

# Goodbye Bar Nights, Hello Hemp Days: Give Pot to 'Dozo Students



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Last month, Cardozo announced that it was celebrating National SmokeOut Day. Huzzah! Cardozo was going to help smoke out its students, something especially helpful at this high stress time before finals.

It turns out Cardozo's definition of "smoke out" is very different from the colloquial use. But despite this misleading advertisement, Cardozo should give a second look at smoking out students. Yes, Cardozo should provide free marijuana.

Cardozo already provides plenty of alcohol. However, the new alcohol policy has already put a bit of a crimp in liver-laden student morale. Marijuana could provide a new angle of stress relief that free beer, massages, and Dean Fama's yoga classes just cannot cure.

Furthermore, while alcohol's risks include liver damage, pot's only risk is that there won't be enough kosher pizza. Although students already blatantly mob events for free food like hoards of locusts and then leave just as quickly, at least with pot they have an excuse for their otherwise rude behavior.

Marijuana distribution would be perfectly timed for the pre-finals rush. This time of year students regularly miss meals and all-nighters are a regular occurrence, so a little incentive to eat more and sleep more may be just what doctor ordered. Or lawyer ordered. Whatever.

And marijuana would not just provide an improved sense of well-being for students. Parents, siblings, and loved ones could take solace in knowing that Cardozo will make sure that their pre-lawyer lovelies will have something to help the stress during finals season.

This marijuana plan would also provide students with important legal experience. The inevitable arrests that would come from mass distribution of marijuana could serve as the basis for an expanded criminal defense clinic. Aspiring defense lawyers could test their mettle by helping their friends, peers, and the Cardozo administration fight the resulting local and federal police raids. The personal connection with the clients and direct relevance of the cases would encourage Cardozo students down the noble path of criminal defense. This expanded clinic — a veritable Incense Project — could serve as a PR boon for Cardozo, demonstrating students' legal perspicacity in the popular and politically charged arena of pot prosecutions.

And the public relations benefit would also expand to the law school as a whole. At a time when Cardozo's reputation may be knocked by an uncertain position towards gay rights or internal Israel strife, the law school could for once stake out a progressive position on the political curve. But Cardozo would have to act now; New Jersey has recently legalized medicinal marijuana, and one never wants to fall behind New Jersey.

Providing marijuana would even fit in well with Cardozo's Jewish identity. Anyone who has spent any time in Jewish youth culture knows that pot is Judaism's drug of choice, just as Catholics have whiskey and Protestants have incohesive theological structures.

Sure, there are undeniable negative side effects that come with marijuana. Studies have demonstrated that extensive marijuana use can impair short term memory, and long term memory, and also impair short term memory. But as in all things, one merely needs a mature attitude and moderate use. Besides, students already spend finals swallowing as many study aid pills as possible, so what's one more drug?