RAMAPO WeeDon't Think It's So Bad: Destigmatizing COLLEGE Legal Medical Marijuana, A Campaign Proposal By: Emily Melvin Faculty Advisor: Satarupa Dasgupta Ramapo College of New Jersey

Why Create this Campaign?

Informational Campaign

- Spread awareness
- Could encourage audience behavior change after learning

Timely and relevant

• Will only become a larger topic of discussion moving forward

Large misunderstanding and stigma surrounding marijuana

• Serve as an informational resource

Why is Cannabis Stigmatized?

- Seen as a gateway drug to harder drugs
- Users can often be perceived as lazy, a bad influence, a criminal, addicted, etc.
- There is no proper education or information easily accessible to people
 - Lack of information is harmful
- It is over politicized

Medical Over Recreational

Stigma

Poor image

Health Comes First

 The well-being and health of those with medical conditions need access to affordable and accessible marijuana before recreational users

Recreational Seemingly Takes Away Its Medical Value

 People and professionals may not take its medical benefits seriously if people are only using it for fun

Every State Needs Proper Legalization Status

 Not every state that offers a medicinal cannabis program covers all conditions that can benefit

Marijuana is legal in 38 states + D.C. for medical use and in 21 states + D.C. for recreational use

Figure 1: Problem Tree Reasons Marijuana is Dangerously Stigmatized

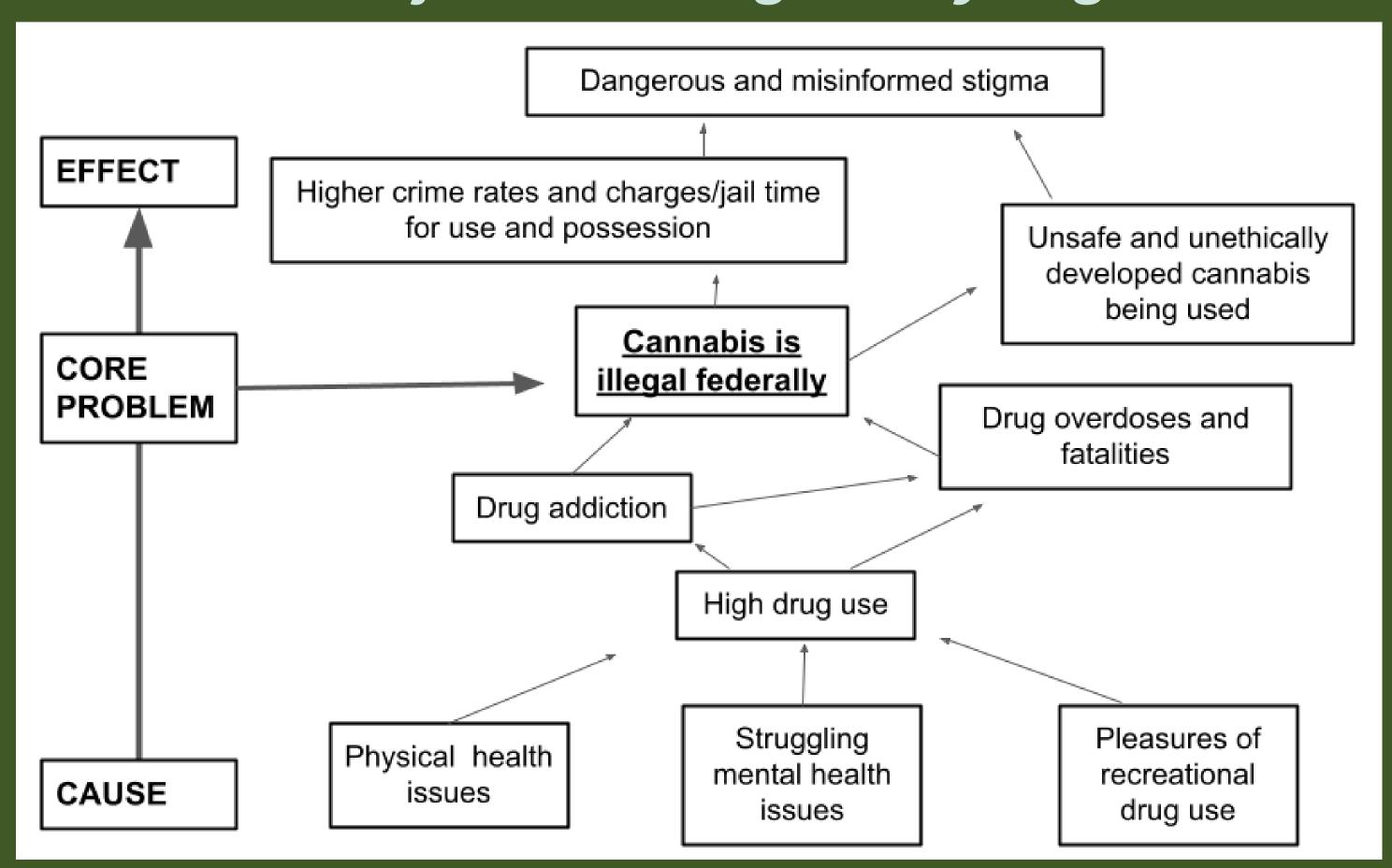
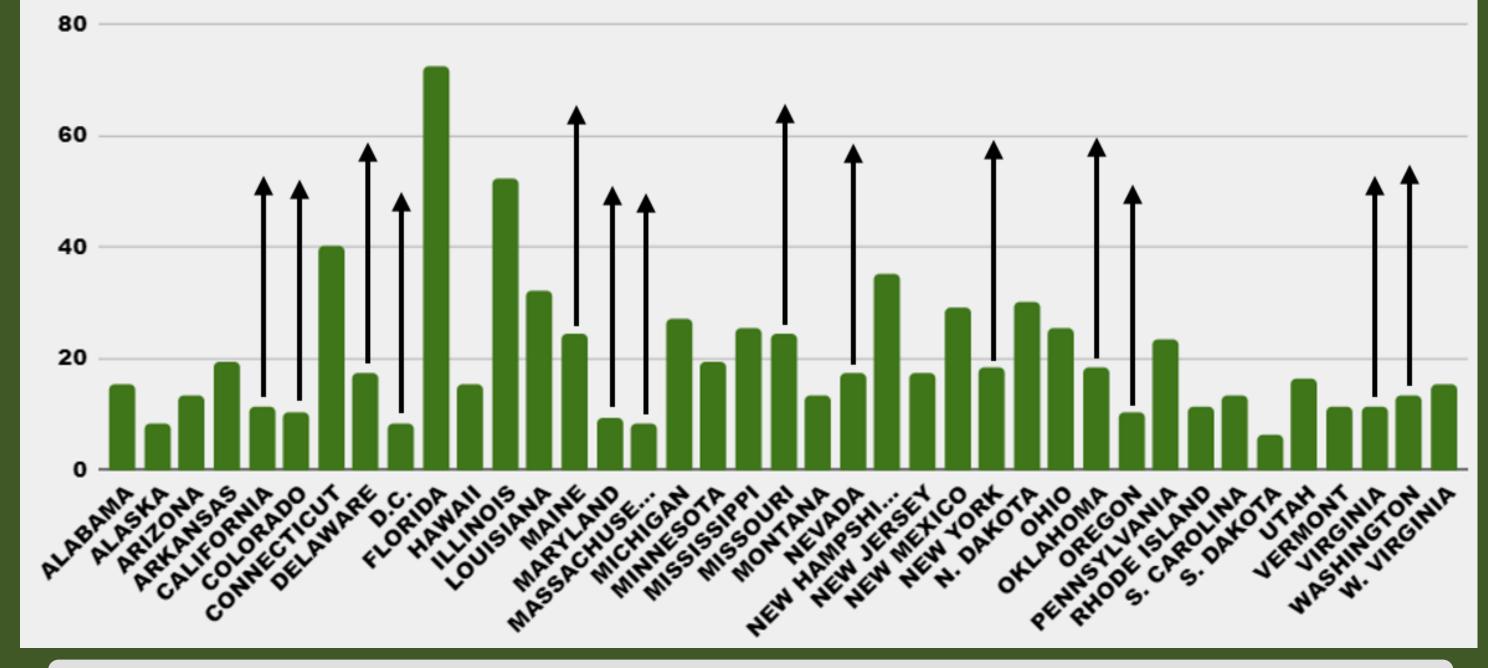


Figure 2: Number of Qualifying Conditions Legalized States Recognize



** arrows indicate states that include any other conditions a physician believes cannabis would be medically effective

Target Audience

Primary Audience

- Those with any medical conditions/issues that would benefit
- General population of adults, 18-60

Secondary Audience

Cannabis facilities and workers

Unintended Audience

Policy makers and government officials

Anticipated Strategies

Being transparent, accessible, and realistic

- No fear-based strategies
- All open, honest, and informational

Creating content geared towards particular demographics

• Each state, groups of people, digital or print

Create vast and informational website

• Serves as a great resource

Mostly social media material

- Easy to reach more people nationwide
- Power of infographic-carousel Instagram posts and story sharing

Budget Needs: \$1,550

Social Media Promotion: \$200

• Early stages of promoting our campaign on social media, mainly Instagram

Printing Posters: \$850 (including shippning)

• 50 18 x 24 heavyweight posters from Staples to post around outside and in public spaces, beginning in NJ, Philly & NYC

Workshop Event: \$500 + Free Partnership/Business Advertisement

- Informational Workshop/Talk inside local/partnering dispensary
- Volunteer Speakers
 - Naturopathic doctors, extractor technicians, patients
- Light refreshments for 100 people: \$500
- Goodie bags
 - Free small sample from partnering dispensary
 - Informational pamphlets