



HISTORY OF CANNABIS

In the US & New York State

presented by
New York State Cannabis Connect



1600 - 1890

THE EARLY DAYS OF HEMP GROWTH

1

Originating in the colonial era that is now modern-day China, before making its way to Virginia in **1611** Hemp plants had a long history of cultivation and use in the United States.

2

By the **1800s**, hemp was one of the most widely grown crops in the US and was used for paper, fiber, oil, and other industrial products.

3

As the **20th century** approached, attitudes towards hemp began to change, resulting in increased regulation and restrictions on its growth and use.



1906 - 1907

THE FDA GETS INVOLVED

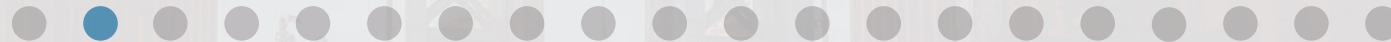
Established in 1906 the Pure Food + Drug Act was a landmark piece of legislation in the US that aimed to regulate the food and drug industries to protect consumers from harmful products.



1906 - 1907

THE FDA GETS INVOLVED

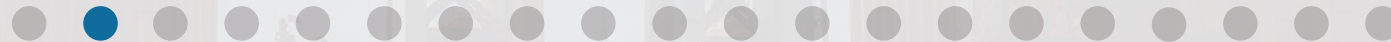
Signed into law by President Theodore Roosevelt on June 30, 1906, this act required manufacturers to accurately label their products with information about their contents and dosage, and to ensure that they were free from harmful or adulterated ingredients.



1906 - 1907

THE FDA GETS INVOLVED

While the act did not directly target hemp, the sales of hemp products were affected because the act required that drugs be shown to be safe before they could be marketed to the public. This made it more difficult for manufacturers to sell cannabis-based products, as the psychoactive properties of the drug made it difficult to demonstrate that it was safe for use.



1900s

RECREATIONAL USE

1

In the early **1900s**, cannabis became popular among musicians and artists in jazz clubs and other cultural scenes, leading to a rise in recreational use.

2

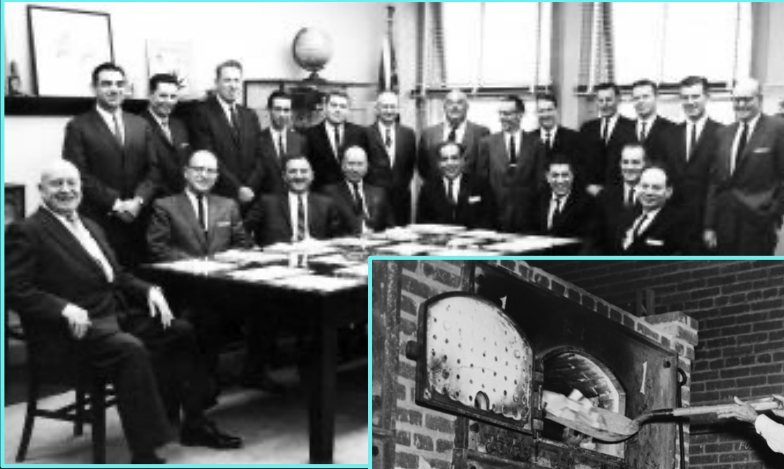
In the **1960s**, the counterculture movement embraced cannabis as a symbol of rebellion and an alternative to mainstream culture.

3

Today, recreational cannabis use is legal in 16 states and Washington D.C., with more states expected to follow suit in the coming years



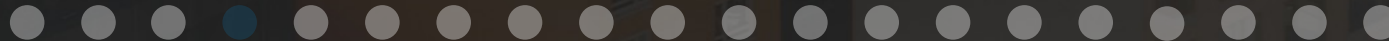
1930 - 1932



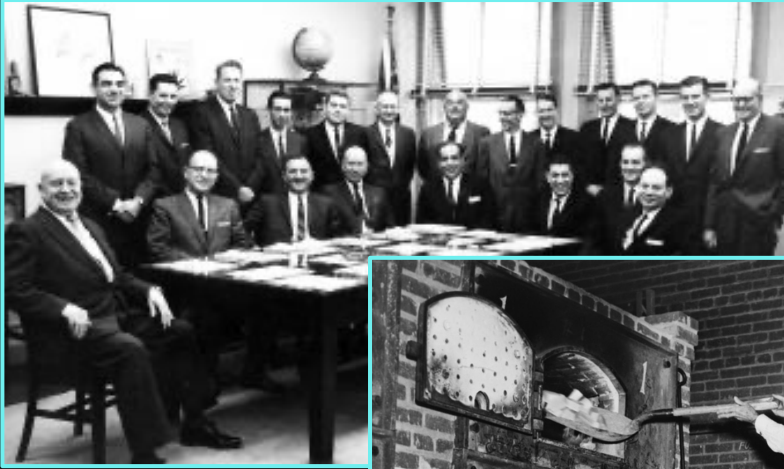
THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF NARCOTICS



Created in 1930, The Federal Bureau of Narcotics (FBN) was established in response to growing concerns over drug use and addiction in the United States. The FBN was established as an agency within the Treasury Department and was charged with enforcing federal drug laws and combating the trafficking of illegal narcotics.



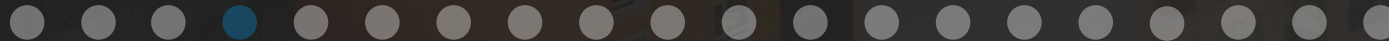
1930 - 1932



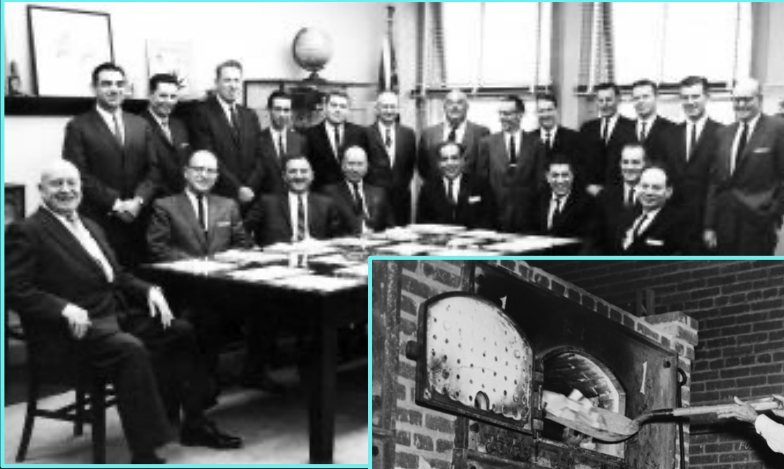
THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF NARCOTICS



The agency was led by Harry J. Anslinger, who served as its first commissioner from 1930 until his retirement in 1962. Anslinger was a vocal advocate for strict drug enforcement policies and was known for his aggressive tactics in pursuing drug traffickers and users. However, the tactics were criticized by some for being overly aggressive and for targeting minority communities disproportionately.



1930 - 1932



THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF NARCOTICS

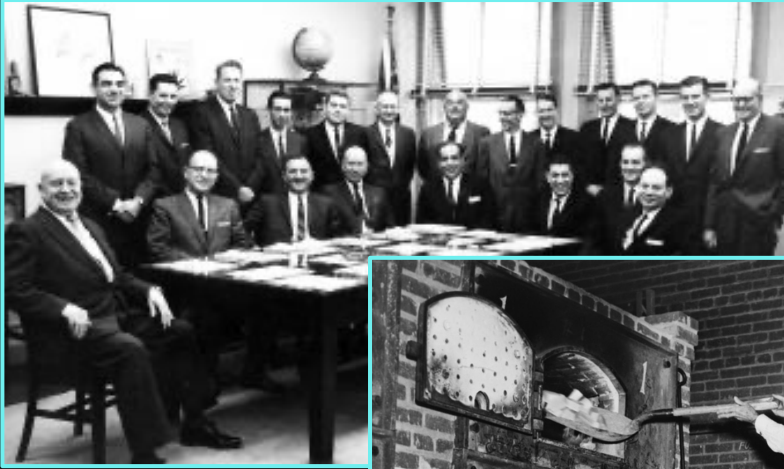


The FBN also played a role in the international effort to combat drug trafficking, working closely with law enforcement agencies in other countries to disrupt drug smuggling networks.

The creation of the FBN had a significant impact on drug policy in the US. The agency's aggressive approach to drug enforcement helped shape the country's drug laws for years.



1930 - 1932



THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF NARCOTICS

In 1968 the FBN merged with several other agencies to form the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, which was later incorporated into the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in 1973, which to this day remains the primary federal agency responsible for enforcing drug laws in the United States.



1936 - 1937

REEFER MADNESS

The film "Reefer Madness" was released in 1936, at a time when drug use was viewed as a significant social problem in the United States. The film was intended to be a cautionary tale about the dangers of marijuana use, and it depicted the drug as a highly addictive, mind-altering substance that could lead to violence, insanity, and even death.



1936 - 1937

REEFER MADNESS

The film, which was reinforced by a series of newspaper articles and other media coverage, portrayed marijuana use in an extremely negative light, while also depicting users as depraved and immoral individuals who were a danger to themselves and others.



1936 - 1937

REEFER MADNESS

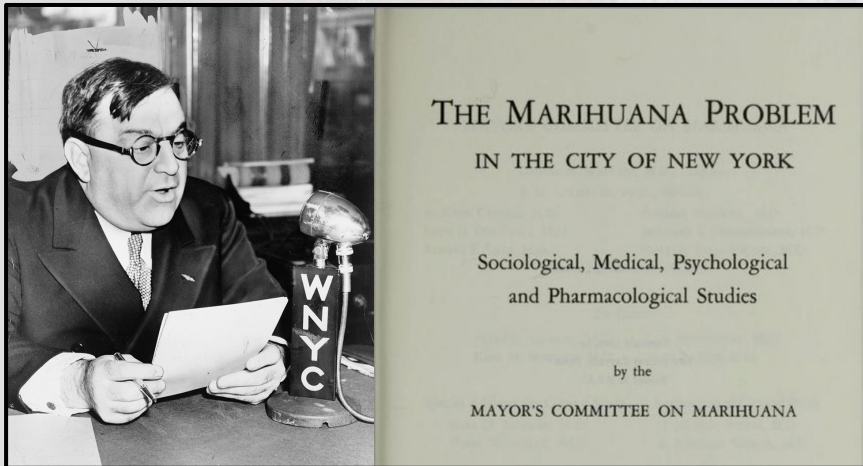
Today, the film is widely regarded as a great example of propaganda, and its portrayal of marijuana use is now widely criticized as inaccurate and sensationalized. But at the time of its release the film proved to be a successful media campaign that convinced countless Americans that the drug was highly addictive and dangerous while also helping to fuel the anti-drug sentiment that dominated American drug policy in the mid-20th century.



1944

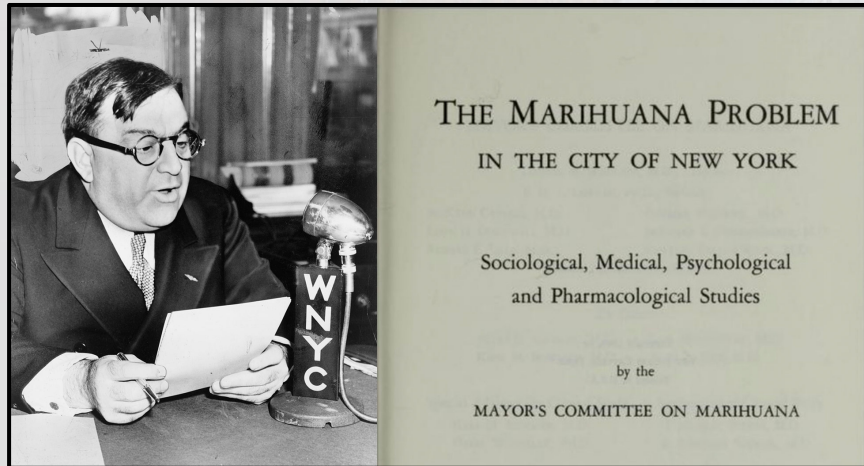
THE LAGUARDIA COMMITTEE REPORT

Conducted by the New York Academy of Medicine in the 1940s, the LaGuardia Committee Report is a landmark study on the effects of marijuana use. The report was commissioned by former New York City Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia in response to growing concerns over the use of marijuana and its potential impact on public health.



1944

THE LAGUARDIA COMMITTEE REPORT

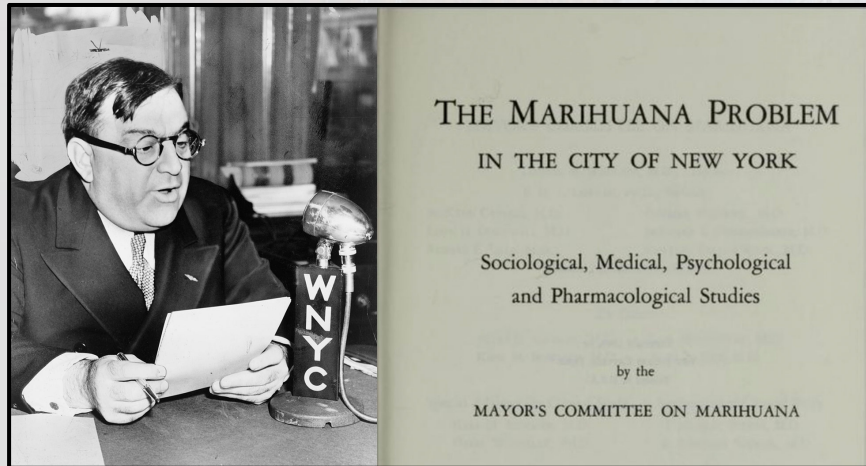


The study involved an extensive review of existing research on marijuana use, as well as a series of interviews with hundreds of marijuana users, law enforcement officials, and medical professionals. The report's authors concluded that many of the claims that had been made about marijuana at the time were exaggerated or unfounded, and that the drug was not the dangerous "killer weed" that it had been portrayed as in the media.



1944

THE LAGUARDIA COMMITTEE REPORT

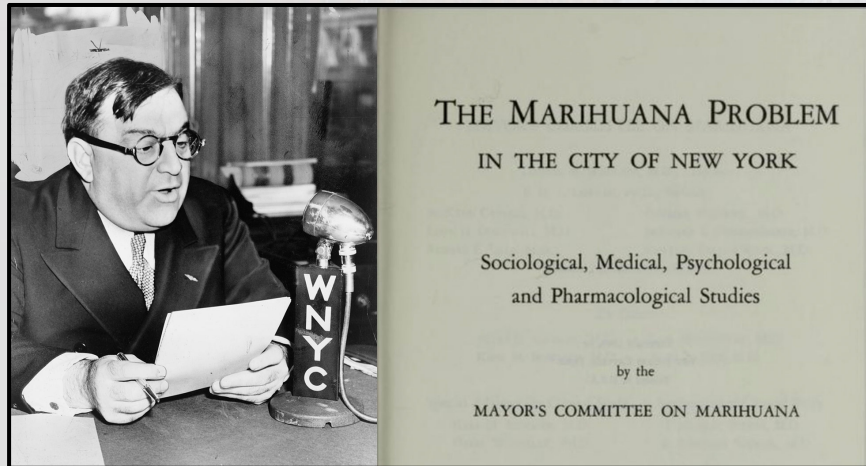


Among the report's key findings were that marijuana use did not lead to violent or criminal behavior, that it was not physically addictive, that it had relatively minor effects on motor coordination and cognitive function. The report also noted that many of the negative effects attributed to marijuana use, such as insanity and moral decay, were not supported by scientific evidence.



1944

THE LAGUARDIA COMMITTEE REPORT



The LaGuardia Report was a significant milestone in the history of drug policy in the United States and played a key role in challenging the prevailing attitudes about marijuana at the time. The report's findings helped to shift public opinion on marijuana and paved the way for a more nuanced and evidence-based approach to drug policy in the United States.

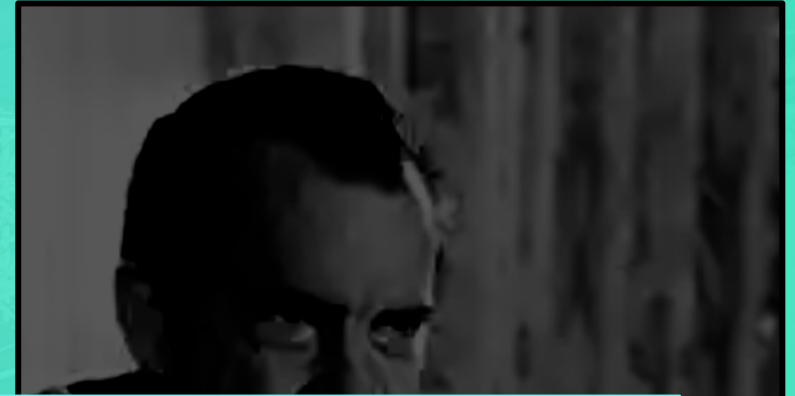
However, the report's findings were not universally accepted, and many lawmakers and public officials continued to advocate for strict drug enforcement policies in the decades that followed.



1970 - 1973

PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON

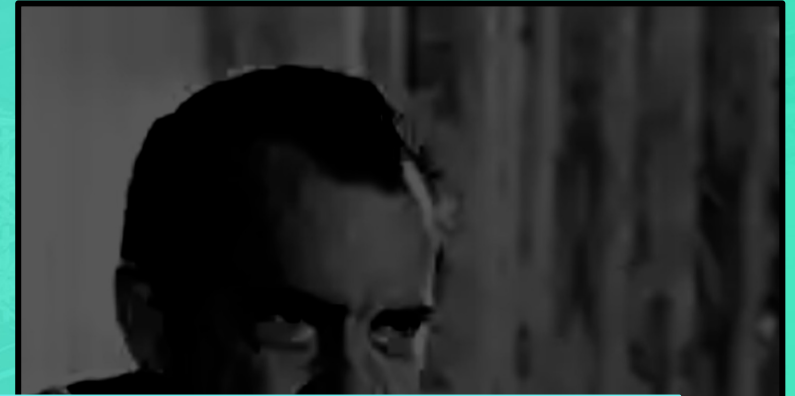
In a 1971 speech, President Richard Nixon declared drug abuse to be the "public enemy number one" and launched a comprehensive campaign to combat drug use in the United States. Widely viewed as one of the most influential figures in the history of the "War on Drugs" Nixon's tough-on-crime approach to drug policy was characterized by several key elements, including:



1970 - 1973

PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON

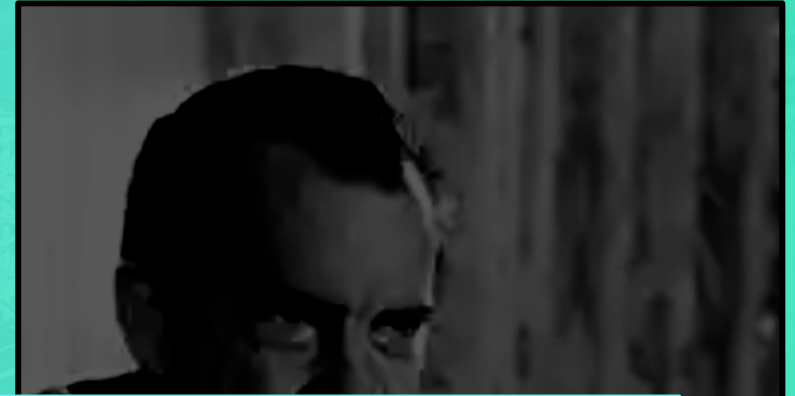
Increased law enforcement: Nixon believed that the best way to combat drug use was to crack down on drug dealers and users. He significantly increased funding for drug enforcement agencies, including the creation of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and launched a series of high-profile law enforcement operations to disrupt drug trafficking networks.



1970 - 1973

PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON

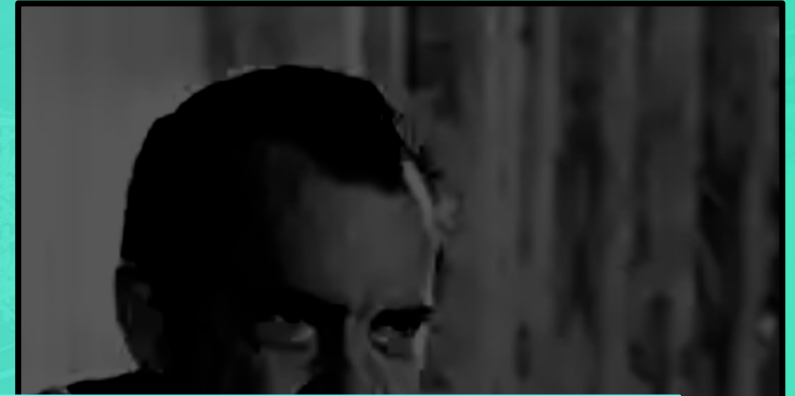
Criminalization of drug use: Nixon supported strict criminal penalties for drug use and possession. Under his administration, drug laws were significantly strengthened, and mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses were introduced.



1970 - 1973

PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON

International cooperation: Nixon sought to combat drug trafficking on an international scale, working closely with foreign governments to disrupt drug production and distribution networks.



1970 - 1973

PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON

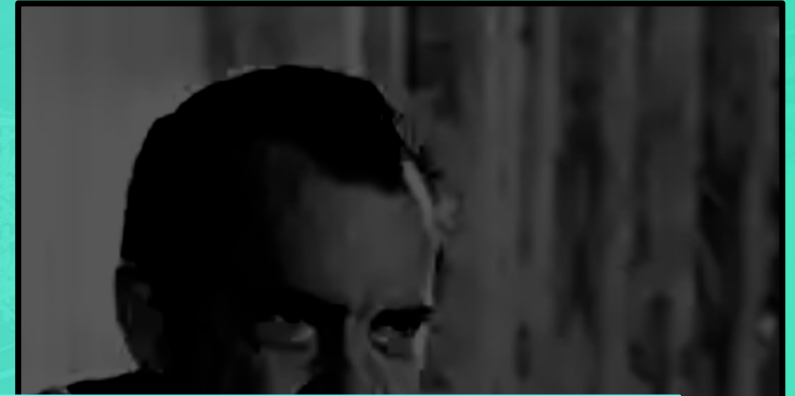
Treatment and prevention: While Nixon's approach was primarily focused on law enforcement, he also supported increased funding for drug treatment programs and public education campaigns to raise awareness of the dangers of drug use.



1970 - 1973

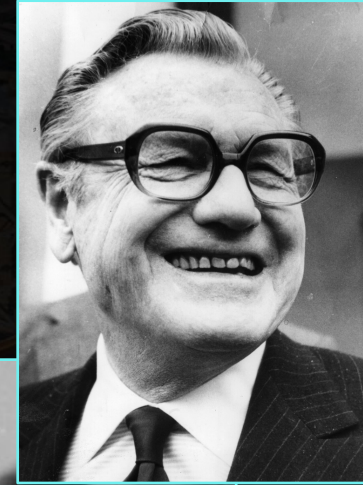
PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON

While his policies were initially popular, they have been subject to significant criticism in the decades since, with many arguing that they have been ineffective at reducing drug use and have contributed to several negative social consequences, including mass incarceration and racial disparities in drug law enforcement.

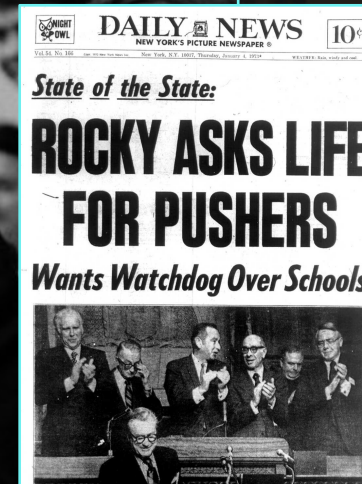


1973

THE ROCKEFELLER DRUG LAWS



The Rockefeller Drug Laws were a set of drug control policies that were enacted in the state of New York in 1973. The laws were named after then-Governor Nelson Rockefeller, who was a strong proponent of tough drug laws and had advocated for their passage.



Overall, the Rockefeller Drug Laws were in effect in New York for more than three decades and had a significant impact on the state's criminal justice system. While they were initially popular and seen as an important tool in the fight against drug-related crime, they became increasingly controversial over time, with many critics arguing that they were overly harsh and ineffective at addressing the underlying causes of drug use and addiction.



1973

THE ROCKEFELLER DRUG LAWS

Timeline

1970

The federal government passes the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act, which creates a system of drug scheduling and imposes strict penalties for drug offenses. This law serves as a model for state-level drug control policies.



1973

THE ROCKEFELLER DRUG LAWS

Timeline

1973

The New York State Legislature passes the Rockefeller Drug Laws, which impose strict mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses. Under the laws, possession of even small amounts of certain drugs can result in long prison sentences.

1970

The federal government passes the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act, which creates a system of drug scheduling and imposes strict penalties for drug offenses. This law serves as a model for state-level drug control policies.



1973

THE ROCKEFELLER DRUG LAWS

Timeline

1973

The New York State Legislature passes the Rockefeller Drug Laws, which impose strict mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses. Under the laws, possession of even small amounts of certain drugs can result in long prison sentences.

1970

The federal government passes the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act, which creates a system of drug scheduling and imposes strict penalties for drug offenses. This law serves as a model for state-level drug control policies.

1986

The laws are amended to include even stricter penalties, including mandatory life sentences for certain drug offenses. The changes are made in response to rising concerns over drug-related crime and the emergence of crack cocaine as a major public health and safety concern.



1973

THE ROCKEFELLER DRUG LAWS

Timeline

1973

The New York State Legislature passes the Rockefeller Drug Laws, which impose strict mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses. Under the laws, possession of even small amounts of certain drugs can result in long prison sentences.

1995

The New York State Assembly forms the Assembly Task Force on the Rockefeller Drug Laws to review the impact of the laws and recommend potential reforms.

1970

The federal government passes the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act, which creates a system of drug scheduling and imposes strict penalties for drug offenses. This law serves as a model for state-level drug control policies.

1986

The laws are amended to include even stricter penalties, including mandatory life sentences for certain drug offenses. The changes are made in response to rising concerns over drug-related crime and the emergence of crack cocaine as a major public health and safety concern.



1973

THE ROCKEFELLER DRUG LAWS

Timeline

1973

The New York State Legislature passes the Rockefeller Drug Laws, which impose strict mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses. Under the laws, possession of even small amounts of certain drugs can result in long prison sentences.

1995

The New York State Assembly forms the Assembly Task Force on the Rockefeller Drug Laws to review the impact of the laws and recommend potential reforms.

1970

The federal government passes the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act, which creates a system of drug scheduling and imposes strict penalties for drug offenses. This law serves as a model for state-level drug control policies.

1986

The laws are amended to include even stricter penalties, including mandatory life sentences for certain drug offenses. The changes are made in response to rising concerns over drug-related crime and the emergence of crack cocaine as a major public health and safety concern.

2004

After years of mounting criticism and calls for reform, Governor George Pataki signs legislation that makes significant changes to the Rockefeller Drug Laws. The reforms reduce some of the mandatory minimum sentences and allow judges greater discretion in sentencing.



1973

THE ROCKEFELLER DRUG LAWS

Timeline

1973

The New York State Legislature passes the Rockefeller Drug Laws, which impose strict mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses. Under the laws, possession of even small amounts of certain drugs can result in long prison sentences.

1995

The New York State Assembly forms the Assembly Task Force on the Rockefeller Drug Laws to review the impact of the laws and recommend potential reforms.

2009

Governor David Paterson signs additional reforms to the Rockefeller Drug Laws that further reduce mandatory minimum sentences and expand eligibility for drug treatment programs.

1970

The federal government passes the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act, which creates a system of drug scheduling and imposes strict penalties for drug offenses. This law serves as a model for state-level drug control policies.

1986

The laws are amended to include even stricter penalties, including mandatory life sentences for certain drug offenses. The changes are made in response to rising concerns over drug-related crime and the emergence of crack cocaine as a major public health and safety concern.

2004

After years of mounting criticism and calls for reform, Governor George Pataki signs legislation that makes significant changes to the Rockefeller Drug Laws. The reforms reduce some of the mandatory minimum sentences and allow judges greater discretion in sentencing.



1936 - 1937

NY HIP HOP IS BORN



In the late 1970s and early 1980s, hip hop music and culture emerged in New York City, with artists like Grandmaster Flash and Run-DMC paving the way for future generations.

Hip hop was influenced by a wide range of cultural and social factors, including poverty, inequality, and the legacy of slavery and racial discrimination.

Today, hip hop is recognized as one of the most influential and groundbreaking cultural movements of the modern era, with a global reach and impact.

1974

HIGH TIMES

The La Guardia Committee, appointed by New York City mayor Fiorello La Guardia, released a groundbreaking report on cannabis in 1944.

The report found that cannabis was not a serious threat to public health and safety, contradicting the claims of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics and other anti-drug groups.

The report was a major blow to the bureau's efforts to demonize cannabis, but it would be several decades before attitudes towards the drug began to change significantly.



2023

3:31

Time to roll a joint, hit the bong, or pop that edible.
And take our quiz and join our discussion boards!

1976

THE PUSH FOR MORE REGULATION

Conservatives and parents begin to lobby for more cannabis regulations specifically to reduce drug use in teens.

1977

JIMMY CARTER BECOMES PRESIDENT

1984

1984 COMPREHENSIVE CRIME CONTROL

1989 - 1990

HIP HOP'S HEAVY INFLUENCE



1989 - 1990

THE ROCKEFELER DRUG LAWS 2.0

2013

THE MARIJUANA REGULATION AND TAX ACT

2014 - 2018

NYS LEGALIZES MEDICAL MARIJUANA

1989 - 1990

NEW MEASURE



1989 - 1990

THE MARIJUANA AND REGULATION AND TAXATION ACT **IS PASSED**

2023

3:31

Time to roll a joint, hit the bong, or pop that edible.