

Meet the Drug War Winners and Losers

The Winners

Prison Guards - \$45,000 a year to start, no college required. In California the Prison Guards Union is the most powerful lobby in the state. Not surprisingly, they support legislators who are "tough on crime."¹

Prison Owners - \$3 billion a year goes to the highly profitable private prison industry whose owners bank on harsh drug laws.²

The Drug Testing Industry - Former drug warriors make millions testing our kids for drugs – even though it makes no measurable difference in actual drug use.³

Corrupt Police - Confiscation of private property is now a significant source of police funding. It's up to the accused to prove it wasn't from drug money.⁴

The Pharmaceutical Industry - Several major drug companies are frantically researching the cannabis plant for pain-killing and anti-nausea compounds that can be patented – while simultaneously spending millions on P.R. to keep the plant itself illegal.⁵

Terrorists - \$320 billion a year in tax-free illegal drug sales worldwide – enough to fund the worst things you can think of.⁶

The Losers

Education - As prison budgets grow, the money has to come from somewhere – like schools, teachers and students. The U.S is now losing ground to Europe and Asia in education, but we're still #1 in incarceration at three times the world average.⁷

Public Safety - Prohibition creates crime. Criminals need safe turf. So they take over the inner cities by terrorizing the powerless and defenseless residents. Try to imagine this happening in upscale neighborhoods.⁸

Police Departments - Drug corruption scandals are rocking police departments all over the country because of the staggering amount of loose cash in play.⁹

Equality - Only 13% of the country's drug users are African American but they're twice as likely to get arrested as whites and four times as likely to do prison time.¹⁰

The Children - With such a high percentage of minority parents in prison, who's supposed to be raising their kids? What will be the "blowback?"¹¹

**70% of the war is about marijuana.
Isn't it time we tried peace?**

Common Sense for Drug Policy

www.CommonSenseDrugPolicy.org www.DrugWarFacts.org

www.ManagingChronicPain.org www.MedicalMJ.org

www.TreatingDrugAddiction.org

info@cscp.org

For footnotes see http://www.cscp.org/publicservice/winner_notes.htm