

# Findings of the 1944 La Guardia Report

In 1944, the New York Academy of Medicine issued an extensively researched report declaring that, contrary to earlier research and popular belief, use of marijuana did not induce violence, insanity or sex crimes, or lead to addiction or other drug use.

Their findings:

Marijuana is used extensively in the Borough of Manhattan but the problem is not as acute as it is reported to be in other sections of the United States.

1. The introduction of marijuana into this area is recent as compared to other localities.
2. The cost of marijuana is low and therefore within the purchasing power of most persons.
3. The distribution and use of marijuana is centered in Harlem.
4. The majority of marijuana smokers are Blacks and Latin-Americans.
5. The consensus among marijuana smokers is that the use of the drug creates a definite feeling of adequacy.
6. The practice of smoking marijuana does not lead to addiction in the medical sense of the word.
7. The sale and distribution of marijuana is not under the control of any single organized group.
8. The use of marijuana does not lead to morphine or heroin or cocaine addiction and no effort is made to create a market for these narcotics by stimulating the practice of marijuana smoking.
9. Marijuana is not the determining factor in the commission of major crimes.
10. Marijuana smoking is not widespread among school children.
11. Juvenile delinquency is not associated with smoking marijuana.
12. Publicity over the catastrophic effects of marijuana smoking in New York City is unfounded.

Therefore, the gateway drug theory is without foundation.