delinquent mores and involve him or her in legal activities. This ability to impart normative beliefs upon an individual can be thought of as social capital. Coleman (1988) demonstrates that social capital, built through reciprocal obligations and expectations, the disseminations of information, or the establishment of effective norms within a collectivity, facilitates the development of human capital. Human capital in adolescents may be considered to be involvement in extracurricular activities, achievement in school, or even success in athletics. (Corwin, 2008).</p>	<p>Affiliations and Marijuana Use in Adolescents." <i>Conference Papers -- American Sociological Association.</i></p> <p>Kuntsche, E. and M. D. Jordan (2006). Adolescent alcohol and cannabis use in relation to peer and school factors. Results of multilevel analyses. <i>Drug And Alcohol Dependence</i>, 84(2)</p>
Low Enforcement	<p>Thirteen states have already passed laws decriminalizing possession of small amounts of marijuana, treating first-time possession of small amounts like a minor traffic violation, and many more states have greatly reduced the penalties for possession. More and more municipalities, including several large metropolitan areas, have voted to make enforcement of the laws prohibiting possession of small amounts of marijuana the very lowest priority for their law enforcement officials. (Duncan 2009).</p> <p>Attitudes toward marijuana use and marijuana prohibition are changing. Although the federal government, through the Controlled Substances Act (CSA), has classified marijuana as a Schedule I substance—the highest of five levels of control—efforts at the state, local, and federal levels are changing the legal landscape of personal marijuana use. Two recently introduced congressional measures would remove any federal penalties “for the possession of marijuana for personal use, or for the not-for-profit transfer between adults of marijuana for personal use” and would reclassify marijuana as a Schedule II substance. (Duncan 2009).</p> <p>Since most marijuana offenses generally do not involve a</p>	<p>Cynthia Duncan (2009). The need for change: An economic analysis of marijuana policy. <i>Connecticut Law Review</i> Vol 41, #5.</p> <p>Eric Blumenson and Eva Nilsen (2009) No Rational Basis: The Pragmatic Case for Marijuana Law Reform. <i>Virginia Journal of Social Policy & the Law</i></p> <p>Ryan S King and Marc Mauer (2006). The war on marijuana: The transformation of the war on drugs in the 1990s. <i>Harm Reduction Journal</i> 2006, 3:6</p> <p>Golub (2007). The Race/Ethnicity Disparity in Misdemeanor Marijuana Arrests in New York City. <i>Criminology & Public Policy</i></p>

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