



**Survey of California Voters
on Proposition 215
and Marijuana Legalization**

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Foreword

Today The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA) is releasing the first in-depth survey of the attitudes of likely California voters toward Proposition 215 and toward legalization of marijuana. We undertook this survey as part of our continuing effort to understand American attitudes toward tobacco, alcohol and other drugs and because we believe that the vote on this initiative will have ripple effects across the nation.

The survey is funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and was conducted for CASA on October 19 and 20 by QEV Analytics of Washington, DC and Marttila and Kiley Survey Research, Inc. of Boston. Eight hundred likely voters were surveyed. The margin of error is (3.5 percent. Steve Wagner, president of QEV Analytics and former vice president of the Luntz Research Companies, supervised the survey.

The CASA survey shows that support for Proposition 215 is waning as awareness of the proposition is increasing. A plurality of likely California voters -- 46 percent -- support the medical use of marijuana initiative, down from 56 percent in the Field Poll taken three weeks ago. The decline in voter support has occurred as voter knowledge of the initiative has increased from 61 percent (in the Field Poll) to 68 percent (in the CASA survey). The CASA survey indicates that 36 percent of voters oppose Proposition 215, and 19 percent -- almost one in five -- are undecided.

The decline in voter support for Proposition 215 reflects the fact that several of its provisions go further than most voters are willing to go:

- ◆ 61 percent of voters oppose making marijuana legally available without a written prescription -- with merely a verbal recommendation by a doctor, as Proposition 215 would do.
- ◆ 58 percent of voters oppose making marijuana legally available for medical purposes to children as well as adults, as Proposition 215 would do.
- ◆ 50 percent of voters oppose making marijuana legally available for any illness, as Proposition 215 would do.

California voters are concerned about the potential for abuse of Proposition 215. More than half of likely voters -- 53 percent -- believe adoption of the Proposition would cause marijuana use to rise among children under 18. Almost three fourths of likely voters -- 72 percent -- say that if the initiative passed, people would likely abuse it by using and selling marijuana for recreational or non-medical purposes. Although voters harbor serious reservations about the Proposition, 58 percent favor making marijuana legally available to terminally ill patients, and 28 percent favor making heroin and cocaine available to such patients.

We analyzed the 46 percent of voters who support Proposition 215. They fall into two groups which we refer to as "Legalizers" and "Liberalizers."

The Legalizers, almost half of all the initiative's supporters and 21 percent of likely voters overall, strongly favor the legalization of marijuana for any purpose. The members of this group do not believe that Proposition 215 will increase teen drug use and hold favorable attitudes toward marijuana use in general. These attitudes include the belief that marijuana is not very addictive, that marijuana use does not lead to use of other drugs such as heroin, cocaine and LSD, and that marijuana should be available for medical purposes to people of any age, including children. Young men between the ages of 18 and 34 are disproportionately likely to fall into the Legalizer group. The members of this group hold uniformly favorable opinions about marijuana, making them unlikely to waver in their support for Proposition 215.

The Liberalizers, the second group of Proposition 215 supporters, account for more than half of Proposition 215 supporters and 25 percent of voters overall. They are united in the belief that marijuana should be legally available to patients who are terminally ill. But Liberalizers do not strongly favor legalization of marijuana, and their attitudes toward marijuana are mixed. Women between the ages of 35 and 54 are disproportionately likely to fall into this group. Liberalizers are more likely to waiver in their support for Proposition 215 than are Legalizers.

The 19 percent of likely voters who have not yet made up their minds about Proposition 215 are less likely than other voters to be aware of the initiative. Their attitudes toward marijuana resemble those of Proposition 215 opponents: 71 percent of the undecided with an opinion oppose making marijuana available without a written prescription; 63 percent (with an opinion) oppose making marijuana for medical purposes legal for children under age 18. Only 42 percent favor making marijuana legal for the terminally ill.

Support for Proposition 215 also varies by voter demographics. While men and women, and voters with and without children, are equally likely to support Proposition 215, only 38 percent of adults older than 55 favor the initiative compared with 46 percent of all likely voters.

- ◆ 53 percent of Democrats support Proposition 215; 40 percent of Republicans and 48 percent of Independents support the initiative.
- ◆ 54 percent of voters who do not attend religious services at least once a month support the proposition; only 34 percent of voters who attend services weekly do so.
- ◆ Voters in the San Francisco media market are more likely to support the initiative than voters overall: 57 percent versus 46 percent.

In general, likely voters in California have substantial reservations about marijuana and other drug use. Only 35 percent say marijuana should be legalized and treated much like alcohol. 60 percent say that we as a society are not doing enough to prevent marijuana use by teens. 59 percent believe that a marijuana user is more likely to use drugs like heroin, cocaine and LSD. 68 percent believe that marijuana can be addictive.

The bottom line is that Proposition 215 is up for grabs. Most California voters would make marijuana available to terminally ill patients. But California voters are uneasy with the effort to make marijuana available to all ages, for all illnesses and without a doctor's prescription.

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.
New York, NY
October 1996

In-Depth Survey of California Voters dissects Attitudes on Proposition 215 & Marijuana Legalization

This report is based on the results of a telephone survey -- the first to analyze at length opinions of Prop 215 -- conducted October 19 and 20, 1996. 800 interviews were conducted with a sample of registered and self-described likely voters. Respondent households were initially selected by means of a random digit dial procedure, then screened for vote eligibility and likelihood. The margin of sampling error associated with a survey of this size is + or - 3.5 %.

KEY FINDINGS:

This survey of 800 likely voters finds that support for Proposition 215 has waned since the Field survey two weeks prior. The CASA survey finds 46% in favor, 36% opposed to Prop 215 (versus 56% to 35% in the October 7-9 Field Poll). During this time, awareness of Prop 215 has increased.

There is majority support for giving terminally ill patients access to marijuana (this is favored by 58 percent). And, there is just slightly less support (53% in favor) for providing marijuana to non-terminal but seriously ill patients. But likely voters oppose broader marijuana-liberalization provisions of Prop 215:

- ◆ 50% are opposed to making marijuana legal for any illness (40% favor);
- ◆ 58% oppose making marijuana legal for patients of any age (32% favor);
- ◆ 61% oppose making marijuana available without a written prescription (30% favor).

This may explain why support for Prop 215 is declining coincidentally as awareness is increasing. Passage of Prop 215 requires 80% support from a voter block which favors marijuana for the terminally ill, but which does not favor all of Prop 215's broader liberalization.

A majority of voters (57%) oppose outright legalization of marijuana (35% favor).

Moreover, many California voters anticipate that Prop 215 will have undesirable unintended consequences:

- ◆ 72% consider abuse of Prop 215 by those using marijuana for non-medical purposes to be likely -- 52% say abuse is "very likely;"
- ◆ 53% say Prop 215 will increase marijuana use among teenagers, at a time when 60% say we are not doing enough to prevent marijuana use by teens.

- ◆ 59% think marijuana increases the likelihood of using drugs like heroin, cocaine, or LSD.

Support for Prop 215 comes from an alliance of two groups: the "Legalizers," voters who strongly favor legalization of marijuana for any purpose and reject concerns about the prevalence and health consequences of marijuana; and the "Liberalizers," voters whose support for Prop 215 does not extend beyond making marijuana available to the seriously ill.

Voters who have friends or family members currently fighting cancer or AIDS, or who have recently lost a friend or family member to cancer or AIDS, are no more supportive of Prop 215 than voters generally, nor are they any more in favor of making marijuana available to the terminally ill, nor are they more likely to believe in the medicinal value of marijuana.

Plurality Favors Prop 215 -- Support Falls As Awareness Increases

Proposition 215 is currently supported by 46 percent (35% are decided for, 11% "lean" for). A Field poll earlier this month found 56 percent in favor, but noted then that support was in decline. Two-thirds of likely California voters (68%) report they have heard of Prop 215, an increase over the early October Field Poll.

The basis of support for Prop 215 is the solid majority of Californians (58%) who favor making marijuana legally available to terminally ill patients. The vast majority of those who favor making marijuana legally available for the terminally ill also support Prop 215, and virtually all supporters of Prop 215 favor the medicinal use of marijuana for the seriously ill.

But in its practical effects, Prop 215 goes well beyond the limits of popular support. While all supporters of Prop 215 would make marijuana available to the terminally ill, supporters are evenly divided on the question, for example, of whether marijuana should be made available for any illness at all, as Prop 215 provides.

Groups With Above Average Support of Prop 215

Males, 25-34 (57% favor 215)
Females, 45-54 (61%)
Female Democrats (57%)
Residents of the San Francisco Media Market (57%)
Those Whose Friends (Half or More) Use Marijuana (82%)
Those Favoring Complete Marijuana Legalization (81%)
Those Who Have used Marijuana (65%)
Those Who Contend Marijuana is not a Gateway Drug (77%)
Those Who Say Prop 215 Will Not
Increase Teen Marijuana Use (74%)
Those Who Say Abuse of Prop 215 is Not Likely (68%)

Groups With Above Average Opposition to Prop 215

Dads (45% oppose Prop 215; only 35% of Moms oppose 215)
Religiously Active Voters (48% oppose)
Male GOP (46% oppose)
Those Opposed to Legalization (57% oppose)

Yet California Voters Do Not Favor Marijuana Access Beyond The Seriously Ill – Representing A Vulnerability In Prop 215 Support

In this survey, we tested popular support for six aspects of marijuana liberalization, two of which enjoy a majority of public support. The most popular is making marijuana available for the terminally ill (which 58% favor). Just slightly fewer (53%) support making marijuana legally available for those with serious but non-terminal illness.

But the proposal to make marijuana legally available for any illness -- which Prop 215 would explicitly do -- is opposed by half (50%), and supported by 40 percent. Less popular still is the proposal to make marijuana legally available to patients of any age, as Prop 215 would implicitly do (this is opposed by 58%). And finally, making marijuana legally available without a written prescription is the least popular element of Prop 215, with 61 percent in opposition (Figure 3). While Prop 215 does not provide for the complete legalization of marijuana, legalization would be rejected by the margin of 35 percent (in favor) to 57 percent (opposed).

Just as California voters in general oppose marijuana liberalization which goes beyond making it available to the seriously ill, substantial minorities of the Prop 215 supporters themselves similarly oppose broader marijuana liberalization. This suggests that support for Prop 215 may decline as awareness of its implications are more fully understood. Indeed, our analysis finds that passage of Prop 215 requires better than 80% support from a voter bloc which favors marijuana for the terminally ill, but which does not favor Prop 215's package of broader liberalization.

Support For Prop 215 Comes From Two Distinct Sources: "Legalizers" And "Liberalizers"

Virtually all of the support for Prop 215 (statistically speaking) comes from two very distinct constituencies: those who favor the complete legalization of marijuana and dismiss the societal and health hazards of marijuana, and those who favor the medicinal use of marijuana for terminally and seriously ill patients but who are opposed to a greater extent of marijuana liberalization. These two constituencies are currently allied in support of Prop 215, but differ sharply on whether marijuana poses a broader threat to society.

The first of these groups we've labeled the "Legalizers." "Legalizers" constitute 46 percent of Prop 215 support, and this constituency appears to be unshakable in its commitment to Prop 215. What distinguishes the "Legalizers" from other voters are their across-the-board favorable attitudes toward marijuana. Not only do they favor all versions of marijuana liberalization we tested, they strongly favor complete legalization, and they are not concerned about the prevalence of marijuana nor the health effects of marijuana use. Two-thirds (66%) of "Legalizers" have friends who currently use marijuana, (Figure 11) and 71 percent admit to trying marijuana in their youth,(Figure 10) versus 41 percent of all voters (we did not ask respondents about their own current use of marijuana).

The second source of support for Prop 215 are the "Liberalizers," who account for half (51%) of the pro-Prop 215 vote. "Liberalizers" and "Legalizers" agree on just two points: both favor Prop 215, and both support medicinal marijuana for the seriously ill. There the agreement ends.

The main difference is this: while "Legalizers" express pro-marijuana points of view in response to all of our questions, "Liberalizers" do not evidence this consistency. They are ambivalent about any broader liberalization than making marijuana available to the seriously ill.

After discussing the broader marijuana liberalization effects of Prop 215 and some of its possible consequences, we again asked California voters how they would vote on 215. Support for Prop 215 on this "second ballot" among "Liberalizers" dropped from 100% to 71% (see question 18 in the survey frequencies, below).

The following charts compare opinions of the "Legalizers" with those of the "Liberalizers" on the key marijuana questions.

First, "Liberalizers" support making marijuana available for the terminally ill, but not as intensely as "Legalizers."

Question Text: Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available to patients who are terminally ill, that is, with less than six months to live?

% of Prop 215 Support		
	"Legalizers" (46%)	"Liberalizers" (51%)
Strongly Favor	90	71
Somewhat Favor	9	29
Somewhat Oppose	1	--
Strongly Oppose	--	--
Don't Know	--	--

Most "Liberalizers" also support marijuana for non-terminal seriously ill patients; again, not as intensely as "Legalizers."

Question Text: Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available to cancer patients who are not terminally ill, to ease their pain or the nausea caused by chemotherapy?

% of Prop 215 Support		
	"Legalizers" (46%)	"Liberalizers" (51%)
Strongly Favor	88	50
Somewhat Favor	7	38
Somewhat Oppose	4	4
Strongly Oppose	1	4
Don't Know	1	4

"Liberalizers" begin to differ with "Legalizers" on the question of making marijuana available for any illness.

Question Text: Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available for any illness at all, as Prop 215 would do?

% of Prop 215 Support		
	"Legalizers" (46%)	"Liberalizers" (51%)
Strongly Favor	75	22
Somewhat Favor	14	33
Somewhat Oppose	4	23
Strongly Oppose	5	13
Don't Know	2	9

Half of "Liberalizers" oppose making marijuana available to patients of any age ...

Question Text: Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available for medical purposes to a person of any age, including children, as Prop 215 would do?

% of Prop 215 Support		
	"Legalizers" (46%)	"Liberalizers" (51%)
Strongly Favor	57	16
Somewhat Favor	20	21
Somewhat Oppose	11	29
Strongly Oppose	8	22
Don't Know	4	11

... while a majority of "Liberalizers" oppose making marijuana available without a written prescription

Question Text: Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available if verbally recommended by a physician but without a written prescription, as Prop 215 would do?

% of Prop 215 Support		
	"Legalizers" (46%)	"Liberalizers" (51%)
Strongly Favor	65	12
Somewhat Favor	14	20
Somewhat Oppose	9	27
Strongly Oppose	10	35
Don't Know	2	7

Both "Legalizers" and "Liberalizers" anticipate abuse of Prop 215 by recreational users of marijuana.

Question Text: If Prop 215 passes, how likely do you think it is that people would abuse the law by using and selling marijuana for "recreational" or non-medical purposes: very likely, fairly likely, not very likely, or not likely at all?

% of Prop 215 Support		
	"Legalizers" (46%)	"Liberalizers" (51%)
Very Likely	37	37
Fairly Likely	26	31
Not Very Likely	21	18
Not Likely at All	14	10
Don't Know	2	5

Only a third of both groups expects Prop 215 will increase marijuana use among teenagers.

Question Text: If Prop 215 passes, do you think it will increase, decrease, or have no effect on the use of marijuana by children under the age of 18?

% of Prop 215 Support		
	"Legalizers" (46%)	"Liberalizers" (51%)
Increase	36	33
Decrease	8	5
No Affect	53	50
Don't Know	4	12

A plurality of "Legalizers" say we are doing too much as a society to prevent teen marijuana use, but "Liberalizers" overwhelmingly reject that view -- a majority of them say we are doing too little.

Question Text: In your opinion, are we as a society doing too much, not enough, or about what is right to prevent the use of marijuana by teenagers?

% of Prop 215 Support		
	"Legalizers" (46%)	"Liberalizers" (51%)
Too Much	37	8
Not Enough	28	56
About What is Right	28	23
Don't Know	8	13

One of the interesting characteristics of the "Legalizers" is their majority opinion that marijuana may inoculate a user from other drugs (meaning the use of marijuana makes the use of other drugs less likely). A plurality of "Liberalizers" consider marijuana to make other drug use more likely.

Question Text: Does the use of marijuana make it more likely that a person will go on to use drugs like heroin, cocaine, or LSD, or does the use of marijuana not make the use of these drugs more likely?

% of Prop 215 Support		
	"Legalizers" (46%)	"Liberalizers" (51%)
More Likely	34	49
Less Likely	58	33
Don't Know	8	19

There is a strong difference of opinion on the complete legalization of marijuana.

Question Text: Do you favor or oppose the legalization of marijuana, so that it is treated much like alcohol? Is that ...

% of Prop 215 Support		
	"Legalizers" (46%)	"Liberalizers" (51%)
Strongly Favor	85	0
Somewhat Favor	15	30
Somewhat Oppose	1	25
Strongly Oppose	1	31
Don't Know	1	14

Most "Liberalizers" do not have a friend currently using marijuana ...

Question Text: Thinking about your own close circle of friends, how many of them do you think currently use marijuana -- none, less than half, more than half, all of them?

% of Prop 215 Support		
	"Legalizers" (46%)	"Liberalizers" (51%)
None	31	55
Less than Half	38	34
More than Half	18	4
All	9	2
Don't Know	3	6

... and nearly half report they did not use marijuana in their youth. "Legalizers," on the other hand

Question Text: One final question -- since the 60's and 70's, it has been fairly common for college and high school students to experiment with marijuana. When you were that age, did you ever use marijuana?

% of Prop 215 Support		
	"Legalizers" (46%)	"Liberalizers" (51%)
Yes	71	46
No	26	47
Don't Know	3	7

Who are the "Legalizer" Voters?

There were in this survey eight questions which reveal the respondent's fundamental attitudes toward marijuana -- not only whether it should be made available for medicinal purposes, but also whether it should be legalized and whether it poses a threat to the health of users. These are the questions:

1. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available to patients who are terminally ill, that is, with less than six months to live?
2. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available to cancer patients who are not terminally ill, to ease their pain or the nausea caused by chemotherapy?
3. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available for any illness at all, as Prop 215 would do?
4. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available for medical purposes to a person of any age, including children, as Prop 215 would do?
5. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available if verbally recommended by a physician but without a written prescription, as Prop 215 would do?
6. How addictive is marijuana: is it ... [READ OPTIONS]
 1. NOT AT ALL ADDICTIVE, MEANING MOST USERS CAN STOP ANY TIME THEY WANT
 2. MILDLY ADDICTIVE, MEANING MOST USERS CAN STOP WITH SOME EFFORT
 3. FAIRLY ADDICTIVE, MEANING MOST USERS HAVE TO TRY REALLY HARD TO STOP
 4. VERY ADDICTIVE, MEANING MANY USERS WILL BE UNABLE TO STOP
 5. DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE [DO NOT READ]
7. Does the use of marijuana make it more likely that a person will go on to use drugs like heroin, cocaine, or LSD, or does the use of marijuana not make the use of these drugs more likely?
8. Do you favor or oppose the legalization of marijuana, so that it is treated much like alcohol?

By looking at the pattern of responses to all of these eight questions -- in particular, by gauging the consistency of "pro-marijuana" responses -- voters can be categorized as "Legalizers" (representing 21% of likely voters), "Liberalizers" (25% of likely voters), "Prop 215 Opponents" (36%) and the undecided (19%).

Majorities Of California Likely Voters Anticipate Negative, Unintended Consequences From Prop 215

Quite apart from the issue of how far one should go in liberalizing marijuana laws to provide greater access -- a matter, as we have seen, on which supporters differ -- majorities of California likely voters have concerns about the impact of Prop 215. Sixty percent (60%) are of the opinion that we are not, as a society, doing enough to prevent marijuana use by teenagers. Yet a smaller majority (53%) say Prop 215 will serve to increase marijuana use among teens.

A huge majority (72%) say that abuse of Prop 215 is likely by those using marijuana for recreational or non-medical purposes. These two effects, both having to do with the increased access to marijuana resulting from Prop 215, appear more serious in light of the popular perception that marijuana is at least to some degree addictive. Only 17 percent say that marijuana is not addictive at all; 23 percent consider it to be "mildly addictive," while nearly half (45%) say it is either "fairly" or "very" addictive.

Finally, a solid majority (59%) say they think marijuana is a gateway drug, meaning its use makes more likely "the use of other drugs like heroin, cocaine, or LSD."

Voters Currently Undecided On Prop 215 Bear Some Resemblance To Opponents

Nineteen percent (19%) of California voters report they are undecided on how they will vote on Prop 215. Naturally, among this group there is lower awareness of Prop 215 (53% tell us they have heard or read something about Prop 215) than among all likely voters (68% of whom are aware of Prop 215). And the undecided frequently respond "don't know" to other questions in the survey. But those undecided voters who have opinions about marijuana more resemble opponents than proponents of Prop 215.

Fifty-eight percent (58%) of undecideds do not have friends who use marijuana (versus 55% overall). Just 28 percent used marijuana in their youth, versus 41% overall. A plurality of the undecided (44%) don't know whether marijuana should be made available to the terminally ill, yet we have elsewhere identified this opinion as the unanimous characteristic of Prop 215 supporters -- the sine qua non of Prop 215 support.

By the margin of 56% to 13%, undecided voters oppose the complete legalization of marijuana. And while more favor than oppose making marijuana available to the terminally ill, the reverse is true on whether marijuana should be legal for patients of any age, or without a prescription. Again, the plurality answered "don't know" on these two questions.

Those Who Have Dealt With Terminal Illness No More In Favor Of Prop 215 Than General Population

Forty percent (40%) of California voters tell us they "have a friend or family member who currently has cancer or AIDS, or who recently passed away from either cancer or AIDS." Yet these individuals who have been forced to confront terminal illness first hand differ little from the general public in their opinions of the medicinal use of marijuana.

Among this group (who have been touched by serious or terminal illness), 66 percent favor making marijuana available to terminally ill patients, versus 63 percent of all likely voters. Those with this first hand experience favor Prop 215 by the margin of 50% to 35%; among all voters, the Proposition is favored 46% to 35% - a difference which is statistically insignificant.

While Many California Voters Are Sympathetic To Marijuana Liberalization, Scant Minorities Would Liberalize Cocaine Or Heroin

A considerable majority of California voters favor making marijuana available to the terminally ill (58%), but providing the terminally ill access to heroin or cocaine is resoundingly rejected, 28% to 62%. Making heroin or cocaine available for seriously ill but not terminal patients is rejected 23% to 66%. Making heroin or cocaine available for any illness is rejected 17% to 72%. And the complete legalization of heroin or cocaine is opposed 14% to 80% (while the legalization of marijuana is more narrowly opposed, 35% to 57%).

One group favors making heroin or cocaine available to the terminally ill: the marijuana "Legalizers." Fifty-seven percent (57%) of this constituency -- which unanimously favors making marijuana available to the terminally ill -- would also drop prohibitions on heroin and cocaine.

Data Frequencies

Hello, my name is (_____) and I'm calling from a public opinion research company. We're asking a few select people like you today to participate in an important survey.

1. We are looking to speak with folks who are registered to vote. Are you registered to vote?

100% YES [CONTINUE]
0% NO [ASK: Is there anyone else at home who is registered to vote, with whom I might speak?]

This is not a sales call; we aren't going to ask you to buy or do anything -- we just want to learn your opinion on some issues of importance to California. This interview will take about 5 minutes, and your answers are completely confidential. By the way, there are no right or wrong answers to these questions, we really just want to learn your opinions.

(DO NOT PAUSE)

2. As you know, this November there will be an election for President, members of Congress, and for many local officials. How likely is it that you will vote in this election: are you definitely going to vote, very likely to vote, fairly likely to vote, or are you unlikely to vote?

82% DEFINITELY GOING TO VOTE
18% VERY LIKELY TO VOTE
0% FAIRLY LIKELY TO VOTE [TERMINATE]
0% UNLIKELY TO VOTE [TERMINATE]
0% DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE [TERMINATE]

3. GENDER [BY OBSERVATION, ASK IF NECESSARY]

48% MALE
52% FEMALE

4. Have you heard or read anything about a proposed ballot initiative concerning marijuana, Proposition 215, which you may have heard called the Medical Use of Marijuana Initiative, or the Compassionate Use Act?

68% YES
29% NO
3% DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

5. Let me read to you the basic provisions of Prop 215: it will allow patients and certain caregivers to possess and grow marijuana in order to use it as a medical treatment for any illness if recommended by a doctor. It also provides that a doctor who recommends the use of marijuana shall not be punished.

If you were voting today, would you vote for or against this Prop 215? [IF UNDECIDED: Would you say you are leaning for or leaning against Prop 215?

35%	FOR PROP 215
11%	LEAN FOR PROP 215
11%	HARD UNDECIDED
9%	LEAN AGAINST PROP 215
27%	AGAINST PROP 215
8%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

6. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available to patients who are terminally ill, that is, with less than six months to live?

41%	STRONGLY FAVOR
17%	SOMEWHAT FAVOR
10%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
23%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
10%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

7. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making heroin or cocaine legally available to patients who are terminally ill, that is, with less than six months to live?

16%	STRONGLY FAVOR
12%	SOMEWHAT FAVOR
13%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
49%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
11%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

8. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available to cancer patients who are not terminally ill, to ease their pain or the nausea caused by chemotherapy?

35%	STRONGLY FAVOR
18%	SOMEWHAT FAVOR
11%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
27%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
10%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

9. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making heroin or cocaine legally available to cancer patients who are not terminally ill, to ease their pain?

13%	STRONGLY FAVOR
10%	SOMEWHAT FAVOR
12%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
54%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
11%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

10. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making heroin or cocaine legally available for any illness at all?

10%	STRONGLY FAVOR
7%	SOMEWHAT FAVOR
12%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
60%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
12%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

11. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available for any illness at all, as Prop 215 would do?

25%	STRONGLY FAVOR
15%	SOMEWHAT FAVOR
14%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
36%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
11%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

12. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available for medical purposes to a person of any age, children as well as adults, as Prop 215 would do?

19%	STRONGLY FAVOR
13%	SOMEWHAT FAVOR
17%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
41%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
11%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

13. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose making marijuana legally available if verbally recommended by a doctor but without a written prescription, as Prop 215 would do?

19%	STRONGLY FAVOR
11%	SOMEWHAT FAVOR
15%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
46%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
9%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

14. Some doctors support Prop 215 because they say marijuana has medical benefits for certain patients. The American Cancer Society and the American Medical Association oppose Prop 215 because they say marijuana is harmful and has no medical benefits which aren't already available from prescription drugs. Who do you believe more on this particular point -- the supporters of Prop 215, the opponents of Prop 215, or neither?

35%	SUPPORTERS OF PROP 215
37%	OPPONENTS OF PROP 215
18%	NEITHER
10%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

15.The main chemical ingredient in marijuana, THC, is currently available as a prescription drug. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to vote for Proposition 215, or does it have no effect? Is that much [more/less] likely, or somewhat [more/less] likely?

16%	MUCH MORE LIKELY
12%	SOMEWHAT MORE LIKELY
14%	SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY
26%	MUCH LESS LIKELY
25%	NO EFFECT
8%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

16.If Prop 215 passes, how likely do you think it is that people would abuse the law by using and selling marijuana for "recreational" or non-medical purposes: very likely, fairly likely, not very likely, or not likely at all?

52%	VERY LIKELY
20%	FAIRLY LIKELY
11%	NOT VERY LIKELY
10%	NOT LIKELY AT ALL
7%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

17.If Prop 215 passes, do you think it will increase, decrease, or have no effect on the use of marijuana by children under the age of 18?

53%	INCREASE
5%	DECREASE
31%	HAVE NO EFFECT
11%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

18.Now that we've been able to talk a little bit about Proposition 215, let me ask you this again: if you were voting today, would you vote for or against Prop 215? [IF UNDECIDED: Would you say you are leaning for or leaning against Prop 215?

34%	FOR PROP 215
8%	LEAN FOR PROP 215
8%	HARD UNDECIDED
10%	LEAN AGAINST PROP 215
33%	AGAINST PROP 215
7%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

19. President Bill Clinton is opposed to Prop 215. Does this make you more likely or less likely to vote for Prop 215, or would it not affect your vote?

14%	MORE LIKELY
17%	LESS LIKELY
64%	NO EFFECT
6%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

20. Bob Dole is also opposed to Prop 215. Does this make you more likely or less likely to vote for Prop 215, or would it not affect your vote?

12%	MORE LIKELY
16%	LESS LIKELY
67%	NO EFFECT
5%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

I want to ask you just a few other more general questions.

21. In your opinion, which is more harmful to a user's physical and mental health, smoking marijuana or drinking alcohol?

30%	SMOKING MARIJUANA
42%	DRINKING ALCOHOL
29%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE [DO NOT READ]

22. How addictive is marijuana: is it ... [READ OPTIONS]

17%	NOT AT ALL ADDICTIVE, MEANING MOST USERS CAN STOP ANY TIME THEY WANT
23%	MILDLY ADDICTIVE, MEANING MOST USERS CAN STOP WITH SOME EFFORT
21%	FAIRLY ADDICTIVE, MEANING MOST USERS HAVE TO TRY REALLY HARD TO STOP
24%	VERY ADDICTIVE, MEANING MANY USERS WILL BE UNABLE TO STOP
15%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE [DO NOT READ]

23. In your opinion, are we as a society doing too much, not enough, or about what is right to prevent the use of marijuana by teenagers?

12% TOO MUCH
60% NOT ENOUGH
17% ABOUT WHAT IS RIGHT
11% DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

24. Does the use of marijuana make it more likely that a person will go on to use drugs like heroin, cocaine, or LSD, or does the use of marijuana not make the use of these drugs more likely?

59% MORE LIKELY
27% NOT MORE LIKELY
14% DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

25. Do you favor or oppose the legalization of marijuana, so that it is treated much like alcohol? Is that ...

20% STRONGLY FAVOR
15% SOMEWHAT FAVOR
15% SOMEWHAT OPPOSE [SKIP NEXT QUESTION]
42% STRONGLY OPPOSE [SKIP NEXT QUESTION]
8% DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE [DO NOT READ]

26. [IF FAVOR LEGALIZATION] How old should a person be to legally use marijuana? [RECORD AGE]

29% UNDER 18/ANY AGE
26% 18 - 20
45% 21+
* DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

27. Do you favor or oppose the legalization of other drugs like heroin or cocaine? Is that ...

9% STRONGLY FAVOR
5% SOMEWHAT FAVOR
10% SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
70% STRONGLY OPPOSE
6% DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE [DO NOT READ]

Now, a few questions for statistical purposes.

28. Are you registered to vote as a:

29. Are you single or married? [IF SINGLE:] Have you ever been married?

28%	SINGLE, NEVER BEEN MARRIED
16%	SINGLE PREVIOUSLY MARRIED [INCLUDES DIVORCED, WIDOWED, SEPARATED]
52%	MARRIED
4%	NO RESPONSE [DO NOT READ]

30. How many children do you have?

43%	NONE
15%	ONE
18%	TWO
13%	THREE
11%	FOUR +

31. What are their ages? [RECORD RESPONSES UP TO FOUR]

32. In a typical month, how often do you attend church or religious services?
[RECORD RESPONSE]

38%	NEVER
32%	LESS THAN ONCE PER WEEK
30%	ONCE PER WEEK OR MORE

33. What is your age please?

15%	18-24
19%	25-34
23%	35-44
15%	45-54
11%	55-64
9%	65-74
6%	75+
3%	REFUSED [DO NOT READ]

34. What is the highest level of education you completed?

9%	SOME HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS
27%	COMPLETED HIGH SCHOOL
24%	VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OR SOME COLLEGE
28%	COLLEGE GRADUATE
10%	POST GRADUATE
3%	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED [DO NOT READ]

35. What do you consider to be your main racial or ethnic heritage: Hispanic or Latino-American, White but not Hispanic, African-American and not Hispanic, Asian-American, Native American, or Other?

13%	HISPANIC OR LATINO-AMERICAN
68%	WHITE BUT NOT HISPANIC
9%	AFRICAN-AMERICAN BUT NOT HISPANIC
2%	ASIAN-AMERICAN
3%	NATIVE AMERICAN
3%	OTHER
3%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

36. Do you have a friend or family member who currently has cancer or AIDS, or who recently passed away from either cancer or AIDS?

40%	YES
57%	NO
3%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

37. Thinking about your own close circle of friends, how many of them do you think currently use marijuana -- none, less than half, more than half, all of them?

55%	NONE
31%	LESS THAN HALF
6%	MORE THAN HALF
3%	ALL OF THEM
5%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE [DO NOT READ]

38. One final question -- since the 60's and 70's, it has been fairly common for college and high school students to experiment with marijuana. When you were that age, did you ever use marijuana?

41%	YES
55%	NO
5%	DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE

That's the last of my questions. Thank you very much for your time and for your answers.

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