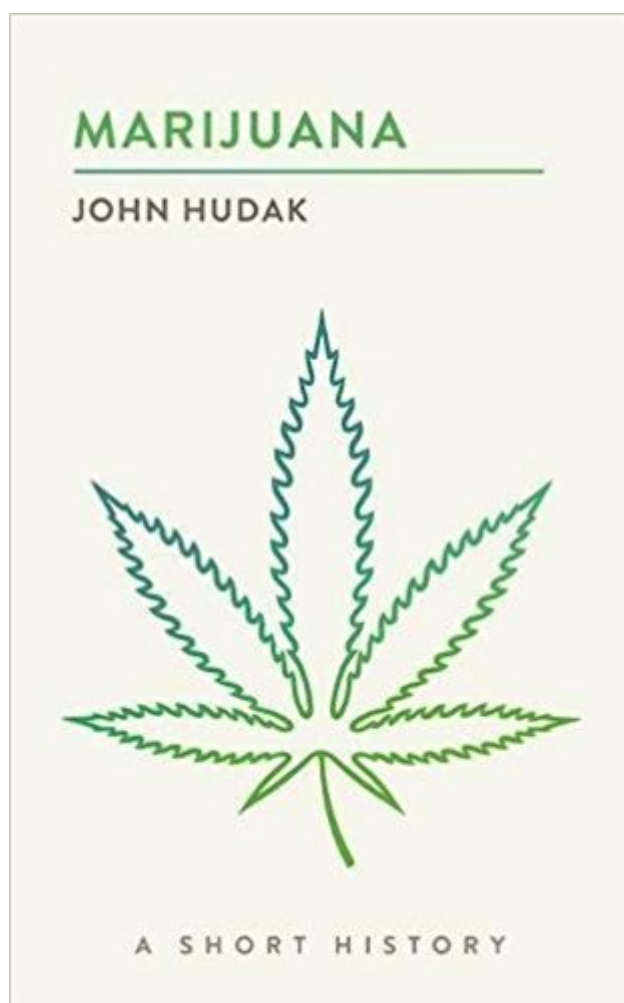


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# Marijuana: A Short History (The Short Histories)



## Synopsis

From Reefer Madness to legal purchase at the corner store. With long-time legal and social barriers to marijuana falling across much of the United States, the time has come for an accessible and informative look at attitudes toward the dried byproduct of *Cannabis sativa*. *Marijuana: A Short History* profiles the politics and policies concerning the five-leaf plant in the United States and around the world. Millions of Americans have used marijuana at some point in their lives, yet it remains a substance shrouded by myth, misinformation, and mystery. This book offers an up-to-date, cutting-edge look at how a plant with a tumultuous history has emerged from the shadows of counterculture and illegality. Today, marijuana has become a remarkable social, economic, and even political force, with a surprising range of advocates and opponents. Public policy toward marijuana, especially in the United States, is changing rapidly. *Marijuana: A Short History* provides a brief yet compelling narrative that discusses the social and cultural history of marijuana but also tells us how a once-vilified plant has been transformed into a serious, even mainstream, public policy issue. Focusing on politics, the media, government, and education, the book describes why public policy has changed, and what that change might mean for marijuana's future place in society.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Clear. Concise. Compelling. *Marijuana: A Short History* is a great crash course on the history of

cannabis. This is a wonderful book for anyone who wants a deeper understanding of the current political landscape, as well as the players and events that have shaped it. Steph Sherer, Executive Director, Americans for Safe Access A fresh, sharp, and rigorous look at America's perverse relationship with pot. John Hudak smashes taboos and nonsense on every page. Bruce Barcott, author, *Weed the People: The Future of Legal Marijuana*

Millions of Americans have used marijuana at some point in their lives, yet it remains a substance shrouded by myth, misinformation, and mystery. Over the past decades, marijuana has become a remarkable social, economic, and even political force, with a surprising range of advocates and opponents. Now, John Hudak, one of the best known and most cited experts on marijuana legalization, offers an up-to-date, cutting-edge look at how a plant with a tumultuous history has emerged from the shadows of counterculture and illegality. Public policy toward marijuana, especially in the United States, is changing rapidly. *Marijuana: A Short History* provides a brief yet compelling narrative that discusses the social and cultural history of marijuana but also tells us how a once vilified plant has been transformed into a mainstream public policy issue. Focusing on politics, media, government, and education, Hudak explains why public policy has changed, and what that change might mean for marijuana's future place in society.

This brief history of the mild hallucinogen marijuana is written by John Hudak who researched the drug and has written an accurate account of how it has been misrepresented for political and racist purposes since the early 20th century. Now, as we are well into the 21st century, marijuana still sits beside heroin and other dangerous drugs as a Schedule 1 drug. Makes one wonder why such a medically useful drug is still being misrepresented. Political and racist motives? I would have given this little book five stars except it may not be the most exciting book you will ever read, but it will surely open your eyes to the machinations of those who have something to gain by keeping a medically useful drug where it clearly doesn't belong. I suggest that you research marijuana (cannabis) yourself. Several states have approved its use for medical and recreational use. Meanwhile, such truly dangerous drugs like alcohol and tobacco can be bought at your corner grocery store. This proves that propaganda works. The moral here is that you must never make a judgment without first determining for yourself if it's true or not. Read this little book by a respected researcher to see the truth. The truth will set you free...if we can just vote the opponents out of office.

Excellent book with a lot of facts. Should be required reading in high school. This book, besides showing that cannabis is not the evil plant that politicians made it out to be (the medical community has repeatedly shown that it is not an evil, but a medically useful plant), explains how a few politicians with an agenda can mislead an uneducated public. The book shows how a few racist people in politically important positions can ruin the lives of many people in their racist pursuits.

A must read for everyone. After this, read "Smoke Signals: A Social History Of Marijuana" by Martin Lee. You begin to understand that cannabis is a political weapon for greed and profit by drug cartels, law enforcement, lawyers, private prisons. No one has ever died of an overdose of pot. Legalize it. Grow up American. And, I do not use.

A concise and engaging history of Marijuana and the subsequent failed US Marijuana prohibition policy. The author makes a compelling argument for reform of drug policy as it relates to Marijuana. He outlines how anti-Marijuana zealotry and political policy posturing has needlessly led to the criminalization of a portion of US citizens. He outlines how continued prohibition has increased crime and has resulted in negative effects on society which is counter to the reasons that these policies were implemented and meant to avoid in the first place. Further, he outlines how sensible Marijuana reform based on tolerance, legalization, regulation and taxation may have many positive implications.

This is a very well written, thoroughly researched and yet concise book on this topic. It is important that such top minds as John Hudak are helping to frame the issues required for successful legalization of marijuana.

It's only shortly ago that marijuana in the United States was demonized and outlawed based on politician's personal beliefs. This book summarizes the before and after of this happening and puts forth some ideas concerning how governments might control its use once it is legalized for recreational use. The book is very well documented separating fact from myths.

Great book for the history of weed. Very informative. You will be surprised to learn why hemp is under so much scrutiny. Good read.

Highly recommend for anyone in the industry.

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