

LEGALIZE

End the War on Drugs



www.ncgreenparty.org

The “War on Drugs” is a classist and racist war against working people and people of color. The Green Party calls for the legalization of drugs and treating drug abuse as a medical issue.

The NC Green Party says: Legalize! End the War on Drugs.

“The Nixon campaign in 1968, and the Nixon White House after that, had two enemies: the antiwar left and black people. You understand what I'm saying? We knew we couldn't make it illegal to be either against the war or black, but by getting the public to associate the hippies with marijuana and blacks with heroin, and then criminalizing both heavily, we could disrupt those communities. We could arrest their leaders, raid their homes, break up their meetings, and vilify them night after night on the evening news. Did we know we were lying about the drugs? Of course we did.”

—John Ehrlichman, Domestic Affairs Adviser to President Nixon

The history of the War on Drugs in America is the history of a classist and racist war against working people and people of color. The Green Party calls for the legalization of drugs and treating drug abuse as a medical issue. Toward this goal, the North Carolina Green Party advocates the following policies:

- Legalize cannabis and its derivatives at the state and federal level. Scientific evidence shows that cannabis use is safer than alcohol and tobacco use, and that criminalization has been driven by ideological and racial bias.
- Grant amnesty to and release from confinement—without any further parole or probation—all people who have been incarcerated for the use, sale, or cultivation of marijuana in federal and state prisons and in county/city jails.
- Strike from the record prior felony convictions for cannabis/marijuana possession, sale, or cultivation.
- Prohibit big pharma, liquor, tobacco, and industrialized agribusiness from exploiting legalization. Encourage worker-ownership of cannabis enterprises and organic production methods, and protect consumers from pesticides and chemical additives.
- Avoid attempts to use this new industry to fund social programs through “sin” taxes. Instead, tax the wealthy and corporations to pay for schools and health care.
- Until full legalization is won, reduce the punishment for possession of cannabis in any amount to a misdemeanor offense not exceeding the scale of a traffic ticket. Reclassify cannabis by the FDA as a Schedule III or IV substance.
- Implement a step-by-step program to decriminalize all drugs.