ARGUMENT #1
You're all brainwashed! First off, I have done weed before and never plan on doing it ever again. I used to smoke multiple times a day everyday, and I used to think it was great, but my opinion changed after it almost ruined my life. I always hear that marijuana does not affect your health in any way negatively. Well you're wrong. It's just common sense that inhaling something into your lungs is unhealthy. It also affects the brain. Not only will it affect you physically in the future, but it will affect you emotionally too. Most people smoke weed because they are stressed or depressed. Well you might feel great while you're high, but as soon as it wears off, your sober life is going to seem horrible again. If you get caught with it, your loved ones will be very disappointed in you. You'll most likely lose all your friends because the only thing you'll care about is getting high. It may also affect you financially. Once marijuana becomes your new obsession, you'll spend all of your money on it. Unless you are selling it on the side, you'll become broke. I had a really bad trip once on weed and I saw what my life would be like if I continued using it, and it wasn't pretty... I have other reasons why I disapprove of it being legalized, but I won't get into that... I just feel there are too many teens out there that keep believing all this BS about how marijuana is so great. The majority of the people in this world are brainwashed on this subject. If you ever ask someone that has smoked weed before and quit, ask them why. I'm sure they'll tell you that it almost ruined their life. When our parents and teachers told us to stay away from drugs and marijuana, they weren't kidding, and there's a reason why they said it! OPEN YOUR EYES AND WAKE UP AMERICA!

ARGUMENT #2
Marijuana can save lives I am 13 years old and I am more informed about marijuana than any of you Anti-Cannabis supporters are. Here are some major facts that help support my claim.1) Cannabis has been used for over 10,000 years and not one single death has EVER been recorded. It is not addictive and is actually far less addictive than caffeine. 2)If legalized, far less more minors would be using Cannabis. Why you ask? I believe if weed would be sold in stores, valid ID must be given and the user must be at least 21 years of age. After customers start buying from these weed dispensaries, drug dealers would vanish and the ones that stick around would be most likely dealing hard drugs (Meth, Cocaine, Heroine). 3)Marijuana is not a gateway drug, it's just the dealers persistently persuading their customers to try harder drugs because they know marijuana is not addictive. If they were to get them to at least try the harder drugs, they would get addicted and come back for more, giving the dealer never ending business. 4)Marijuana cures and prevents Alzheimer and Glaucoma, helps relieve stress, anxiety, depression, slows down tumor growth, and helps relieve pain for chemo/radiation therapy patients as well. 5)If legalized, marijuana can be taxed which would produce billions of dollars annually in profit which in turn would help our nation get out of debt. Cannabis farms can be set up as well, and growing and harvesting marijuana can become a profession thus lowering the unemployment rate. It also does not lead to or cause lung cancer.

ARGUMENT #3
Kill marijuana I've seen a couple studies which suggest that if marijuana is legalized, regulated and then taxed, we could have an additional revenue source up to $14 billion a year. Additional revenue is good right? Sure, so long as there aren't other costs which may offset it. Based on state & local tax revenue for alcohol sales in 2010, we made roughly $6 billion dollars. But also in 2010 we spent approx $132 billion dealing with drunk drivers (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration FARS data, 2010). Recent studies suggest that individuals that have smoked marijuana within several hours prior to driving have an increased risk of getting into an accident. I'm not particularly interested in seeing the country lose additional billions (not to mention lives) in dealing with drivers under the influence of marijuana. While it can be said that the vast majority of users are responsible with their drinking and/or marijuana use, there needs to be a threshold on how much we're willing to tolerate the irresponsible. Clearly their is a financial cost associated with them and the country doesn't have deep pockets.

ARGUMENT #4
It's hardly harmful. Although there are some negative side effects such as impaired short-term memory and increased risk of lung cancer, it is relatively harmless in comparison to other drugs. It is less harmful than cigarettes and alcohol as well. Furthermore, have you tried weed? It's awesome! If weed were taxed, it would bring revenue into the system. Right now, the government is using the tax-payers' money to keep harmless stoners and dealers in jail. Prison is for hardcore criminals, not smokers.