

REEFER MADNESS: REVISITED.

Reefer Madness: Revisited.

By Doug Snead

First published 2008

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Reefer Madness: Revisited.

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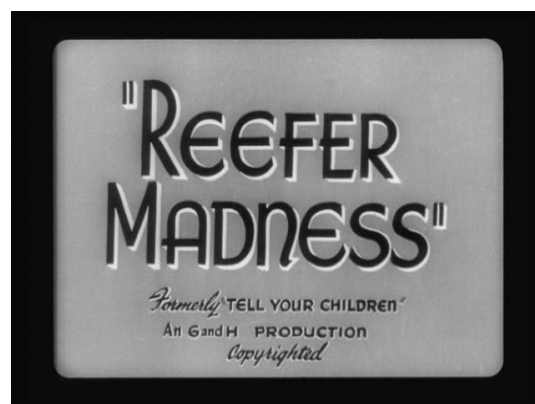
Dedicated to my wife, Pat.

1. CREDITS

"Reefer Madness"



Mae's apartment, where kids are lured into taking dope (publicity still)



Reefer Madness

Formerly "TELL YOUR CHILDREN"

A G and H PRODUCTION

Copyrighted

The movie itself has long since passed into the public domain.

Original Story:
Lawrence Meade



Reefer Madness

"Reefer Madness", is the 1936 camp-classic movie: an anti-pot morality play. Yet the term *reefer madness* has come to encompass no longer an insanity caused by marijuana, but now refers to the lunacy caused by excessive and zealous devotion to the *prohibition* of marijuana.

Once this type of *reefer madness* has struck, truth succumbs to the fantastic. There's no story too tall, no statistic too twisted, no research too cherry-picked or biased or obviously bought-and-paid for by government to render the story unfit for use as anti-marijuana propaganda. Any ol' lie will do, when it comes to scaring kids off of the pot.

And if ever there was a time and place for a bit of truth-stretching, what better vehicle could there be than a "drug awareness" movie? Remember: it's all to save the kids from dope.

Screenplay: Authur Hoerl

Additional Dialogue: Paul
Franklin

Directed by: Louis
Gasnier

Associate
Producer: Sam Siegel

Chief Cameraman ...
Jack Greerhalgh,
A.S.C.

Assistant
Director ... Ray
Nazzaro

Sound Director ...
Hans Weeren

Musical
Director ... Abe
Meyer

Editor: Carl
Pierson

Art Director:
Robert Priestley

Properties: Lois
Diege

Cast:

Dorothy Short as
Mary

Kenneth Craig " Bill

Lillian Miles " Blanche

Dave O'Brien " Ralph

Thelma White " Mae

Carleton Young " Jack

Warren McCullom " Jimmy

Pat Royale " Agnes

MARIHUANA MAKES FIENDS OF BOYS IN 30 DAYS: HASHEESH GOADS USERS TO BLOOD-LUST

Physicians Called On to Urge
Harding Bid - All Nations Meet
to Throttle Dope At Its Source,
United States Laws Too Lenient

"By the tons it is coming into this
country-the deadly, dreadful
poison that racks and tears not
only the body, but the very heart
and soul of every human being
who once becomes a slave to it in
any of its cruel and devastating
forms. Which is the worst of the
five evils? Who can say?

Marihuana is a short cut to the
insane asylum. Smoke marihuana
cigarettes for a month and what
was once your brain will be
nothing but a storehouse of
horrid specters. Hasheesh makes a
murderer who kills for the love
of killing out of the mildest
mannered man who ever laughed
at the idea that any "habit" could
ever get him."

(San Francisco Examiner, 1923)

Josef Forte " Dr. Carroll

Produced by George A. Hirleman

Let's take a little trip down memory lane, into *Reefer Madness*. We'll look at reefer madness then and now. True, Reefer Madness is 1930's tripe: but there's method in that madness, which, even now, is method used in today's anti-marijuana propaganda.

Reefer Madness scared the hell out of our grandparents, causing them to listen to government-peddled fears, rather than their own eyes - or common

sense. *How* did this happen?

Let's pick this turkey clean, and we'll see how a generation was led astray into believing that a little reefer causes good boys and girls to go *hopelessly and incurably insane*.



Using the actual words spoken in the movie (the screenplay dialog), alongside of newspaper clippings from the 1930's, we'll see why intelligent, well-read people fell for

the barrage of propaganda against "marihuana", and those who use it.

Our grandparents couldn't escape the constant hammering of anti-marijuana propaganda. Notice how the anti-marijuana images and pictures of the early 20th century reinforce the messages of the movie.

Images used in this book are for the purposes of critical analysis, which are a fair use of the materials.



Beware! Young and Old—People in All Walks of Life!

This  may be handed you 
by the friendly stranger. It contains the Killer Drug
"Marihuana"—a powerful narcotic in which lurks
Murder! Insanity! Death!



Courtesy of the U.S. Department of Justice

WARNING!

Dope peddlers are shrewd! They may put some of this drug in the  or in the  or in the tobacco cigarette.

WRITE FOR DETAILED INFORMATION, ENCLOSED 12 CENTS IN POSTAGE—MAILING COST

Address: THE INTER-STATE NARCOTIC ASSOCIATION

(Incorporated not for profit)

53 W. Jackson Blvd.

Chicago, Illinois, U. S. A.

ARTISTS/WRITERS/PAINTER in period of the 1930s used a graphic depicting the drug, the illustration was not altered. In response to the U. S. State Dept. in 1935 by the Federal Bureau of Narcotics (later renamed the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs), the poster was revised to include the words "DANGER! KIDS! DOPE!" and "FEDERAL BUREAU OF NARCOTICS" and "U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE".

Danger! Kids! Dope! (Federal Bureau of Narcotics poster, 1935)

2. INTRO

Scrolling text.

THE INCIDENTS AND
CHARACTERS
PORTRAYED IN THIS
MOTION PICTURE ARE
PURELY FICTIONAL
AND ANY SIMILARITY
TO ACTUAL
OCCURRENCES AND
LIVING OR DECEASED
PERSONS IS
COINCIDENTAL.

FORWARD: The motion
picture you are
about to witness
may startle you .
It would not have
been possible
otherwise, to
sufficiently
emphasize the
frightful toll of
the new drug menace
which is destroying
the youth of
America in
alarmingly
increasing
numbers. Marihuana
is that drug -- a
violent narcotic --
an unspeakable
scourge -- The Real
Public Enemy Number
One !

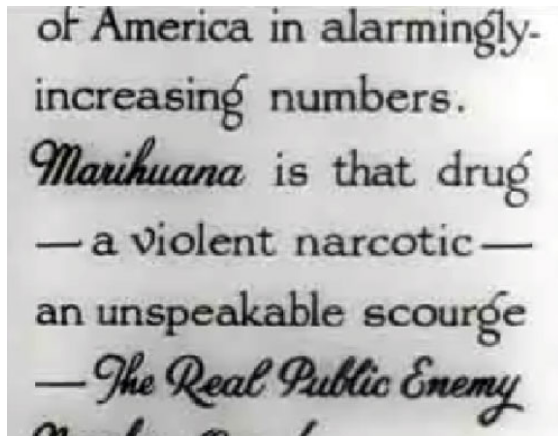
Its first effect is sudden
violent, uncontrollable
laughter, then come dangerous
hallucinations -- space
expands -- time slows down,
almost stands still.... fixed
ideas come next, conjuring up
monstrous extravagances

MARAHUANA - A NEW MENACE.

"Persons using this narcotic,
smoke the dried leaves of the
plant, which has the effect of
driving them completely insane.
The addict loses all sense of moral
responsibility. Addicts to this
drug, while under its influence,
are immune to pain, and could be
severely injured without having
any realization of their condition.
While in this condition they
become raving maniacs and are
liable to kill or indulge in any
form of violence to other persons,
using the most savage methods of
cruelty without, as said before,
any sense of moral responsibility.

"When coming from under the
influence of this narcotic, these
victims present the most horrible
condition imaginable. They are
dispossessed of their natural and
normal will power, and their
mentality is that of idiots. If this
drug is indulged in to any great
extent, it ends in the untimely
death of its addict."

*("Janey Canuck" - pen name for
Canadian Supreme Court Justice
Emily F. Murphy, from The
Black Candle, 1922)*



society, kids in peril

Reefer Madness wasn't the first anti-marijuana movie. Americans in the 1930's received anti-marijuana propaganda in a variety of ways: comic books for the kids, magazine articles targeted at more the sophisticated, and movies and radio news and shows for everyone.

The comic book version (summarized in the film intro) goes like this. A good boy gets introduced to reefers. He goes berserk, and robs and kills indiscriminately.

After smoking reefers, good girls lose their virtue.

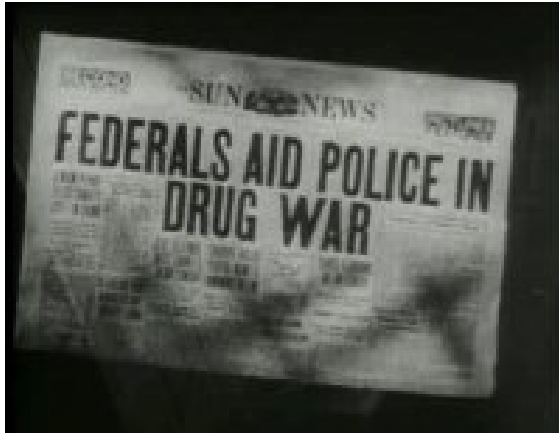
-- followed by emotional disturbances, the total inability to direct thoughts, the loss of all power to resist physical emotions leading finally to acts of shocking violence ... ending often in incurable insanity.

In picturing its soul-destroying effects no attempt was made to equivocate. The scenes and incidents, while fictionized for the purposes of this story, are based upon actual research into the results of Marihuana addiction. If their stark reality will make you think, will make you aware that something must be done to wipe out this ghastly menace, then the picture will not have failed in its purpose.

Because the dread Marihuana may be reaching forth next for your son or daughter ...or yours ... or YOURS!

Fade in to big, important-looking newspaper presses, cranking away a stream of newspapers.

Montage of newspaper front-pages headlines screaming dope (marihuana) is the enemy.



note the slogan 'drug war'

DOPE PEDDLERS
CAUGHT IN HIGH
SCHOOL... POLICE
RAID MARIHUANA
FLAT... FEDERALS
AID POLICE IN DRUG
WAR . . . POLICE
SMASH DRUG RING...
SCHOOL-PARENT
ORGANIZATIONS JOIN DOPE
FIGHT...

EROTIC, VIOLENT MARIHUANA

"Despite the fact that medical men and scientists have disagreed upon the properties of marihuana, and some are inclined to minimize the harmfulness of this drug, the records offer ample evidence that it has a disastrous effect upon many of its users. Recently we have received many reports showing the crimes of violence committed by persons while under the influence of marihuana.

"The effect of the use of the drug depends largely upon the individual. Among some people the dreams produced are usually of an erotic character, but the principal effect is on the mind which seems to lose the power of directing and controlling its thoughts..."

*(Hearings Before the House
Committee on Ways and Means,
Session on HR 6385, 1937)*

Fade in to newspaper classified ad.

"Come! Hear! Learn!
MEETING TONIGHT
8:30 P.M. School-
Parents
Association TRUMAN
HIGH SCHOOL
AUDITORIUM DR.
ALFRED CARROLL
Subject ... TELL
YOUR CHILDREN

Marihuana

Extravagant Ideas, Insanity (1937)

"Then follow errors of sense, false convictions and the predominance of extravagant ideas where all sense of value seems to disappear."

"The deleterious, even vicious, qualities of the drug render it highly dangerous to the mind and body upon which it operates to destroy the will, cause one to lose the power of connected thought, producing imaginary delectable situations and gradually weakening the physical powers. Its use frequently leads to insanity."

(H. J. Anslinger, Commissioner of Narcotics)

"The incidents and characters portrayed in this motion picture are purely fictional." *True*, but alas, little else in the movie is. The scrolling text here sets the stage for the rest of the screenplay.

If we did not already know, Marihuana is a "violent narcotic," the "Real **Public Enemy Number One!**" A quick review of the evil effects of this drug: laughter, hallucinations, troublesome fixed ideas, then those ugly monstrous extravagances. (You'll find *monstrous extravagances* in the DSM - right next to the *fixed ideas* entry, no doubt.)

Of course, smoke enough reefer and you'll commit

"acts of shocking violence" leading "often" to "incurable insanity," which is what this gem of a movie is all about. Scared yet? Feeling the fear? When you are, you'll be ready for the propaganda payload here, the instructions to take some action. In this case, you must be pumped full of fear until you realize "something must be done" (in America this translates roughly to, *there outta be a law*) "to wipe out this ghastly menace" - the *menace of marihuana*.

(As if governments could decree that certain plants no longer exist. Or as if government could dictate

the very thoughts and desires of people. They can't, but let's suspend our disbelief - for the duration of the movie.)

Notice here the big, important-looking printing presses and the newspaper headline montage. We read it in the papers, so it must be worthy of attention, true, etc.

Notice also the use of the term **drug war** in one headline. That is two Richard Nixon-isms in one short space. In 1971, Nixon also declared *war on drugs*. "America's **Public Enemy No. 1** is drug abuse," said ol' Tricky Dick.

3. INT. - CLASSROOM - NIGHT

Dr. Carroll is addressing a group of concerned parents.

DR. CARROLL
It must be stopped.



expert/official/authority uses fear to get obedience

You, and all the
parent-school
groups about the
country.

And you must stand
united on this, and
stamp out this
frightful assassin
of our youth!

You can do it by
bringing about
compulsory
education, on the subject of
narcotics in general;

(thumps desk)

The dread marihuana in
particular. That is the
purpose of this meeting ladies
and gentlemen. To lay the
foundation for a nationwide
campaign by you,

(thumps desk)

To demand by law, such
compulsory education. Because

Hypnotic Dr. Carroll

Were sophisticated (for 1936) hypnotic techniques slipped into the movie? In the 1985 treatise *Mind Control in America* author Steven Jacobson argues they were.

``Speaking to a PTA meeting, high school principal Dr. Carroll commands parents to stamp out this "assassin of our youth" -- marijuana."

``Dr. Carroll looks into the camera and into the eyes of the audience - [a] hypnotic technique. Picture yourself in a movie theatre, now imagine a huge face on the screen staring at you."

``Dr. Carroll delivers his lines with a hypnotic rhythm that is punctuated by changes in pacing, volume and tone (just like a hypnotist). Dr. Carroll speaks with authority. This happens to be a technique used in hypnosis. Authoritarian techniques, sometimes called paternal techniques, use a strong, commanding, dominating approach."

it is only through
enlightenment, that this
scourge can be wiped out.



Harry J. Anslinger, director of the
Federal Bureau of Narcotics - in
many ways the father of marijuana
prohibition

Out of the
trafficking in
these drugs, a
lawlessness that we
can scarcely
estimate is grown
and is now
flourishing.

It exists in almost
every city and
hamlet in the
country.

It might be
interesting and
important for you
to know some of the
methods used in bringing these
drugs into the country and the
work of the forces of law and
order which are daily
combating the traffic, always
at the risk of life by their
agents.

Narcotics Commissioner

H. J. Anslinger, Says:

(1920) "Marijuana makes darkies
think they're as good as white
men"

(1937) "How many murders,
suicides, robberies, criminal
assaults, hold-ups, burglaries, and
deeds of maniacal insanity it
causes each year, especially among
the young, can only be
conjectured"

(1937) "Marijuana is the most
violent drug in the history of
mankind"

(1937) "Negro entertainers with
their jazz and swing music are
declared an outgrowth of
marijuana use which possesses
white women to tap their feet"

(1938) "Marijuana is more
dangerous than heroin or cocaine"

(1938) "If the hideous monster
Frankenstein came face to face
with marijuana, he would drop
dead of fright"

(1948) "Marijuana leads to
pacifism and communist
brainwashing"

This ceaseless fight against
the drug traffic is directed
by the Department of
Narcotics, Washington.



Dr Carroll - he has the real facts

Look Into My Eyes

`` When Dr. Carroll begins to speak, he raises a sheet of paper in front of him and reads certain "facts" from it. The white sheet of paper prominent in the middle of the screen is a distraction for the eyes to cause that state of mind that is just like "day dreaming" while information is programmed to the audience verbally."
(Steven Jacobson, Mind Control in America, 1985)

(pause, rustles
letter)

I have received a letter of
vital importance from a member
of the Narcotics Bureau. I'm
going to read this message to
you.

(rustles letter,
reading)

My dear Dr. Carroll, the
suppression of the use of
marihuana and of the forces
lurking behind it are the most
important jobs this
department is now engaged in.
At the outset of this letter,
there is one vital fact I
would like to submit. There is
a powerful agency: I speak of
the School-Parent Association
of this country. It can be
invaluable in stamping out
this scourge. Their help,
their eternal vigilance,
could be the deciding factor
in our fight against it.



Kids in school are in danger from reefer. The Army too.

The weed marihuana is grown in every state in the union. Recently in the city of Brooklyn, New York, a field of marihuana was found behind a tenement court. The weed was here being cultivated, regularly stripped and dried and sold in schools and at government army posts, in and around New York. The dried leaves and berries are ground up and made into cigarettes, by a simple hand machine.

In 1979, historian William L. White identified **THE PROHIBITIONIST THEMES**

-- ideas and images used keep drugs illegal.

1. "The drug is associated with a hated subgroup of the society or a foreign enemy."
2. "The drug is identified as solely responsible for many problems in the culture, i.e., crime, violence, and insanity."
3. "The survival of the culture is pictured as being dependent on the prohibition of the drug."
4. "The concept of 'controlled' usage is destroyed and replaced by a 'domino theory' of chemical progression."
5. "The drug is associated with the corruption of young children, particularly their sexual corruption."
6. "Both the user and supplier of the drug are defined as fiends, always in search of new victims; usage of the drug is considered 'contagious.'"
7. "Policy options are presented as total prohibition or total access."
8. "Anyone questioning any of the above assumptions is bitterly attacked and characterized as part of the problem that needs to be eliminated."

The deadly narcotic is thus quickly and easily prepared for the market. The sale of marihuana is even more difficult to detect and halt than the traffic in drugs such as opium, morphine and heroin. They are hidden in fake jewelry cases, in the heels of shoes, women's shoes especially, because the drugs can be secreted in false heels.

As we watch the reefer madness unfold, we'll see these prohibitionist ideas play out over and over, like a broken record. (Prohibitionists use *repetition* to "catapult the propaganda", and reefer madness is no exception.)

Originally entitled, "Tell Your Children," Reefer Madness is a study in how to **link marijuana with the injury of children**. From beginning to end, the movie will pound home the point that **reefer injures and kills kids**. The "Reefer Madness" title for the movie nicely identifies marihuana as responsible for many problems in the culture, - crime, violence, and insanity.



then: books with false centers



now: same old thing

Hollow shaving brushes are another means, books with false centers are often used; watch cases make convenient hiding places. The value of drugs thus seized is enormous.



Anslinger inspects drug seizure, c1930. (from the DEA 'Target America' Exhibit, 2004) Compare with scene from the movie

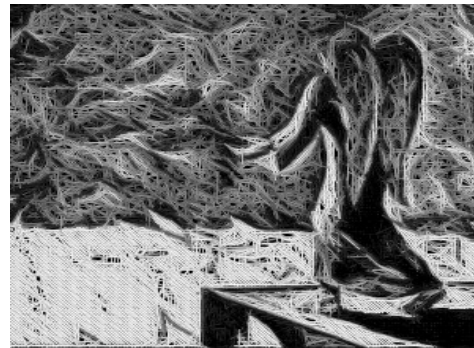


this scene from the movie Reefer Madness (1936) appears to be stock footage of a 1930 "big drug bust" photo-op staged by Anslinger/FBN

Recently a huge supply of heroin was taken. It was concealed in an apparently harmless shipment of thirty-five barrels of olive oil. The deadly drug was burned in the incinerator of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.



prohibitionists toss soul-destroying drugs into inferno



...as the wicked are cast into the lake of fire. Drug warriors style themselves as avenging angels

(voice rising,
with emphasis)
And more vicious,
more deadly even
than these soul-
destroying drugs,
is the menace of
marihuana!

No doubt, many of
you do not believe
that these things
do happen, that
they cannot happen
to you. You may
also believe that
the facts have been
exaggerated.

Let me tell you of
something that
happened right
here, in our own
city. You probably
read about it in
the papers; however
I'll give you the
real facts, behind the case.
There was an apartment near
one of our high schools. It
was run by a woman known as
Mae Coleman...

Marihuana: Murder, Assault, Rape - 1938

"I am surprised to learn that certain police officers have been inclined to minimize the effects of the use of marihuana. These officers should review some of the cases that are reported to the Bureau. They would, I am sure, be convinced that the drug is adhering to its old world traditions of murder, assault, rape, physical demoralization and mental breakdown. A study of the effects of marihuana shows clearly that it is a dangerous drug, and Bureau records prove that its use is associated with insanity and crime. Therefore, from the standpoint of police work, it is a more dangerous drug than heroin or cocaine."

(J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the FBI)



reefer pusher motif (I Was A Racket Girl, 1949)

4. INT. - MAE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Fade in to Mae's apartment, the bedroom. Jack enters. Mae is asleep in bed. The bedroom is slightly messy.

JACK

Hey! Come on Mae,
get up!

MAE

What's time is it?

JACK

Time to get up and
give this place a
going-over. It
looks like the
Marines have
landed.

MAE

Well, that bunch
last night was high
enough was to take over the
Marines and the Navy.

JACK

You better get on
the job. Some of
the kids may be
over this
afternoon.

MAE

Oh Jack, we can get
along without
dragging those
young kids up here.

JACK

Oh, why don't you button up
your lip? You're always



The Assassins! Mad Slayers of the East!, Killers, comic book (c.1950)

MARIHUANA - 1934

"Marihuana is a dangerous drug and its abuse is growing. It is the same as HASHISH used widely in the Near East, derived from the Arabic word "Assassin", which so aptly describes its powers. Its user is quickly reduced from valor and courage to fear and insanity..."

MARIHUANA BUTCHERS

"... Sometime ago Florida had a horrible tragedy. A young boy butchered his entire family while under the influence of the drug. Florida acted. It hastily passed the Uniform State Narcotic Act which covers cannabis or marihuana; and peddlers there have been sent up for as long as 5 years. Florida is ruthlessly stumping out use of the drug..."

squawking about something.
You got more static than the
radio.

Mae dresses in the bedroom,
attaching her stockings; Jack
starts to fetch something from the
kitchen cabinet, but is
interrupted by the door buzzer.
Eddie and Gwen are at the door.

JACK
Ah, greetings!

EDDIE
Well hello Jack,
how are you?

JACK
Fine, come in. Glad to see
you.

Eddie and Gwen enter.

EDDIE
Is, uh, Mae in?

JACK
She'll be right in.
Just sit down and
make yourselves
comfortable.

GWEN
What kind of a
joint is this,
Eddie?

EDDIE
Oh, its all right
Gwen. They probably had a
party last night.

MARIHUANA PUSHERS

"... In Atlanta recently a pushcart peddler was selling the drug to youths. We aided the city authorities in apprehending him, and it was a matter of regret to the judge that the man could be sentenced only under an act requiring poisons to be labeled. The public was aroused but hasn't acted..."

FEDS HELPLESS

"... In Denver a District Attorney reported a man traveling to Kansas city with a truck load of this deadly wood. We caught him, but what could we do? There was no federal statute and no state law. there was only a city ordinance regulating poisons. He got 610 days in jail. Is that the kind of enforcement the public wants? There is much talk but little action. The Federal Government is helpless in controlling this situation; it has no police powers like the states have. It has only its taxing power..."

GWEN
(nodding,
chuckling)
Oh...

Jack enters bedroom.

JACK
A couple of your
customers, Mae.

MAE
Yeah? They're old
enough to know what
they're doing. Not
like those young
kids you bring up
here.

JACK
(soothing)
All right. All
right.
Look, I'm going to
blow.

MAE
Where you going?

JACK
I've got to make some
deliveries and then I'll
probably drop by Joe's place
and bring back a couple of the
kids.

MAE
Oh, I wish you'd lay off those
kids!

JACK
Oh, why don't you get over
that "mother" complex.

NARCOTIC MARIHUANA

"... There is practically no interstate commerce in marihuana. The drug is grown locally. What a sad commentary on the states which sit idly by with a big club in the form of police power to prohibit the growth, to arrest for possession and sale.

"And I'll go further. Many Chiefs of Police call on us for assistance after raiding criminal hideouts. They have found a drug. What drug? Or agents examine it. Chief, it is **marihuana**... It is a **narcotic**."
(H.J. Anslinger, The Attorney General's Conference On Crime, 1934)

5. EXT. - SCHOOL CROSSING ON MAIN STREET - DAY

A sign reads: "STOP SCHOOL CROSSING" held by a policeman. Teddy, Kenny, and Ralph are walking down Main Street, chatting as they walk.



stop marijuana, before it kills kids

TEDDY

Oh by the way
Ralph, I'm sort of
giving a little
party Friday
afternoon at my
grandmother's. You
know the place with
the swimming pool?
Would you like to
come?

RALPH

Thanks Teddy, maybe
I will.

TEDDY

I'd sure like to have you.

RALPH

Yeah, I'll probably drop over.

THE MARIHUANA CIGARETTE - 1937

"The marihuana cigarette is one of the most insidious of all forms of dope, largely because of the failure of the public to understand its fatal qualities.

"The Nation is almost defenseless against it, having no Federal laws to cope with it and virtually no organized campaign for combating it.

"The result is tragic.

"School children are the prey of peddlers who infest school neighborhoods. High school boys and girls buy the destructive weed without knowledge of its capacity of harm, and conscienceless dealers sell it with impunity.

"This is a national problem, and it must have national attention.

"The fatal marihuana cigarette must be recognized as a deadly drug, and American children must be protected against it."

(The Washington Times, used in the Hearings for the Marijuana Tax Act, 1937)

TEDDY
So long, Ralph.

RALPH
See you later.

Ralph and Teddy shake hands. Teddy and Kenny keep walking. Jack enters, and stops to talk with Ralph.

JACK
Hey Ralph!

RALPH
How ya been?

JACK
Fine. And you?

RALPH
Great.

JACK
Where ya headed?

RALPH
Oh...

They spot Mary, down the street a little way.

RALPH
(admiring Mary)
Hey how do you like that? That's the one I was telling you about.

JACK
Ve-ry nice!

A short distance away, Teddy and Kenny.

KENNY
I don't know why you want to make such a fuss over that Ralph Wiley.

Marihuana Bill Up For Consideration

"There was fun in the House Health Committee during the week when the marihuana bill came up for consideration. Marihuana is Mexican opium, a plant used by Mexicans and cultivated for sale by Indians. "When some beet field peon takes a few rares of this stuff," explained Dr. Fred Fulsher of Mineral County, "he thinks he has just been elected President of Mexico so he starts out to execute all his Political enemies.

"I understand that over in Butte where the Mexicans often go for the winter they stage imaginary bullfights in the 'Bower of Roses' or put on tournaments for the favor of 'Spanish Rose' after a couple of whiffs of marihuana. The Silver Bow and Yellowstone delegations both deplore these international complications." Everybody laughed and the bill was recommended for passage."

*(Montana Standard; Butte-
Anaconda, Montana, January 27,
1929)*

TEDDY

Aw, he's a swell swimmer. He made the freshman team that year he went to college. What's the matter?

KENNY

My dad knows his family. Father and mother just got a divorce in Paris.

TEDDY

Yeah?

KENNY

You know, Ralph hangs around pretty much on his own. He's been in a couple of jams.

TEDDY

Yeah, well I only try to say hello to him, I don't go around with him.

KENNY

Yeah, you better not, he's a little too old for us, that's what my dad says.

TEDDY

Hmmm.

Down the street a bit, at Mary Lane's car, which is an open convertible. The car is stopped and Mary is at the wheel. Bill, who is standing, is talking to Mary. Jimmy Lane is in the back seat. Ralph and Jack approach.

RALPH

Hello Mary! Hi Bill.

BILL

Hiya Ralph!

MARY

Oh, hello Ralph!

You know my brother Jimmy, don't you?

RALPH

How are you?

JIMMY

Swell!

RALPH

I'd like you to meet a friend
of mine: Jack Perry. Mary,
Bill.

BILL

Good to know you.

MARY

Hello!



pusher 'glad to know' children

JACK

(slyly)

Glad to know you.

We're going over to Joe's
place, why don't you come
along?

BILL

We have a date to play a set
of doubles.

RALPH

Oh, you can play anytime. Come
on! We'll have some laughs.

MARY

Oh not today Ralph, maybe some other time.

JIMMY

Can I go out with you? Sis, I'll be back by dinner time.

RALPH

Sure!

MARY

(starts car)

Don't be late Jimmy!



Jimmy and the marihuana pushers



Slyly Baptiste sold "reefers" to the high-school students.

Science Speaks (1938)

JIMMY

(hops out of car)

I won't.

They walk to off to the malt-shop.

6. INT. - MALT SHOP - DAY

Piano playing, kids dancing. Jack, Jimmy and Ralph enter. Joe, the soda-jerk, is cleaning glasses.

JACK
Hello Joe!

JOE
Hi Jack!

AGNES
Jimmy! Jimmy!

JIMMY
(to Agnes)
Hi darlin'!
(listens to piano)
Hey, he ain't no paper man!

AGNES
Why don't you know him? That's Hot-Fingers Pirelli!

JIMMY
He really swings out with a mess of jive! Wanna dance?

AGNES
(smiles)
Sure!

At table with Ralph, Jack and Blanche.

JACK
Mae's expecting us at the apartment a little later.
(to Blanche)
Any new prospects?

REEFER MUSICIANS

"The worst group we had there were the jazz musicians. And I wouldn't tell you what proportion of them were marijuana users, but it was more than half. In those days." (*H. J. Anslinger*)

Lengthens The Sense Of Time

"Because the chief effect as far as they were concerned was that it lengthens the sense of time, and therefore they could get more grace beats into their music than they could if they simply followed the written copy.

"In other words, if you're a musician, you're going to play the thing the way it's printed on a sheet. But if you're using marijuana, you're going to work in about twice as much music between the first note and the second note. That's what made jazz musicians. The idea that they could jazz things up, liven them up, you see." (*Dr. James Munch, Professor of Pharmacology from Princeton, an associate and friend of Anslinger*)

BLANCHE
Maybe.



any new 'prospects' (to make new reefer addicts)?

She glances over at Jimmy and Agnes, who are dancing.



kids are 'prospects' to reefer pushers

The piano player finishes, and Jimmy sits down and begins to play. The piano player sneaks off to a closet, where he smokes a marihuana cigarette with maniacal enjoyment. Jimmy finishes playing.

DANGEROUS MARIHUANA

"The auditory sense is particularly distorted, which accounts for the not infrequent use of marihuana by members of "hot" orchestras. Even in the earliest states of intoxication the will power is destroyed and **inhibitions** and restraints are **released**. The most harmful antisocial effects of the drug occur during the later stages. The intense overexcitement of the nerves and emotions leads to **uncontrollable irritability and violent rages**, which in most advance forms cause assault and murder. Amnesia often occurs, and the mania is frequently so acute that the heavy smoker becomes temporarily insane. Most authorities agree that *permanent insanity* can result from continued overindulgence."
(Frederick T. Merrill, *American Journal of Nursing*, Aug 1938)



Hot-Fingers Pirelli sneaks a reefer to play 'hot' music

AGNES

Oh Jimmy, you're wonderful!

JIMMY

You're just finding that out?

Agnes and Jimmy approach Jack and Blanche's table.

JACK

Why can't we go now?

BLANCHE

Sure. Say kids, we're having a little party at my girlfriend's apartment. Wouldn't you like to come?

MARIHUANA - 1934

"parties usually ending up in wild carousals, sometimes with men joining the orgies."

The Union Signal - Women's Christian Temperance Union

AGNES

I'd love to! You wanna come, don't you Jimmy?

JIMMY

Aw, sure!
Anything with you!

BLANCHE

Well come on!
We can all go in my car.

RALPH

See ya later
Joe.

JOE

So long.

They exit.



hat reads: Latin America, smoke: Nazi propaganda (The Marijuana Smoker, 1940)

7. EXT. - MARY LANE'S HOUSE - DAY

Bill and Mary are walking together, behind Mary Lane's house. Bill holds schoolbooks, Mary holds two tennis rackets. Bill accidentally drops books, picks them up.

MARY

It's good of you to help me,
Bill.

BILL

Well I'll try anything except
domestic sewing!

MARY

Why, Bill, don't you want to
learn something about running
your own home?

BILL

(laughs)

The answer is no!

You know, after that session
we had yesterday, I went home
and told mother that the
trouble with her pot-roast
gravy was she hadn't added
three heaping teaspoons full
of olive oil!

They giggle.

MARY

What did she say?

BILL

She didn't say anything. She
just threw me out of the
kitchen!

MARY

Well, I don't wonder!

Mrs. Lane enters.

MRS. LANE

Hello children!

MARY
Hello Mother.

BILL
Hello Mrs. Lane.

Mrs. Lane puts down a platter with hot chocolate and cookies in front of the kids.

MARY
That was sweet of you Mother!

BILL
Gosh! Hot chocolate! Thanks
Mrs. Lane!

MRS. LANE
I know you can't study on
empty stomachs. Now enjoy
yourselves.

MARY
We will!

BILL
We will too Mrs. Lane.

(to Mary,
with
affected
manners)
May I?



``They are a model couple in every way,
excelling in studies and sports." (Look
Magazine, 1938)

MARY
 (playing along)
 Oh thank you kind sir!

 You're so very, very kind!

They giggle.

BILL
 Look at this, its swell!

MARY
 Romeo and Juliet?

BILL
 Don't you like it?

MARY
 Uh huh.

BILL
 You know, when I
 study this, I kinda
 think of you. I
 read it as though
 you're there,
 beside me. Listen.

BILL
 (reads
 dramatically)
 It is my soul that
 calls upon thy
 name, how silver
 sweet sound lovers
 tongue by night.
 Like softest music
 to attending ears.

MARY
 Romeo!

BILL
 My dear!

Shakespeare Used Marijuana?

``The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust in Stratford-upon-Avon, England, allowed South African research scientists from the Transvaal Museum in Pretoria to analyze twenty-four pipe fragments found on the grounds of William Shakespeare's home. The findings, published in the *South African Journal of Science*, show that eight of the pipes tested contain traces of cannabis and two of the pipes contain traces of cocaine.

``It has been a long-standing but highly unconventional assumption that Shakespeare alludes to drugs and drug use in his works..."

*Why with the time do I not
 glance aside / To new-found
 methods and to compounds
 strange? / Why write I still all
 one, ever the same, / And keep
 invention in **a noted weed***

[Sonnet 76]

(Amanda Mabillard, Shakespeare About.com, 2006)



Mrs. Lane, happy her kid is drug-free

Mrs. Lane is about to come out, but sees the kids, and smiles wholesomely.

MARY

What O'clock tomorrow shall I
send for thee?

BILL

By the hour of nine!

MARY

I will not fail. 'Tis twenty
years 'til then.

They kiss, but Mrs. Lane arrives and interrupts them. Bill jumps up, embarrassed.

BILL

(walks out,
backwards)

Well, Uh ha. I'll see you
tonight, Mary! Goodbye Mrs.
Lane. Ha ha. So long!

Walking backwards, Bill pratfalls into a small pool, soaking the seat of his pants.



no marihuana needed

BILL

Ow!

MARY

Oh Bill!

BILL

Uh, ha ha. I'm all right. Uh.
Bye. Bye!



accidentally taking marihuana (Kerry Drake Ace Detective comics, 1946)

8. INT. - BILL HARPER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Mr. and Mrs. Harper, Bill and Junior are at home.

JUNIOR

(runs to Mr Harper)

Hey daddy! daddy! Hey dad, got anything for me?

MRS HARPER

Don't bother your father every night!

JUNIOR

Aw, have ya?

Mr Harper hands Junior some candy. Bill enters.

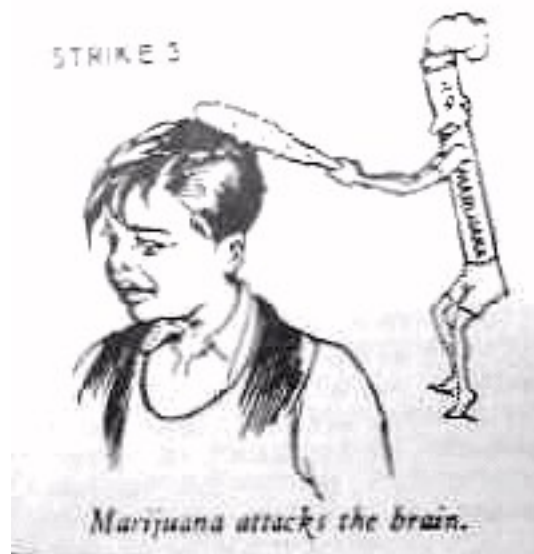
MR HARPER

There you are

MRS HARPER

(to Bill)

What made you so late, Bill? I was getting worried!



marihuana will knock your tyke senseless
(textbook, c.1935)

BILL

Aw, I had to study, Ma.

JUNIOR

He was not, I saw him out walking with his girl!

JUNIOR

(taunting)

Bill's got a girl! Bill's got a girlfriend!

BILL

Mom, make him cut it out!

MRS HARPER

Junior!

JUNIOR

Well Bill HAS got a girl.

MRS HARPER

Quiet! And put that candy away until after dinner. Henry, you shouldn't have given it to him.

JUNIOR

Well he has got a girlfriend and her name is Mary!

BILL

I'll shut you up!

Bill chases Junior around the table.

MRS HARPER

Bill! Junior! Quit that carrying on! Junior!

MR HARPER

Aw, let them alone. They're all right. They're young.

JUNIOR

Bill's got a girl!

Bill catches Junior.

JUNIOR

I didn't mean it Bill, honest
I didn't!

BILL

Aw. Well, what I'm burnt up
about is that you didn't say
that Bill had a swell girl!

JUNIOR

Gee! It must be love! She HAS
to be swell for you to like
her!

BILL

Uh Huh. Sounds like you want
something. Come on, what is
it?

JUNIOR

Well, it's my model airplane.
It won't work. Gosh, Bill, you
can fix it. You can fix
anything!



domestic bliss, before marihuana

BILL

(laughs)

Ok, I'll fix it!

9. EXT. - IN TOWN, ON MAIN STREET - DAY

Bill is standing in front of a store. Jimmy Lane, driving his sister's convertible, pulls over.

JIMMY

Hey Bill!

Car rolls to a stop.

BILL

Oh hello Jimmy!

JIMMY

Mary told me to wait and tell you she had to go home, 'cause her mother wanted her to go to the dress maker with her.

BILL

Oh thanks, Jimmy. Mmmm, must be getting grown-up, I see Mary let you have the car.

JIMMY

(proudly)

Yeah! Can I take you anyplace?

BILL

Hmmm, I wasn't going any place in particular.

JIMMY

Well then, how about driving me over to the, Joe's place with me? I'll buy you a soda.

BILL

(laughing)

I never drink the stuff.



where the kiddies connect (Mr. Universe, Dope Menace, c1950)

JIMMY

Well, gee, I'll buy you
something else.

BILL

Ok, you're on the hook for one
root-beer!

JIMMY

Swell!

Bill gets in the car with Jimmy, Jimmy starts it up.



the malt shop, gateway to marijuana use (publicity still)

10. INT. - THE MALT SHOP - DAY

JOE
Hi Bill! Hi Jimmy.

BILL
Hi Joe!

JACK
Hey Jimmy!

BLANCHE
Hi Jimmy. Hello
Bill. Come on!
Slide in.

BILL
Hello Blanche.

JIMMY
Hello Ralph. How ya
been, Ralph?

RALPH
Oh hello Jimmy.

Waitress comes to table.

JIMMY
(to waitress)
Two sodas. Oh, I
mean, one float and
one root beer.
(to Blanche)
How's Mae?

BLANCHE
Oh, she's fine.
We're going up to her
apartment later.

JIMMY
Can Bill come along?

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
Bureau of Narcotics
Washington
October 24, 1947
Dear Agent _____
Please prepare all
cases in your
jurisdiction involving
musicians in violation
of the marijuana laws.
We will have a great
national round-up
arrest of all such
persons on a single
day. I will let you
know what day.
Sincerely yours,
H. J. Anslinger
U. S. Commissioner of
Narcotics

Harry Anslinger hated Jazz and jazz musicians, and planned to have mass arrests of musicians who were involved with marijuana. On October 24, 1947, Anslinger sent out a letter to police, telling them to prepare for a big round-up. When police balked, Anslinger always replied with the same form-letter . . .

BLANCHE
Uh huh.
(To Bill)
Want to come?

BILL
Well--

JIMMY
Oh come on Bill,
you'll get a kick
out of it.

BILL
(reluctantly)
Thanks just the
same.

BLANCHE
Aw, come on Bill!
Mary won't be
jealous!

JIMMY
Why sure, Bill! All the kids
will be there, its keen!

BILL
Well I don't know, I really
shouldn't... Well, ok.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Bureau of Narcotics
Washington

Dear Agent _____

Glad to hear you are
working hard to give
effect to my directive
of October 24, 1947.

We will have a great
national round-up
arrest of musicians in
violation of the
marijuana laws all on a
single day. Don't
worry, I will let you
know what day.

Sincerely yours,

H. J. Anslinger

U. S. Commissioner of
Narcotics

The malt shop piano player, "Hot-Fingers Pirelli" improvises in a popular piano style of the day, and smiles maniacally.



Hot-Fingers Pirelli: reefer-crazed musician

11. INT. - MAE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Music blaring, and high-school kids - boys in suits, girls in knee-hemmed dresses - jitterbugging enthusiastically to jazz. The sound of "crazy" laughter is heard in the background. Jack heads to the door. The door buzzer sounds as Jack continues to the door. Ralph, Jimmy, Blanche and Bill are there.

JACK

Hiya kids!

RALPH

Hello Jack, what do you say?

JACK

Yeah, come on in.

Jimmy joins Agnes on the couch with an embrace and kiss. Blanche looks at Bill, who is beholding the scene in the room.

BLANCHE

Come on Bill, don't stand there!

Bill walks over to and sits by Blanche.

Mae enters.

BLANCHE

Mae! He's Bill Harper. He's ok.

BILL

(nervously)

Hello!

MAE

(warily)

Well, if you say so, it's all right with me.

(shakes his hand)

I'll be back in a minute.

Marijuana Menace

"It happened in Florida. A young boy marijuana addict, while still under the influence of marijuana, believed that a number of persons were trying to cut off his arms and legs; so he seized an ax and killed his father, mother, two brothers, and a sister.

"It happened in Colorado. In August, 1936, in Colorado a sex-mad degenerate brutally attacked a young girl. He was convicted of assault with intent to rape, and was sentenced to ten to fourteen years in the state penitentiary. Police officers knew definitely that the man was ...

Mae leaves party in den, and enters the kitchen.

MAE
(to Jack)
There's a new one
in today.

JACK
Yeah, Bill Harper.
He's all right.

Blanche has got
herself quite a yen
for him.

MAE
Not bad. I didn't
think she had that
much taste.

JACK
She knows what she's doing.
She's got Ralph nuts about
her, and now she's got her
hooked up with this new kid.

MAE
(sees empty reefer
box from cabinet)
Hey, we haven't any more
smokes. You better run over
and get some.

JACK
Why couldn't you find that out
when I was here this morning?
Now I've got my car at the
shop.

MAE
Well, what of it? That kid out
there, Jimmy. He's got a car.
(hands Jack his
jacket)
He'll take you.

"... under the influence of marijuana. It was stated by a resident at the time that this was one case in hundreds of murders, rapes, petty crimes, and insanity that have occurred in southern Colorado in recent years because of marijuana.

"It happened in California. A man under the influence of marijuana actually decapitated his best friend. Then, coming out from the effects of the drug, he was as horrified as anyone could be at what he had done."

("Marijuana Menace" By Dr. Arthur La Roe - President American Narcotic Defense Association, Inc., HEALTH, Oct. 1938)

JACK
(stands)
Oh, all right.

Jack dons jacket and leaves kitchen, enters den. There kids are smooching; one pair scurry to the record player to put on another record. Jimmy is making out with Agnes on a couch.

JACK
Hey Jimmy:

JIMMY
(standing)
Yeah?

JACK
I need to go over to Cedar Avenue for a minute. You've got a car haven't you?

JIMMY
Why yeah, its my sister's.

JACK
Mind giving me a lift?

JIMMY
Why, sure! Come on!

JACK
O. K.

"Satanic" jazz music (according to Anslinger, Hearst etc.) starts to play - a seemingly happy tune.

Jack and Jimmy exit. Blanche and a nervous Bill are seated together, Ralph across the room. Another couple passionately kisses and hugs on a couch across the room, as jazz music plays.

MARIHUANA

The Alamosa Daily Courier, 1936

"... The people and officials here want to know why something can't be done about marihuana. The sheriff, district attorney, and city police are making every effort to destroy this menace. Our paper is carrying on an educational campaign to describe the weed and tell of its horrible effects..."

"I wish I could show you what a small marihuana cigaret can do to one of our degenerate Spanish-speaking residents. That's why our problem is so great; the greatest percentage of our population is composed of Spanish-speaking persons, most of who are low mentally, because of social and racial conditions.

"While marihuana has figured in the greater number of crimes in the past few years, officials fear it, not for what it has done, but for what it is capable of doing. They want to check it before an outbreak does occur. Did you read of the Drain murder case in Pueblo recently? Marihuana is believed to have been used by one of the bloody murderers."

(Floyd K. Baskette, City Editor)

Bill looks nervously at the make-out scene on the couch. He offers an ordinary tobacco cigarette to Blanche, seated next to him.

BLANCHE
(uninterested)
No thank you.

Bill lights the tobacco cigarette.

Mae enters into living room with tray of ready-rolled reefers.

MAE
Well, here they are.

BLANCHE
(perks)
Oh, thanks!



musicians, marihuana, seduction (I Was a Musician's Girl, 1954)

Blanche enthusiastically reaches for a reefer across Bill's bewildered face.

RALPH
(seated across the room)
Oh Mae, don't forget me!

MAE
(sourly)
I never forget you.

Mae hands Ralph a reefer.

Bill puffs on an ordinary tobacco cigarette.

BLANCHE
(taking Bill's cigarette, handing him a reefer)
Oh dear, if you want a good smoke, try one of these!



just wanted a 'good' smoke

Agnes puffs on her reefer, and smiles as if greatly enjoying it.



Agnes enjoys a reefer

BLANCHE

(to Bill, who isn't
smoking a reefer)
I thought you were a sport!

(strikes a match,
lights her reefer)
Of course, if you're afraid...

Bill warily eyes the marihuana cigarette, and - as if to prove he isn't afraid - puts it in his mouth.



succumbing to peer pressure

BLANCHE

(happily)

That's better! That's more
like it!

(lights Bill's
reefer)

I know you'll like it, really
you will. Just take a puff of
it.



laughing just a bit too much

Bill takes a puff as Ralph laughs maniacally, reefer in
hand.

12. EXT. - IN FRONT OF BOSS'S OFFICE - DAY

Boss's office is on a city street. Mary's car - a convertible with the top down - driven by Jimmy pulls up, and Jack gets out.

JACK

Just be a minute, kid.

JIMMY

(anxiously)

Hey Jack, give me a cigarette before you go, will you?

Jack warily gives him a reefer. Jimmy lights up while Jack enters the boss's office.



note Philip Morris (tobacco) ad in background



a Philip Morris cigarette ad, c. 1950



reefer-crazed youth behind the wheel (Federal Men, 1939)

13. INT. - INSIDE BOSS'S OFFICE - DAY



gangster Boss

Boss is totaling something on a large and noisy hand-cranked adding machine.

BOSS

Hello Jack.

JACK

Hi Boss.

BOSS

How's business?

JACK

Getting better every day.
Those kids sure go for it.

BOSS

Swell.

JACK

(counts money)
Had to run over for couple
more cartons. Ran short today.

BOSS

Uh huh.

Jack places some money on Boss's desk.

BOSS

(on the intercom)
Johnny - that's ten gross for
Jack Perry. Who? Pete Daley?
All right, send him in.
(to Jack)
It's all right, stay where you
are.

Jack opens door for Pete, who enters.

PETE

(to Boss)
I want to talk to you.

BOSS

(nods)
All right, go ahead. Jack's
OK. What's the beef?

PETE

Listen, you never
heard no beef when I
had to sell that
rotten gin.

BOSS

(putting away
the money)
You're after the
dough aren't ya?

PETE

Yeah, well I don't
need dough that
bad.

(disgusted)
Taking two-bit
pieces from kids!

BOSS

There are millions of two-bit
pieces just beggin' to be
taken. Don't be a dope.

PETE

I'm just DOPE enough to draw
the line selling hop to kids!



Takin' two-bit pieces from kids! (More
Fun comics, 1937)

BOSS

(in mock-
conciliation)

All right, Pete. You know what
my policy has always been. If
you boys are not satisfied,
I'm always glad to have 'em
retire... Retire,
"permanently".

So long.

Pete slowly leaves, but at the door, turns to Boss.



pushers like corrupting kids

PETE

I only wish you had a couple
of kids, so I could--

BOSS

Get out!

(to Jack)

All right Jack, pick up your
stuff and get out of here, it
ought to be ready by now.

JACK

Ok, Boss.

Boss resumes cranking his adding machine as Jack leaves.

14. EXT. - IN FRONT OF BOSS'S OFFICE - DAY

Jimmy, in the driver's seat, starts the car as Jack approaches. Jimmy drunkenly tosses his lit marihuana cigarette butt to the street.

JIMMY

(exhaling reefer
smoke, slurring
words)

Let's go Jack, I'm red hot!



reefer reckless



take dope, wreck car, kill people (Kerry Drake
Ace Detective, 1946)

JACK

Better be careful how you
drive, or the first thing you
know, you'll be ice cold.

Jimmy appears to pooh pooh the idea. The car starts back to Mae's apartment, speeding through a 1930's Los Angeles.

JACK

Take it easy, kid!

JACK

Slow down - you'll kill
somebody!



proof marihuana kills

Jimmy speeds on, running through a stop signal, striking down an upright citizen of the town. Jimmy doesn't slow down or stop for the elderly man who is left lying in the street. Concerned onlookers gather around the critically injured man, as the hit-and-run drivers keep going.



same dope-driver kills elderly theme (ONDCP, 2006)

Reefer Drivers Safer?

Marijuana causes car accidents - we assume. But does it really? Turns out, no. Unless the study is very carefully crafted, the study is likely to turn out just like these did:

``A study released by the UK Transport Research Laboratory in August 2000, which found that pot-smoking has a minimal if not beneficial effect on driving performance.

``A 1983 study by the US National Highway Transportation Safety Administration... concluded that the only statistically significant effect associated with marijuana use was slower driving.

``A comprehensive 1992 study by the NHTSA found that marijuana is rarely involved in driving accidents. It concluded that "the THC-only drivers had an [accident] responsibility rate below that of the drug free drivers"

``A massive 1998 study by the University of Adelaide... found that drivers with cannabis in their system were actually slightly less likely to cause accidents than those without.

``A University of Toronto study released in March 1999 found that moderate pot users typically refrained from passing cars and drove at a more consistent speed than non-users."

(Dana Larsen, Cannabis Culture, Dec. 2006)

15. INT. - BREAKFAST AT MARY LANE'S HOUSE - DAY

Mary eats her breakfast alone. Mrs. Lane enters the room with a plate of toast.

MRS. LANE
Mary, you're not eating your breakfast again. Bill Harper hasn't been around lately. Anything wrong between you two?

MARY
(crossly)
Why SHOULD there be anything wrong?



it must be the drugs (Trapped, 1951)

MRS. LANE
(soothing)
There shouldn't be I'm sure. And what ever it is, it isn't serious, I know.

MARY
I'm sorry Mother, for snapping at you like that.

MRS. LANE
Don't worry about it, dear. Why don't you speak frankly to Bill? He'll be honest, whatever the trouble is. I'm sure Bill Harper never lied about anything.

MARY
Yes, that's right. Bill's mother says he never lies.

MRS. LANE
There, you see?

MARY

You think it would be all
right, if I speak to him about
it?

MRS. LANE

Why, of course!

Jimmy enters room, looking guilty.

MRS. LANE

Oh Jimmy.
(kissing him)

JIMMY

Hello mom.

MRS. LANE

Sit down, darling, and I'll
have your breakfast for you in
a moment.

Jimmy sits at table. Mrs. Lane leaves room.

the movie appears to be broken and missing a few seconds here

MARY

... Jimmy!



what, me worry?

JIMMY

What have I got to worry about?

MARY

Why don't you tell me?

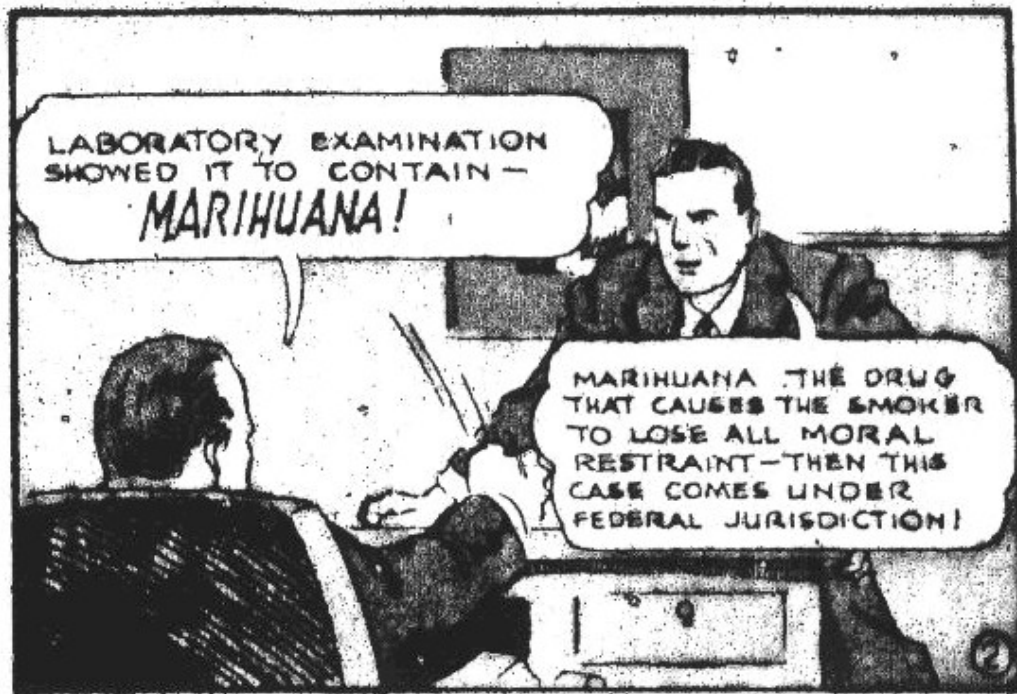
JIMMY

Oh for Pete's sake, don't start to cross examine me, will ya? I'm all right.

MARY

Jimmy! Don't let Mother see you like this!

Mrs. Lane enters room with Jimmy's breakfast, Jimmy straightens up. Mrs. Lane serves Jimmy breakfast.



secret police of central government will stop cannabis (Federal Men, 1939)

16. INT. - GOVERNMENT OFFICE - DAY

A big, important-looking, Government building.

Fade in to office door, plaque reading, FEDERAL OFFICES, Bureau Of Investigation. Fade in to inside of office where Dr. Carroll is sitting in front of a G-man, who is seated at a 1930's government desk.

DR. CARROLL

There is no doubt, that there is an organized gang, distributing the narcotic, to students. Not only in my school, but all over the city. You government men have got to find some way to put an end to it!



marihuana = DOPE

DOPE

``Some words trigger strong emotional responses in people. The word **dope** is one of them. This word is emphasized on the sound track. Though we are told that marijuana is not like other forms of "**dope**," the association is established." (Steven Jacobson, *Mind Control in America*, 1985)

MR. WYATT

Of course I agree with you, Dr. Carroll, but do you realize that marihuana is not like other forms of DOPE? You see it grows wild in almost every state of the union. Therefore, there is practically no interstate commerce in the drug. As a result, the government's hands are tied. And frankly,

the only sure cure, is a
widespread campaign in
education.

DR. CARROLL

Oh, its all right to talk
about education Mr Wyatt, but
we educators can't do anything
until the public is
sufficiently aroused.

MR. WYATT

Let me show you
something. In 1930,
the records on
marihuana in the
Washington office,
narcotics
division, scarcely
filled a small
folder like this.
Today, they fill
cabinets.



marihuana causes much mayhem

**READER'S DIGEST -
1938**

"Last year a young marijuana addict was hanged in Baltimore for criminal assault on a ten-year old girl. In Chicago, two marijuana-smoking boys murdered a policeman. In Florida, police found a youth staggering about in a human slaughterhouse. With an ax he had killed his father, mother, two brothers, and a sister. He had no recollection of having committed this multiple crime. Ordinarily a sane, rather quiet young man, he had become crazed from smoking marijuana. In at least two dozen comparatively recent cases of murder or degenerate sex attacks, marijuana proved to be a contributing cause." (*Marijuana - Assassin of Youth*, H. J. Anslinger)

Walks over to some filing
cabinets.

MR. WYATT

All these, devoted to
marihuana records.

Taking a folder, Mr Wyatt walks back to the desk with Dr. Carroll.

MR. WYATT

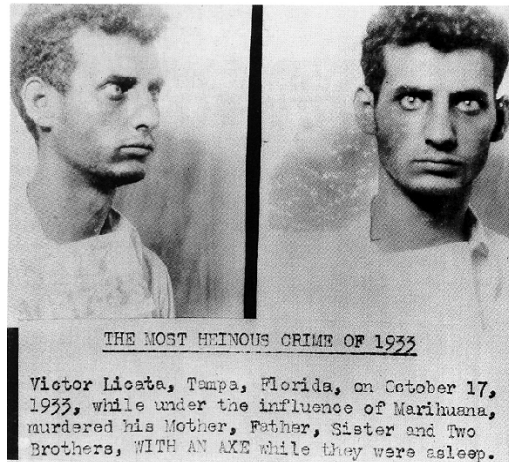
Here is an example. A sixteen year-old lad, apprehended in the act of staging a holdup. Sixteen years old, and a marihuana addict. Here is a most tragic case.

DR.
CARROLL

Yes, I remember. Just a young boy. Under the influence of the drug, he killed his entire family with an axe.

MR.
WYATT

Then there is the most vicious kind of case. Here.



oft-repeated marihuana axe-killer story

He hands Dr. Carroll a clipping.

MR. WYATT

In Michigan, a young girl, seventeen years old - a reefer smoker - taken in a raid in the company of five young men.

Dr. Carroll frowns.

MR. WYATT

Here is a particularly flagrant case.

Question: Why is being *in the company of five young men* more vicious than the psycho axe-killer case?

DR. CARROLL

Yes, I remember the newspapers made quite a play of it. In West Virginia, wasn't it?

MR. WYATT

Yes, and there are hundreds of them coming up, new ones every day.

DR.

CARROLL

I'd like to take these records, if I may. I feel they would be of invaluable assistance to me, in combating the evil in my school.

MR. WYATT

You're very welcome, Dr. Carroll.

DR. CARROLL

Thank you.



Dope and Crime, Hand in Hand (1935)



accidentally smoke marihuana, get hooked, go insane (I Was A Racket Girl, 1949)

58

17. INT. - PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

17. INT. - PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Bill enters. Dr. Carroll is seated at his desk.

DR. CARROLL

Sit down, Bill.

Bill sits.



Are you on drugs, Bill?

DR. CARROLL

There seems to be something wrong. What is it? You were always a fine student. You always had excellent grades.

BILL

Oh I guess the work is getting a little harder, Doctor Carroll.

DR. CARROLL

No. No, it isn't that. Bill, I'd like to help you. But of course I can't unless you let me. You're undermining your health.

BILL

No, there's nothing Doctor Carroll, really there isn't. I'll study harder, honest!

DR. CARROLL

Honest? If you were being honest with me and honest with yourself, I'm afraid you'd tell me an entirely different story. Bill, I'm, I'm going to ask you a straightforward question, and I'd like to have a straightforward answer.



Bill looks guilty

Bill avoids eye contact, looks away nervously.

BILL

Yes sir.

DR. CARROLL

Isn't it true that you have - perhaps unwillingly - acquired a certain harmful habit, through association with certain undesirable people?

Bill looks away, frowns, and wrings his hands.

DR. CARROLL

Well?

BILL

Oh, no sir, I haven't Doctor

Carroll. Well, that is, you see, I'm worried about something at home.



if you ever want to confide in me, no one will ever be the wiser

DR. CARROLL

All right my boy, we'll just have to let it go at that. But remember, if you ever want to confide in me, no one will ever be the wiser.

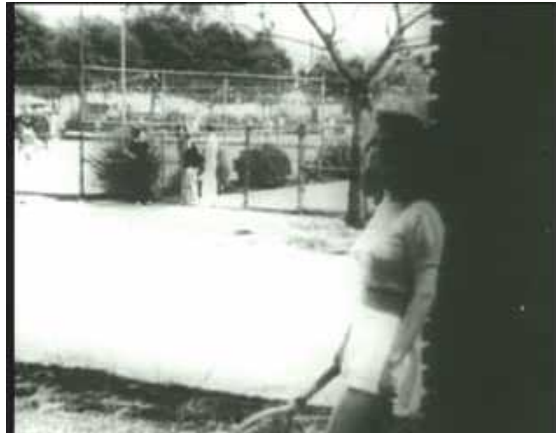
BILL

Thank you, Doctor Carroll.



bad kid corrupting a good kid with a reefer (Trapped, 1951)

18. EXT. - TENNIS COURT - DAY



I'm waiting for someone

Mary is dressed for tennis with racket in hand, waiting.
Kenny, also dressed for tennis and with racket, enters.

KENNY

Hello, Mary. You wanna play a set?

MARY

Thanks Kenny, but I'm waiting for someone.

KENNY

Well if you're waiting for Bill, he hasn't been here in weeks.

Mary, upset, quickly turns and stomps off.

**•BEWARE OF FELLOW STUDENTS
WHO DISPLAY THESE SYMPTOMS:
-LACK OF INTEREST IN SCHOOL
OR SPORTS.**

Rex Morgan MD, c.1948

19. INT. - MAE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Blanche, obviously high on reefer, dances in a drunken manner. Ralph and other kids are sitting. A stoned Bill is standing on the other side of the room, facing Blanche and smiling.

BLANCHE
Come on Jimmy, play
something hot!

Jimmy walks to piano with Agnes in tow and begins to play. Blanche dances and starts to shed clothing.



Come on Billy

BLANCHE
Come on Billy, dance with me!
Ah, ha ha ha!

An intoxicated Bill begins to dance with Blanche. They dance towards the bedroom.

In the kitchen, Mae fixes a drink. Jack enters, but peeks back at the scene in the living room.

JACK
Didn't take that new kid long
to catch on.

ASSASSIN OF YOUTH: MARIHUANA

"An ordinary man or woman will become, in the eyes of the marihuana addict, beautiful beyond compare. Sexual desire flames into fires of passion, undeniable, uncontrollable. The most debasing perversions are invited and practiced. This is true whether the users of the drug are school children meeting in basement rooms, or college youths in groups within or outside of the campus."

(Rev. Robert James Devine, 1943)

MAE
(pouring drink)
Don't take any of 'em long.

Jack walks to the refrigerator and pulls out some food.

MAE
Say, don't you ever get fed?

JACK
You're feeding me, can't you
see?
(Sits at table to
eat)
Get me a knife and fork, will
ya?

MAE
Get it yourself.

Back in the living room, Bill dances an intoxicated Blanche
back to the bedroom, as she laughs and doffs clothing.
Ralph, watching the couple dance from the living room,
remains seated, and smokes from his reefer, laughing madly.



Come on, Bill!

BLANCHE
Come on, Bill! Come on! Come
on!

In the bedroom, Blanche embraces Bill, and closes the door

with her foot behind her. As the piano dings in the background, the couple giggle and remove articles of Blanche's clothing.

She lays down on a divan, pulling Bill down with her.

BLANCHE

Come on! Come on...

Bill lays with her, embracing her. Bill's hand innocently goes around her, but Blanche places Bill's hand down there; just below where we can see.

Back in the living room, Jimmy is attempting to play the piano, while Agnes distracts him by kissing him. Ralph continues to smoke his reefer, ogling couples making out, cackling maniacally.



laughing too much, again



the way professionals test drug samples (Kerry Drake Ace Detective, 1946)

20. EXT. - MARY LANE'S HOUSE - DAY

Fade in to Mary Lane's front door, where two police investigators want to ask Mary some questions.

INVESTIGATOR

Morning, miss. We're from the Police Department.

MARY

Good morning.

INVESTIGATOR

We're tracing a hit and run driver. Someone caught the license number at the place of the accident but didn't get it quite right. And we're checking all numbers like it, and yours was one of them.

MARY

Well I'll try to help you.

INVESTIGATOR

Do you remember what you did on the 29th of last month?

MARY

Oh, that was the day before Mother's birthday.

Oh yes I remember that because I left school and went directly to the dress-maker's with Mother. I was there all afternoon.

INVESTIGATOR

Did you happen to loan your car to a couple of men?

MARY

(nervously)

No. No, I had the car all afternoon myself.



No, I had the car all afternoon

INVESTIGATOR

Well, thanks Miss, sorry to have troubled you.

MARY

Tell me, er, did they, was the person, killed?

INVESTIGATOR

Fortunately he wasn't, but that's still no excuse for hit and run driving.

They leave, and Mary, pensively, closes the door.



1930s readers couldn't escape the motif: smoke reefers, kill people (Federal Men, 1939)

21. INT. - MALT SHOP - DAY

Fade in to Mary, entering the empty Malt shop. She approaches the soda-jerk, Joe, who is cleaning glasses.

MARY

Had Jimmy Lane been here today?

JOE

(eyes Mary suspiciously)

He was in. He went over to Mae's place. You know where that is.

MARY

Well... he was going to wait for me here... So, he didn't, give me Mae's address. Are you sure Jimmy didn't leave any message for me - Mary?



he was going to wait for me here

JOE

No he didn't.

(eyes Mary)

But I guess you're OK. I'll write it down for you.

Joe jots down Mae's address for a nervous Mary.

22. INT. - MAE'S APARTMENT - DAY

The door-buzzer sounds. Ralph answers, and it is Mary.

RALPH

Mary!

He shakes her hand, pulling her in the apartment at the same time.

RALPH

Come right in!

MARY

Is Jimmy here?

RALPH

He's around somewhere, I, I think he went out to take Agnes home. He'll be right back. Come in and sit down Mary. And let me take your coat.

Fade in to kitchen, Jack and Mae are there.

MAE

Who's the new kid who just came in?

JACK

Oh it's that gal that Ralph has gone overboard for. It's funny, he hasn't been able to get her up here before.

Back in the living room with Ralph and Mary, Mary is looking around for the first time. Ralph whispers to passed-out couple on the couch.

RALPH

(whispering to
groggy couple)

Hey! Hey! Scram, will ya?

The sleepy make-out couple obediently leaves. Ralph joins Mary who is sitting on the couch.

Ralph slyly takes a reefer - disguised as an ordinary smoke, and lights it. He exhales a cloud of smoke which passes in front of Mary's face. He hands her a reefer. Mary is pensively staring off in the distance.

RALPH
Smoke, Mary?

MARY
Thanks.

Ralph carefully observes Mary as she taps the cigarette on the back of her hand, as if it were an ordinary tobacco one.

MARY
(looking
away,
distracted)
Are you sure
Jimmy will be
back soon?

RALPH
(striking a match)
Sure, any minute.



Mary smokes marihuana (posed publicity still used in Look magazine, 1938)

Mary lights her smoke, and inhales, seemingly not noticing that this is a dread marihuana reefer, and not a tobacco-filled cigarette. She puffs a few times. Ralph watches Mary, waiting for the drug to take effect. Mary puffs away, distracted.

Back in the bedroom, Blanche is wakening from a post-romp slumber. A remorseful Bill stares out the window, away from Blanche. Both look like they have fallen asleep with their clothes on. Blanche stretches, revealing she's down to her slip, Bill's bow-tie is undone. Bill looks at Blanche and puts his head in his hands.

Back to the living room, where Mary is now giggling from the marihuana. She tosses her reefer, and giggles. Ralph hands her his and she giggles again.

Meanwhile, into the kitchen with Mae and Jack. Jack pours Mae a bit from a bottle of booze. Mae has a lit cigarette.

HE DREW ON THE REEFER AND HELD TIGHT, WHILE THE SMOKE SCRATCHED MY LUNGS LIKE TINY, SCAMPERING FEET. THEN, I FELT THE LIGHTNESS AND THE STRIDENT CHORDS FROM THE BAND SUDDENLY BECAME LIKE THE GOLDEN TONES FROM A SINGING HARP!



teaching girls to take drugs (I Was a Musician's Girl, 1954)

MAE

(eyeing the puny shot)

Say, what's the matter, an orphan?

RALPH

(filling the glass)

Where do you put it, you got a hollow leg?

MAE

(tipsily)

Thank you.

Mary (with Ralph in the living room), puts out the reefer she's holding, and holds her head.

RALPH

(taking her arm)

How do you feel, Mary?

He puts his arm around her. Mary pushes him away.

RALPH

(persistently)

Oh Mary.

He forces himself on her, but she struggles.

MARY
(trying to get away)
No. No! No, stop it! Stop!
Stop!

Ralph is practically on top of her, holding her down.

MARY
(trying harder to
get away)
No! Leave me alone! Leave me
alone!

She struggles, but Ralph won't stop.

Back to the bedroom, a groggy and
stoned Bill stumbles to the door.

In the living room.

MARY
(struggling)
No! Leave me alone!

RALPH
(forcing her)
It's all right,
Mary!



marihuana causes kids to commit
crime (Yankee Boy, 1945)

Ralph continues to forcefully hold
Mary as she struggles. He begins to unzip her dress.

MARY
(screams)
Aaaa!

Bill stumbles out of the bedroom and sees the two
struggling.

Fade in to scene in Bill's imagination. In Bill's blurry
imagination, Mary is unzipping her dress and happily
submitting to Ralph. Bill goes in and out of focus as he
imagines Mary is stripping for Ralph. Bill (due to the
marihuana) somehow can't see that Ralph is forcing himself
on poor Mary, who is screaming and violently struggling to
get free.

Bill stumbles over and grabs Ralph, and Ralph and Bill begin to fight.

From the kitchen, Jack hears the commotion, grabs his pistol from his jacket, and enters the fracas in the living room. Jack grabs Bill. As Bill and Jack wrestle, the gun goes off.



Message: marihuana kills.

Mary has been fatally wounded and lies dead, a neat bullet hole in her back (coincidentally where her dress was unzipped and pulled down by Ralph): the bullet has pierced Mary's heart.



Modern prohibitionist propaganda employs time-tested technique and imagery. In this 2006 ONDCP ad, parents are informed marijuana kills

Bill and Jack continue to struggle until Jack pistol-whips Bill and knocks Bill out. Blanche and Mae look on.

BLANCHE
(looking at Mary)
Ralph, Ralph! Look!

RALPH
Jack, is she all right?

JACK
(examines Mary's
body, then pauses)
She's dead.

Mae and Blanche visibly recoil from the news.

JACK
(thinking)
Mae, get me some water.

Mae exits.



marihuana killed Mary



Marihuana: Drug Inspired Crime

JACK

(to Ralph and
Blanche)

Now listen you two, I want you
to get out of here. Get out of
here and forget you were ever
in here today. I'll handle
this. Now get going!

Blanche and Ralph exit.

Jack takes his pistol, wipes it with his handkerchief, and -
kneeling next to a still knocked-out Bill - places the gun
in Bill's hand. Mae arrives with the water.

JACK

(taking the pitcher
of water)

Give it to me.

Jack sprinkles some water on Bill's face, and Bill starts to
awaken.

JACK

Here.

Jack gives the pitcher back to Mae, and helps a groggy Bill
back to his feet. Bill is holding the gun now, but doesn't
know it. Jack points Bill at Mary's lifeless body.

BILL

Mary!

Bill looks down at his hand, which is holding the gun. He drops the gun in bewilderment and crouches next to Mary's body.

BILL

(gently shakes her)

Mary!

BILL

(to Jack)

What happened?

JACK

You killed her.

Bill breaks down and begins to weep over Mary. Jack and Mae step back as Bill cries.

JACK

(To Mae)

Look. After I scam, you call the cops. And this is your story, remember it. These two kids came up here for a couple of beers. You were out in the kitchen, you heard the shot. When you got in here, that's what you found. Just stick to that story.

BILL

(cradling Mary's lifeless head)

Mary! Mary... speak to me!
Mary!

ASSASSIN OF YOUTH: MARIHUANA

"I have received from Mr. Harry Anslinger, Federal Commissioner of Narcotics, Washington, up to the minute lists of crimes committed by marihuana users. They include the most brutal, the most fiendish, the most horrible crimes listed in the records of the F. B. I. So much is this so, that the weed has become known to the G-Men as "The Killer Drug". Among its many names is one which bears out this evil reputation..." (Rev. Robert James Devine, 1943)

23. INT. - MALT SHOP - DAY



the malt shop, where the marihuana mob wrecks young lives (publicity still)

A somber piano piece piano piece is playing. Jack enters, looks around, and heads for Jimmy's booth where Jimmy is with some cheerful kids. Jack taps Jimmy on the shoulder. Jimmy startles when he sees Jack. Jack signals Jimmy, and they move to a private booth.

JIMMY

(looking around
nervously)

Hello, Jack.

JACK

I was just talking to a friend
of mine. A cop. A sergeant on
the homicide squad. That guy
you hit that day, died.



just talking to a friend

Jack looks at a worried Jimmy.

JIMMY

Died? You - I mean, you
didn't--

JACK

No. I didn't crack, and I'm
not going to. Nobody will ever
know you were driving that
car.

JIMMY

Thanks Jack--

JACK

Just as long as you keep your
mouth shut you were ever at
Mae's apartment.

JIMMY

Why sure Jack, sure.

JACK

O. K.

Fade in newspaper headline: HARPER MARIHUANA SLAYING TRIAL
OPENS.

24. INT. - COURTROOM - DAY

Fade in to courtroom.

DEFENSE
ATTORNEY

Your Honor, I'd
like to recall
Doctor Alfred
Carroll to the
stand.

JUDGE
Call Doctor Alfred
Carroll to the
stand.

Dr. Carroll sits in the witness
booth.

DEFENSE
ATTORNEY

Doctor Carroll, as
Principal of the
Lakeside High
School, did you,
during the last
three months,
notice any changes
in the demeanor and
attitude of your
student, William
Harper?

REEFER MADNESS - 2005

They're still at it, even after all these years. This is from a recent government-sponsored anti-marijuana ad.

``Depression. Suicidal Thoughts. Schizophrenia. If you have outdated perceptions about marijuana, you might be putting your teen at risk. New research is giving us better insight into the serious consequences of teen marijuana use, especially how it impacts mental health.

``Did you know that young people who use marijuana weekly have double the risk of depression later in life?

``And that teens aged 12 to 17 who smoke marijuana weekly are three times more likely than non-users to have suicidal thoughts?

``And if that's not bad enough, marijuana use in some teens has been linked to increased risk for schizophrenia in later years.

``Today's teens are smoking a more potent drug..."

(Marijuana And Your Teen's Mental Health, U. S. Office of National Drug Control Policy)



errors in time and space

DR. CARROLL

Yes, in a number of things. For example, at times, dissociation of ideas. In uh, another instance, I happened to attend the recent interscholastic tennis matches. And while Bill Harper, had been considered an exceedingly good player, I saw him miss the ball by as much as three or four feet. This I understand could be attributed to the use of marihuana. It causes errors in time and space.

PROSECUTOR

Objection your honor! The witness isn't qualified to express opinions upon the effects of narcotics.

JUDGE

Sustained. Doctor Carroll has been called merely as a character witness.

DEFENSE

Well then, although you didn't know with your own knowledge that the defendant was using marihuana, did you notice any changes that would lead you to

believe (as an educator) that he was under some severe mental strain might might possibly have be induced by some drug?

DR. CARROLL

Yes, I recall distinctly a few weeks ago. It was during a class of English Literature. There was a serious discussion of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, when he suddenly burst into an uncontrollable fit of hysterical laughter.

Bill's parents watch the proceedings apprehensively.

DEFENSE

By the way, Doctor Carroll. Six months ago, what would have been your opinion regarding the character of my client?

DR. CARROLL

He was a fine upstanding American boy: a good scholar; a good athlete, and representative of the caliber of young men we are proud to graduate from our school.



foreign pusher corrupting kids - away from wholesome athletics (Rex Morgan MD, c.1948)

25. INT. - APARTMENT 32 - DAY

In a new, smaller "hide-out" -type apartment, Ralph sits nervously smoking a reefer and talking to Blanche.

BLANCHE

(to Ralph)

Oh, snap out of it, will ya?

(thinking out loud)

Not our fault. Why'd I ever
bring him up there, anyway?
He's just a kid. Can't hang
him.



Shut up, shut up!

RALPH

(exhaling smoke,
with maniacal look)

Shut up, shut up!

BLANCHE

Why don't you let yourself go?
Talk! Go off your nut, and
have me that way too. It was
his own fault, wasn't it?

RALPH

(exhaling
smoke, with
crazed look)

Shut up! They've
got us hidden out,
haven't they? The
cops can't find us.

Mae looks and listens from the
next room. Jack is stretched out
on a cot reading a paper.

MAE

(hushed, to
Jack)

Jack! Jack, I want
to get out of here.

JACK

You're gonna stay
here just as long
as we have to keep
those two under
cover. 'Til the
trial's over - or
the boss gets a
better idea.

MAE

But they're getting
on my nerves!

JACK

It can't last much
longer. I'm not
worried about her.
We gotta keep him
gagged.

MAE

Oh, he's about
ready to crack.

JACK

All you gotta do is keep him
from having too many reefers.

Reefer Madness, 2008

`` Speaking of old prohibitionist tricks, [propagandists today are] not above scare tactics reminiscent of the "reefer madness" claims that Federal Bureau of Narcotics Director Harry J. Anslinger promoted in the 1930s. "Recent studies indicate that marijuana use increases the likelihood of depression, schizophrenia, and other serious mental health problems," [one prohibitionist] writes. These studies do not show that smoking pot makes you crazy; they show that people who smoke pot, especially if they do so at early ages and in large amounts, are more likely to have "serious mental health problems."...

`` In other words, these studies find associations, which, as [prohibitionist Joseph] Califano notes vis-a-vis the data on gateway drugs, "do not necessarily establish causality." It could be that people with psychological problems are especially attracted to marijuana because it makes them feel better, or because they tend to act out or take risks; early use of marijuana could be a marker for psychological problems rather than a cause of them." (*No Bad Drugs - The arbitrary distinctions at the root of prohibition; Jacob Sullum, 2008, Reason.com*)

MAE

Any day now that punk'll get hot. He'll probably spill and tell all he knows if he gets a chance.

JACK

(rising to his feet)
I don't think he'll get it.



don't think he'll get it

(donning jacket)
I'll see you later.

MAE

Where are you going?

JACK

I'm gonna see the boss.

Jack exits as Mae primps in a mirror.



police may beat people, as long as it is for drugs (Shake Down - Racket Squad, c.1940)

26. INT. - BOSS'S OFFICE - DAY

Boss is seated. Jack enters.

BOSS
Hello Jack.

JACK
Hello Boss.

Jack sits in a chair in front of boss's desk.

JACK
What are we gonna do about that Wiley guy?

BOSS
Still jittery, huh?

JACK
I don't know what the punk's gonna do.

BOSS
Keep feeding him those hop sticks.

JACK
That's what Mae's been doing. That's no good. I've gotta hunch he's due to crack when that Harper verdict comes in. If he's on the tea, he's liable to take a powder on us, and blow his top to the D.A.



the marihuana mob boss - a stock character (Satan's Cigarettes, c.1940)



reefer jitters (Hopped Up Killer, c. 1935)

BOSS

You mean we'd all be better off if he never, uh, heard the verdict?

Jack nods.

BOSS

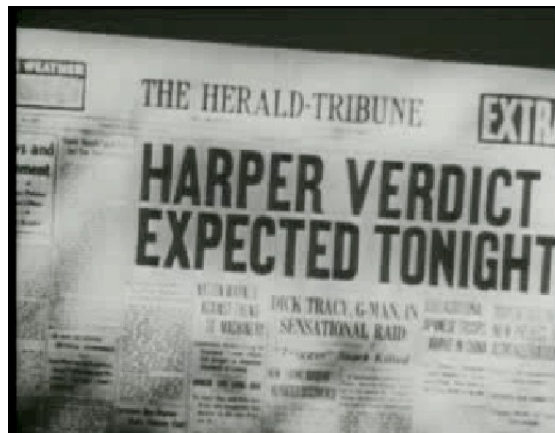
Well, what are you waiting for?

Jack makes an O.K. sign, and winks.



mobster says OK to murder

Newspaper headline, "HARPER VERDICT EXPECTED TONIGHT".



Bill's show-trial continues

27. INT. - COURTROOM - DAY

Fade in to courtroom, where the prosecutor is making his final summation to the jury.



prosecutor

PROSECUTOR

You ladies and gentlemen of the jury, have a duty to perform; a duty to yourselves, and to our community. Mary Lane is dead.

The jury recoils at the word "dead".

PROSECUTOR

The evidence you've heard at this trial, could not have failed to convince you of the guilt of the defendant.

(pointing at Bill)

By his own admission, he pressed the trigger of the weapon that sent lovely and innocent Mary Lane to a tragic and untimely death.

A grieving Mrs. Lane is in the courtroom, sobbing into a handkerchief.



Mrs. Lane

PROSECUTOR

We are not so much concerned about the motives behind the deed, as to the deed itself. While the defendant has told you that he saw someone attacking Mary Lane, and that his mind went blank from that moment on, the defense has been unable to produce one witness to substantiate that statement. Now ladies and gentlemen of the jury, you've heard able men testify at this trial. Men who were proud to bring out the fact that the defendant might have become momentarily insane when he fired the shot that killed Mary Lane. But the defense has been unable to prove that he was insane. William Harper was sane when he visited the apartment where the tragedy occurred. He was in the habit of visiting the place. He was sane when he went to bed with another young women.

Bill attempts to hide his face. His lawyer gently pulls him up to face the prosecutor.

PROSECUTOR

You've all heard what went on in that room. You heard it from the defendant's own lips. Involved, as he was, in a tawdry love affair, Mary Lane was in the way. She had found him out. In a moment of anger, he deliberately and willfully, killed her. If such deeds are permitted to go unpunished, this community would cease to be a decent and safe place for us or our children to live. I do not believe I need to plead, or even demand, that you bring in a verdict to punish the defendant for the crime he has committed against society. You are upright citizens. That is why you were chosen to judge another. And as honest, upright citizens, there is only one verdict which you could find. And that is, a verdict of guilty!

CLERK

(not seen)

And this court will be adjourned until the jury's verdict is reached.

SMOKING JUST ONE CANNABIS JOINT

Raises Danger Of Mental Illness By 40%

"A single joint of cannabis raises the risk of schizophrenia by more than 40 per cent, a disturbing study warns.

"The Government-commissioned report has also found that taking the drug regularly more than doubles the risk of serious mental illness. . .

"Cannabis has been implicated in a string of vicious killings, including the recent stabbing of fashion designer Lucy Braham. . .

"William Jaggs, a 23-year-old Oxford University student and prolific cannabis user, stabbed fashion designer Lucy Braham 66 times at her home near Harrow, the public school in North-West London.

"The paranoid schizophrenic was found covered in blood beside Lucy's body, having plunged the knife into his own chest last September" (*The Daily Mail*, 26th July 2007)

28. INT. - JURY ROOM - DAY

Jurors are seated about a table.

JUROR1

I suppose you all feel the same about this case.

JUROR2

But he might have been insane when he did it--

JUROR3

No he wasn't.

JUROR1

He knew what he was doing.

JUROR2

But, supposing he was insane?

JUROR1

You'll never get me to believe it nor anybody else. We'll take a first vote.



swinging hypnotic pendulum

Reefer Madness Hypnosis

``In 1936, a movie used hypnotic suggestion to give the audience instructions to do something. That movie was 'Reefer Madness.'

``Shown widely on college campuses and at midnight screenings across the country since 1972, **'Reefer Madness' uses sophisticated hypnotic techniques to both encourage marijuana use and promote anti-marijuana legislation.**

``There is even a scene with a *swinging hypnotic pendulum!*...

Jurors write something on small sheets of paper, hand them to Juror1.

JUROR1

(opens, examines
sheets of paper)
Eleven for conviction, one for
acquittal.

JUROR2

But there's a reasonable doubt
about the boy's sanity. We
can't--

A cord for a pull cord lamp
situated over the table swings
pendulously.

JUROR1

No doubt about the
fact that he
murdered her. He
admitted it
himself. That
wasn't the first
time he was there.



pendulum, noose

The (hypnotically) swinging cord fades into a swinging
hangman's noose.

JUROR1

We gotta make an example,
before boys like that
contaminate all of our

``...Why are there conflicting
messages in the movie?

``Why was hypnosis used in this
movie and with such a high level
of sophistication? The answers
are within the movie.

``These 'news' accounts were
planted by the Federal Bureau of
Narcotics. Of seventeen articles
condemning marijuana that
appeared in popular magazines
from July 1937 to June 1939, ten
either acknowledged the help of
the Bureau in furnishing facts
and figures or gave evidence of
having received help."

``The Bureau's influence in these
articles is found in repeated
'atrocities' stories that were first
reported by the Bureau. These
same stories appeared in *Reefer
Madness*." (Steven Jacobson,
1985)

Juror1 stares in the
direction of the swinging
cord, a portrait of George
Washington off to the right.

children. We can't have every
murderer hiding behind the
guise that he's insane.



upright lady jurors ready to hang Bill

Two upright lady jurors nod in agreement.

One lady writes "guilty" - dotting the "i" and crossing the
"t" of the word.

JUROR1

Sure they see red before they
kill somebody. But who's fault
is it?

Juror Power

If you find yourself on a jury one day, remember that if you don't like **the law itself**, you can acquit, and you don't owe anyone an explanation. Most judges don't like it, but since the English Magna Carta of 1215, jurors are judge of the law itself, and may vote as they choose.

''Jurors should acquit, even against the judge's instruction... if exercising

their judgment with discretion and honesty they have a clear conviction the charge of the court is wrong." -- Alexander Hamilton, 1804

''If a juror accepts as the law that which the judge states, then the juror has accepted the exercise of absolute authority of a government employee and has surrendered a power and right that once was the citizen's safeguard of liberty." --

Justice Theophilus Parsons, 1788

''I consider trial by jury as the only anchor ever yet imagined by man, by which a government can be held to the principles of its constitution." -- Thomas Jefferson, in a letter to Thomas Paine, 1789

(For more about jury power, see **FIIA.org**. The situation is similar in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the U.K.)

29. INT. - COURTROOM - DAY

The reading of the verdict. The jurors file in the jury box.

JUDGE

Have you reached a verdict?

JUROR1

We have.

JUDGE

The defendant will rise.

Bill stands.

JUDGE

What is your verdict?



GUILTY!

JUROR1

We find the defendant guilty
as charged.

MRS. HARPER

No!

(sobs)

In the courtroom, Mae is in attendance.

30. INT. - APARTMENT 32 - NIGHT

A somewhat disheveled Ralph - darkened eyes - is pacing nervously, Blanche is playing a stormy piano piece.

RALPH

Stop that racket. Stop it!

BLANCHE

What's the matter with you?
You give me the creeps.

Ralph, looking crazy, laughs a demented laugh, notices the empty box of reefers.

RALPH

Mae. Mae!

Mae enters.

MAE

What do you want?

RALPH

(madly)

Bring me some reefers!

Mae reluctantly leaves to get some. Blanche resumes playing, as Ralph paces nervously.

RALPH

They're going to hang him.
(almost crying)

Blanche, they're going to hang
him!

BLANCHE

Aw come on, get a hold of
yourself.

Mae enters with the reefers.

MAE

Here ya are.

Ralph's attention focused on box of reefers, he grabs one, laughing maniacally. He lights it.

MAE
Now quit that crazy
laughing!

RALPH
Where's Jack? I
want to get out of
here.

MAE
They'll pick you up
and hang you, if
you don't pipe
down.

RALPH
I wanna see Jack.
Jack. I wanna see
Jack. Jack...

MAE
(to Blanche)
You better quiet
him.

BLANCHE
I can't do anything
with him.

Ralph sits and puffs the reefer,
laughing in a crazy manner.

RALPH
(thinking)
I've gotta see Jack. We can't
let that kid hang.
(begins to weep)

MAE
He'll be here, don't worry,
he'll be here in a little
while.

RALPH
I've got to see him. I've got
to see him.

MARIJUANA: SATANIC REPTILES - 2008

"Over the last ten years I have registered more than 50 murders - many of them very extreme - with a cannabis user as perpetrator.

"Several of these have been thoroughly described and discussed in media - but never with questions if the documented cannabis use might have made these murderers go berserk.

"Many of the cases are extra extreme. Young men - and also a woman - have killed a brother, a sister, a parent or a grandparent. Others have performed a massacre shooting in central Stockholm; murderers have stabbed victims repeatedly with knives, sabres, harpoons... Murders have dismembered victims... Murderers have claimed that have acted on command from hallucinatory reptiles or from Satan."
(Prohibitionist Allan Rubin,
EURAD Advisory Board)

Mae walks over to Blanche, and motions for Blanche to begin playing the piano again. She begins a stormy, dramatic piece. Ralph looks distressed and sobs.

RALPH
(sobbing)

Oh!

Blanche stops playing and goes over to Ralph.

BLANCHE
Don't worry darling,
everything will be over soon.

She kisses him on the cheek.

BLANCHE
You want me to play something
for you?

RALPH
Yeah. Yeah, that's it. Play
something.

BLANCHE
All right. Come on.

Blanche leads Ralph to the piano and begins to play, as Ralph smokes a reefer.

BLANCHE
Honey, give me a smoke, will
ya?

He lights another reefer and hands it to her. She inhales and kisses him. She begins to play again, as he smokes.

RALPH
(maniacal look)
Faster. Faster!

She begins to bring up the tempo.



play it faster

RALPH
(maniacally)
Play it faster!
Faster! Play it
faster.

RALPH
(fingers
twitching)
Faster.

Blanche, with wild look, and reefer in mouth, plays it faster. Ralph, smoking, seems to be maniacally enraptured with the music.



playing it faster

MARIJUANA, "HOT" MUSIC

"Among those who first introduced it there were musicians, who had brought the habit northward with the surge of "hot" music demanding players of exceptional ability, especially in improvisation. Along the Mexican border and in seaport cities it had been known for some time that the musician who desired to get the "hottest" effects from his playing often turned to marijuana for aid. One reason was that marijuana has a strangely exhilarating effect upon the musical sensibilities . . .

"The musician who uses "reefers" finds that the musical beat seemingly comes to him quite slowly, thus allowing him to interpolate any number of improvised notes with comparative ease. While under the influence of marijuana, he does not realize that he is **tapping the keys, with a furious speed impossible for one in a normal state of mind**; marijuana has stretched out the time of the music until a dozen notes may be crowded into the space normally occupied by one." (*Harry J. Anslinger, The American Magazine, July 1937*)

Tossing his (lit) reefer (on the carpet) he holds his head with his hands, thinking. Ralph hears Jack enter the apartment. Blanche stops playing as Jack enters.

RALPH
(standing,
facing Jack)
I know what you
want. You want to
kill me.

JACK
You're crazy. Take
it easy kid. I just
want to talk to
you.



he knows what they want

MARIHUANA - DEVELOPER OF CRIMINALS

"In many respects, the action of cannabis sativa is similar to that of alcohol or morphine. Its toxic effects are ecstasy, merriment, uncontrollable laughter. . .

"Large doses produce excitement, delusions hallucinations, rapid flow of ideas, a high state of ecstasy, psychomotor activity with a tendency to willful damage and violence, and a temporary amnesia of all that has transpired. . .

"It is commonly used as an aphrodisiac, and its continued use leads to impotency. . .

"It is an ideal drug to quickly cut off inhibitions."

*(Marihuana Tax Act of 1937,
statement of Eugene Stanley,
district attorney, New Orleans,
La.)*

Jack begins to pull a pistol out of his jacket. But Ralph is ready with a fireplace poker, and proceeds to bash Jack over the head. Jack falls, but Ralph continues to beat him with the fireplace poker, over and over. Blanche crazily cries. Mae enters, and screams. Blanche screams and crazily cries/laughs. Ralph madly continues to beat a now thoroughly-dead Jack.

Downstairs, the apartment manager lady calls the police.

MANAGER LADY

Hurry! Hurry!
There's a terrible
fight going on!
Yes, yes. Apartment
thirty two.



reefer madness

Back upstairs, Blanche comforts a deranged Ralph, who is still holding the fireplace poker. Police enter the apartment. Blanche tries to run, but Ralph just sits, holding the fireplace poker, staring. The police grab Blanche.

BLANCHE

Stop it! Stop it! Get off of
me! Get your hands off of me!
Stop it! Take your hands off
me! Stop it!



marihuana caused their madness (publicity still)

Cops exit with Blanche, Ralph, and Mae.

31. INT. - POLICE INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

The police interrogation room is dark, except for a single lamp. Mae is under the lamp, getting the third degree from two cigar-smoking cops. Montage of clips of Mae getting the third degree, with voice-overs of cops.



Mae gets the third degree

MAE

Give me a glass of water.

TOUGH COP

Who's behind you?

MAE

No, no, no!

TOUGH COP

You'll hang if you don't talk.
Who is Jack Perry? Are you
ready to tell what you know?

MAE

Yes! I'll talk.

Cops allow Mae some water.



police grab Boss

A short "calling all cars" 1920's montage of a police dispatcher talking into some big, important-looking 1920's style radio equipment. Wailing sirens follow. Clips of 1920's police motorcycles and 1920's police cars are shown. Appears to be stock footage thrown together.

A policeman slowly breaks down door with an axe. Boss is inside. Boss reaches (slowly) for a gun, but police grab Boss and take him without violence. On go the handcuffs.

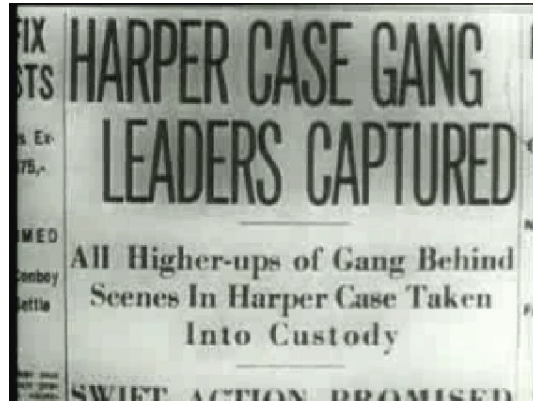


Marihuana: One Place to Get Tough (1935)

The Myth: Drugs are produced somewhere and smuggled to our shores by drug lords and gangs of bad people. Therefore if we get the "gang leaders" of "organized crime" into "custody" then the supply will be cut off, so we can save our children, etc.

The Reality: While organized gangs and drug lords do exist, drugs are like tomatoes. There are tomato farmers, there are really big tomato farmers, and there are lots of mom and pops growing a relatively few tomatoes. There's no "head" to cut off that will ever stop drug producers, any more than arresting tomato farmers will ever stop tomatoes. If only real life were so tidy as the movies, the *dread marijuana* would have been victoriously uprooted by drug warriors years ago. Yet no matter how big the drug bust, "the supply" is never dried up.

Newspaper headline: "HARPER CASE GANG LEADERS CAPTURED - All Higher-ups Of Gang Behind Scenes In Harper Case Taken Into Custody - SWIFT ACTION PROMISED".



All Higher-ups Of Gang ... Captured

Fade in to door plaque reading: "JUDGE'S CHAMBER".



In the movies and comics, government can make marihuana go away by arresting 'The Big Connection'. In real life, marijuana prohibition keeps cannabis away from people, about as well as the prohibition of alcohol stopped people from drinking. Prohibitionists, like Gabby and Kerry Drake Ace Detective (1949) above, are sure they know how to stop marihuana.

32. INT. - JUDGE'S CHAMBER - DAY

The judge, Blanche, and some lawyers are seated around a table.

LAWYER

If we can gain some measure of leniency for my client, she is prepared to enter a plea of guilty, and, in addition, turn state's evidence in the case of William Harper.

JUDGE

I regret that this court is not prepared, to bargain with justice.

BLANCHE

(rises to her feet,
determined)

I'll tell anyway. I was there. I saw it. I know who killed Mary. And I'll tell you who killed Mary Lane. It wasn't Bill. It was Jack. Jack Perry. He shot Mary then he put the gun in Bill's hand. We were all up at the apartment one afternoon, and Mary came in looking for her brother. Bill and I, we'd been in another room. And Bill came in, he caught Ralph with Mary so he started to fight. But it was Jack who had the gun. He was gonna hit Bill over the

Bargaining With Justice Today

If courts in the 1930's weren't prepared to bargain with justice, courts today readily do it.

Mandatory sentencing laws let prosecutors call the shots, which judges then rubber-stamp.

"Mandatory sentencing eliminates the independent exercise of authority by judges in criminal cases. Nuremberg prosecutors condemned elimination of judges' independence and entered mandatory sentencing as part of the evidence of crimes against humanity," writes historian Richard Miller. "Upon conviction, **under mandatory sentencing judges must obey the sentencing decision of the prosecutor, who prearranges the sentence** by fine tuning the indictment. ..**Plea bargains** are another method of compelling self-incrimination. If an accused person will confess to a crime, perhaps even a crime that was not committed, other charges are dropped. Mandatory sentencing laws expedite the plea bargain process."

(Richard Miller, *Drug Warriors and their Prey*, 1996)

head with it to make him stop.
And then, then the gun went
off.

(emotional,
almost
weeping)
I saw it. I can see
it now! It was
horrible! And,
before we knew it,
Mary was, Mary was,
dead!

(sits)
But you see, Judge,
Bill didn't know
that he hadn't
killed Mary. He was
so doped up they
made him think he
had. Ralph wanted
to tell you too.

(weeping)
Oh, if they'd only
let him! But this
is the truth, Judge. I'm
telling you the truth. After
Jack saw that Mary was dead,
he put the gun in Bill's hand!
It was Jack's fault. And it
was my fault too. I got all of
'em to come up to the
apartment. I'm just as much to
blame. I am.

(really blubbering
now)
I am!

JUDGE

Do I understand you wish to
plead guilty to a charge of
fostering moral delinquency
in the case of William Harper?

1938 - DANGEROUS MARIHUANA

"The smoking of marihuana by adolescents is more widespread than most people realize. It has become a new fad, appealing to the curiosity and recklessness of youth. The greed of unscrupulous peddlers, the immense profits, the cheap price for which a marihuana cigarette retails, and the availability of supply from a plant that grows wild almost everywhere are all contributory reasons for its prevalent use. If the abuse of this narcotic drug is not stamped out at once, the cost in crime waves, wasted human lives, and insanity will be enormous." (*Frederick T. Merrill, American Journal of Nursing*)



marihuana tragedy

BLANCHE
(loudly blubbering)
Yes, yes, I'm guilty, I am!

JUDGE
(to clerk)
Prepare a statement for
signature, and also an order,
setting aside the verdict in
the case of The People versus
William Harper.
(to Blanche and her
lawyer)
In the interests of justice, I
shall direct a verdict of not
guilty.

Clerk types, hands papers to Judge, who hands papers to
Blanche.

JUDGE
Sign here, please.

Blanche rises and signs the papers.

JUDGE
You shall be brought into
court on Thursday, the
seventeenth when sentence
will be pronounced.
Meanwhile, you will be held as
a material witness in the case
of The People versus Ralph
Wiley.

Blanche is led out of the room by a prison matron. Taking Blanche by the arm, the prison matron and Blanche slowly make their way down the hall. But seeing a window at the end of the hall, Blanche escapes the prison matron, and hurls herself through the window to her death. Blanche's body lies on the sidewalk.



Marihuana-induced defenestration. It was difficult for Americans to have missed this type of scary sensationalism about cannabis (publicity still used in Look Magazine, 1938)

READER'S DIGEST - 1938

"Not long ago the body of a young girl lay crushed on the sidewalk after a plunge from a Chicago apartment window. Everyone called it suicide, but actually it was murder. The killer was a narcotic known to America as marijuana, and to history as hashish. Used in the form of cigarettes, it is comparatively new to the United States and as a coiled rattlesnake.

"Without hesitancy she walked to a window and leaped to her death. Thus madly can marijuana "solve" one's difficulties.

"How many murders, suicides, robberies and maniacal deeds it causes each year, especially among the young, can only be conjectured. In numerous communities it thrives almost unmolested, largely because of official ignorance of its effects."

(Marijuana - Assassin of Youth, H. J. Anslinger)

PRISON MATRON

(looks out the window, screams)

Aaaa!

REEFER LEAPER

"ON AUGUST 4, 1940, a hotel room in Spokane, Washington was turned into a shambles by a ruthless slayer. An old harmless man was battered to death - so battered that his body was

almost unidentifiable. The murderer, 26-year old Joseph Mines, after committing the crime, leaped to an alley about 30 feet below without injury. It was revealed that a short time prior to the crime

Mines had smoked two marijuana cigarettes. He claimed at his trial that they had crazed him and that he had no memory of the deed."

(The WOMAN with woman's Digest, 1942)

33. INT. - COURTROOM, JUDGE'S BENCH - DAY

The judge is seated at his bench. Bill, his defense attorney, and the Prosecutor are present.



the vicious pitfalls of Marihuana

JUDGE

We have come in the hearings before this court today, to what I hope will be the final actions revolving about an unhappy and unfortunate case, one who's horrible tragedy will forever remain with me.

I am happy to have been enabled, before it was too late, to order the verdict of the jury, in the case of The People versus William Harper, to be set aside. But, young man, although this court is convinced that to declare you guilty would have been a gross miscarriage of justice, we cannot condone your acts. And we can express only the hope your experiences may not only

New "Killer Weed" - 1937

"For the smoking of two or three of the cigarettes are supposed to be enough to break down inhibitions and send the smoker completely berserk. He concludes his warning with, "There is only one end for the confirmed marihuana smoker, and that is insanity!" (*Boston Herald*)

keep you but thousands of others from the vicious pitfalls of marihuana. Thus I am ordering you to remain in this court during the next case, so that you will be obliged to witness what you yourself so narrowly escaped.

Call the case of The People versus Ralph Wiley.

Bill's mother and father embrace him. Mrs Lane and Jimmy look on.

An extremely deranged-looking Ralph is led in by two policemen, and marched to the bench.

PROSECUTOR

Your honor, in this case the State waives trial of the defendant Ralph Wiley. It is convinced that he is hopelessly and incurably insane,



insane by marihuana

**AMERICAN JOURNAL
OF NURSING:
MARIAHUANA**

"Continual use, however, is known to produce a violent type of insanity which has brought to it the name 'loco weed.' The subject will suddenly turn with murderous violence upon whomever is nearest to him. He will run amuck with knife, axe, gun, or anything else that is close at hand, and will kill or maim without any reason. After the sudden outburst wears away, the memory is left blank and the victims of these narcotic effects returns to normal." (*Victor Lewitus, July 1936*)

A series of very quick, up-close looks at Ralph's (?) marihuana-maddened face, complete with crazy eyes.

PROSECUTOR

A condition caused by the drug marihuana to which he was addicted. It is recommended your honor, that the defendant be placed in an institution for the criminally insane for the rest of his natural life. Defendant's council joins the State in this request.

JUDGE

Since Council for the defense, as well as council for the State seem to agree on this, I see no reason why the request should not be granted.



demonizing marihuana (Assassin of Youth! Marihuana, Feeding the god Moloch, 1937)

REEFER MADNESS - 2008

"Smoking or chewing Marijuana is the main cause of mental disorders which are soaring at an alarmingly high rate in the country."

"Dr David Basangwa, a consultant psychiatrist at Butabika National Psychiatric hospital said drug abuse in Uganda is on the increase.

"He said these drugs are dangerous because they contribute to health complications, crime and social disorder."

(All Africa newspaper, Uganda; Mar 29, 2008)

34. INT. - CLASSROOM - NIGHT

Dr. Carroll addresses the concerned parents.



or YOURS!

READER'S DIGEST

"There should be campaigns of education in every school, so that children will not be deceived by the wiles of peddlers, but will know of the insanity, the disgrace, the horror which marijuana can bring to its victims."

Feb 1938

DR. CARROLL

Yes, that happened right here,
to your neighbors. It is not
too much to say that in your
hands lies the possibility of
averting other tragedies like
it. We must work untiringly,
so that our children are
obliged to learn the truth.
Because it is only through
knowledge that we can safely
protect them. Failing this,
the next tragedy may be that
of your daughter. Or your son.

(pointing at us)

Or yours. Or Yours. Or YOURS!

Music, text overlay.



TELL YOUR CHILDREN

TELL YOUR CHILDREN

The End

A G&H PRODUCTION

You see? Marihuana is after your child, also. Marihuana will turn your sons into reckless, crazed murderers, full of lust; your daughters into wanton fiends. Behind the wheel, reefer addicts became unwitting killing machines.

Or so movies, articles, comics and every other media screamed at everyone within earshot in a calculated propaganda barrage. And they had it on the very best of authorities. The top man of the U.S. Federal Bureau of Narcotics, Harry Anslinger, said so! Wouldn't the Father of Marijuana Prohibition know best?

Commissioner Anslinger wrote, testified, swore on a stack of Bibles that marihuana was evil weed which fueled the assassins of old, and the insanity of to-day. For newspapers, repeating and embellishing such tales of reefer madness is what they call "good copy". It is sensational, and it sells. For career bureaucrats (like Anslinger) it lets them expand their power and turf. A growing counter-narcotics fiefdom makes work for people. Lots of jobs for agents and bureaucrats. Good, government jobs.

Shrewd politicians may

ride that bureaucratic "thrust" by demagoguing the issue. They skillfully enflame popular prejudices. Politicians do this on the cheap when they jockey to appear *tougher on drugs than thou*. More than one politician has mounted the surge of moral panic, shouting down rivals who weren't as "tough" on the panic of the day.

Continually confusing correlation for causation, politicians and bureaucrats make careers from carefully nurtured popular misconceptions about marijuana.

If I smoke reefer, *I won't go schizo, will I?** Before we can long ponder, back comes the answer from politicians, police and other career bureaucrats with huge vested interests: Fear greatly, O Man, for *it's a distinct possibility.*

Therefore, vote for me, increase my budgets, give me more police power:and I will save you from the evil depravity of marihuana insanity. But slacken, and commit the unforgivable sin allowing users of dread marihuana to go unpunished, then *your kids* will go berserk, tragically, *hopelessly and incurably insane.*

But really, don't we *believe that the facts have been exaggerated?* You bet we do.

Upton Sinclair wrote, "It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends on his *not* understanding it." And many prohibitionists - especially those who earn their living off of the existence of prohibition - can't understand why marihuana doesn't make you as crazy as they say and hope it will. After all, prohibitionists have been arresting and imprisoning

people for marijuana for years, so pot *must* be as wicked as they claim. It simply must!

But, alas, the opposite seems to be the case. It may very well be that marihuana use (and I mean the really strong forms of cannabis, like so-called "skunk" varieties) cause people to be healthier and have less schizophrenia or psychoses than they'd have without taking cannabis! In 2008, when the UK government was looking for a reason to get (ever) tougher on cannabis users, government-sponsored research to determine if cannabis caused youth to become insane, reported:

"The council's decision came after a discussion of research from Keele University on trends in schizophrenia. The study found nothing to support a theory that rising cannabis use over the past three decades had led to increases in the incidence of schizophrenia in later years. Instead, the research by Martin Frisher, of the school of pharmacy, and Ilana Crone, of the academic

psychiatry unit, said that between 1996 and 2005 there were significant reductions in the prevalence of schizophrenia and from 2000 onwards in the prevalence of psychoses.

"The data are not consistent with the hypothesis that increasing cannabis use in earlier decades is associated with increasing schizophrenia or psychoses from the mid 1990s onwards," the report said." (The Times, April 4, 2008)

So, like every commission and study has reiterated since the 1894 Indian Hemp Drugs Commission Report, to The LaGuardia Committee; from the Le Dain Commission, to the Bain Commission; from the The Wootton Report, to the Shafer Commission, to the Institute of Medicine Report:

Cannabis does not cause people to go schizo, run amok, or go berserk behind the wheel.

Probably closer to the very opposite.

(* *Animal House*, 1978)

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