

Surveyor: _____

Respondent: _____

Date: _____

LEGALIZING DRUGS

Opinions

- ☐ All drugs should be legalized - production, distribution, selling, and use
- ☐ Using drugs should be decriminalized - production, distribution, and sales should remain illegal
- ☐ Maintain the battle against drugs - prosecute all illegal drug activity
- ☐ Treat drug use as a public health crisis - fully fund treatment, rehabilitation, and job placement
- ☐ _____

Beliefs – if we legalize or decriminalize drugs, there will be

- ☐ Economic benefits - tax revenues, job growth, law enforcement budgets
- ☐ Reduction of drug-related violence - less black market and drug trafficking
- ☐ A need for overhaul of mental health and drug treatment system as shift away from punishment/ jail - most drug offenders have some mental health issues as well.
- ☐ Freed-up prison capacity to focus on violent criminals
- ☐ Reduced stigma of drug use - that will lead to users seeking recovery and trying to remain full members of society
- ☐ Better drug quality and safety - for example, regulation would reduce fentanyl overdoses and block cannabis that is too strong
- ☐ Research opportunities to discover new medical benefits from drugs
- ☐ Increased access to drugs leading to more experimentation and drug abuse - especially among young people and former addicts
- ☐ Increased burden on public health and social services - drugs (including alcohol) ruin the lives of both users and their families/ community
- ☐ Increased safety risk at work and on highways - accidents due to impaired judgement and driving,
- ☐ Much more economic burdens - subsidizing treatment and rehab care, enforcing drug laws (such as tax evasion, avoiding regulations, underage use)
- ☐ Increased health care costs - heart and lung disease, mental health illnesses
- ☐ Normalization of unhealthy behavior - people will be less likely to obey the law and follow social norms
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

INSTRUCTIONS

Call to Action

What will our great-great-grandchildren say about us?

Imagine the year 2070. We may not be there, but our children or grandchildren probably will be. Their grandchildren will ask about the olden days, back in the early 21st century, saying, “What were they thinking? Didn’t grown-ups know back then how bad this was going to be?”

These survey topics may seem vast and impersonal. We may shrug and claim that our actions as individuals don’t matter. As one of more than 8 billion people, it’s easy for us to hide in the herd and dodge blame. However, these topics become personal, and we feel more accountable, when we realize that our direct descendants will judge us for our actions and beliefs.

Our grandchildren will be caught flat-footed – or worse, misrepresent our beliefs! – when their kids confront them about our generation’s legacy. Don’t let *your* grandchildren throw you under the bus when talking to *their* grandkids in the year 2070. (Unless you deserve to be blamed for the state of the world in the late 21st century.) Ensure your descendants have an accurate record of your thoughts and beliefs. These surveys are the simplest way to do that.

Guidance

Each survey is meant to cover a wide range of beliefs about a single topic without being biased. Respondents should be able to find a few comments that they agree with. There are blank lines for respondents to write-in their own beliefs. If respondents do not have clearly defined beliefs on this topic, then that uncertainty may lead to some healthy research and introspection before they feel ready to share their beliefs with posterity.

This survey may inspire you to archive hard copy versions of other documents and photos that are important to you. We all have thousands of digital files and images stored in the cloud or on backup drives. Consider storing physical copies of key items from your life: birth and marriage certificates, concert tickets, family portraits, and this survey! Use acid-free paper (most ordinary copy paper will do). Keep items away from sunlight, heat, humidity – a closet is better than the attic or garage. How about a time capsule?

For the Respondent

Review the survey. You should be able to find yourself on the page in one or more statements that you agree with and check them off. Feel free to write-in some of your own opinions and beliefs. Perhaps add a personal note. Then, have the document be stored in a way that a future generation will discover it.

For the Surveyor

Take the time to sit down with people who matter to you, especially older folks. Don’t confront them. Instead, work with them to capture their point of view. Archive the document in a way that someone will be able to access it in the year 2070.

Good luck