

Anonymous

I am a 69 year old disabled person with a Medical Marijuana card. I have had one now for several years and want to share with you just how important that card is for me and thousands of other Vermonters. This card has changed my life, as it has for those other card holders. I suffer from very painful arthritis and also have colon cancer which causes me endless nausea, sleeplessness and also pain. The nausea is from chemo treatments as well as the disease itself and the medications prescribed to help the nausea create a new problem: violent headaches. I am also unable to take pain medication such as NSAIDS or narcotic pain relievers (I get very sick from both) and suffered for years with no pain relief until I got my card.

Unless you have experienced chronic pain and had no relief available due to not being able to take NSAIDS or narcotics (or you just do NOT want to become a statistic in the opiate addiction battle), it may be hard to understand my words. But I want to assure you all that without this medical marijuana card I would be lost in a world of pain and nausea. I might have to turn to opiates if I did not have the card...no matter how sick they would make me and no matter how addictive they are...and my life would be so miserable I would not want to be alive anymore.

This medicine has given me my life back...and I am very aware of the responsibilities that come with it. Also I am very well aware of the stigma it may carry in our society. Sadly too many equate it with partying...when that is the LAST thing we card holders want. We want our medicine to be respected the same way prescription medications are. We did not go through the long process of applying for the card and submitting to background checks to party. We did it to end our suffering.

I implore you to support the medical marijuana industry here in Vermont and all the folks who depend on it for relief from suffering that does not cause addiction. A humane and scientific approach to our suffering that does not cause further suffering as do opiates. I thank you for your time in hearing my concerns. Please, support the Vermont Medical Marijuana program.

Sincerely,