

## WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT LEGALIZED MARIJUANA

In Massachusetts, recreational marijuana for those 21 and older has been legalized. This can send mixed messages to adolescents about the possible harmful effects of marijuana, so it's especially important to engage in meaningful conversations now and often, with the most important message being a simple one – *Marijuana can have damaging effects on the developing teen brain.*

B-PEN continues to link pertinent articles to our Facebook page to help keep you informed. In the meantime, below are some links to information that can help you have constructive conversations with your kids.

### **Basic information:**

<http://learnaboutmarijuanawa.org/factsheets/adolescents.htm>

<http://www.apa.org/monitor/2015/11/marijuana-brain.aspx>

<http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2016/05/11/talking-with-teenagers-about-marijuana/?r=0>

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/marijuana>

[https://www.dea.gov/druginfo/drug\\_data\\_sheets/Marijuana.pdf](https://www.dea.gov/druginfo/drug_data_sheets/Marijuana.pdf)

["When pot is legal, how do you convince teens to abstain?"](#)