

THE DRUG WAR'S ASSAULT ON LIBERTY

# PETE GUITHER

**DRUG WARRANT**.com *by Pete Guither*

from the front lines of the drug war  
with news, analysis,  
and the occasional rant

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Executive Director

PROHIBITION ISN'T FREE FOUNDATION

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- Why is Marijuana Illegal?
- Drug War Victims
- News, analysis, links, and rants
- Exposés of prohibition advocates and talking points
- Community of online activists

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David Eckert

Stopped for rolling through a stop sign  
in a Walmart parking lot in  
Deming, New Mexico

Police had a dog sniff his truck and  
supposedly it alerted on the seat.

Police thought David was standing awkwardly.

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- Eckert's abdominal area was X-rayed
- Doctors then performed an exam of Eckert's anus with their fingers.
- Doctors performed a second exam of Eckert's anus with their fingers.
- Doctors penetrated Eckert's anus to insert an enema. Eckert was forced to defecate in front of doctors and police officers. Eckert watched as doctors searched his stool.
- Doctors penetrated Eckert's anus to insert an enema a second time. Eckert was forced to defecate in front of doctors and police officers. Eckert watched as doctors searched his stool.
- Doctors penetrated Eckert's anus to insert an enema a third time. Eckert was forced to defecate in front of doctors and police officers. Eckert watched as doctors searched his stool.
- Doctors then X-rayed Eckert again.
- Doctors prepared Eckert for surgery, sedated him, and then performed a colonoscopy where a scope with a camera was inserted into Eckert's anus, rectum, colon and large intestines.

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## THE DRUG WAR'S ASSAULT ON LIBERTY

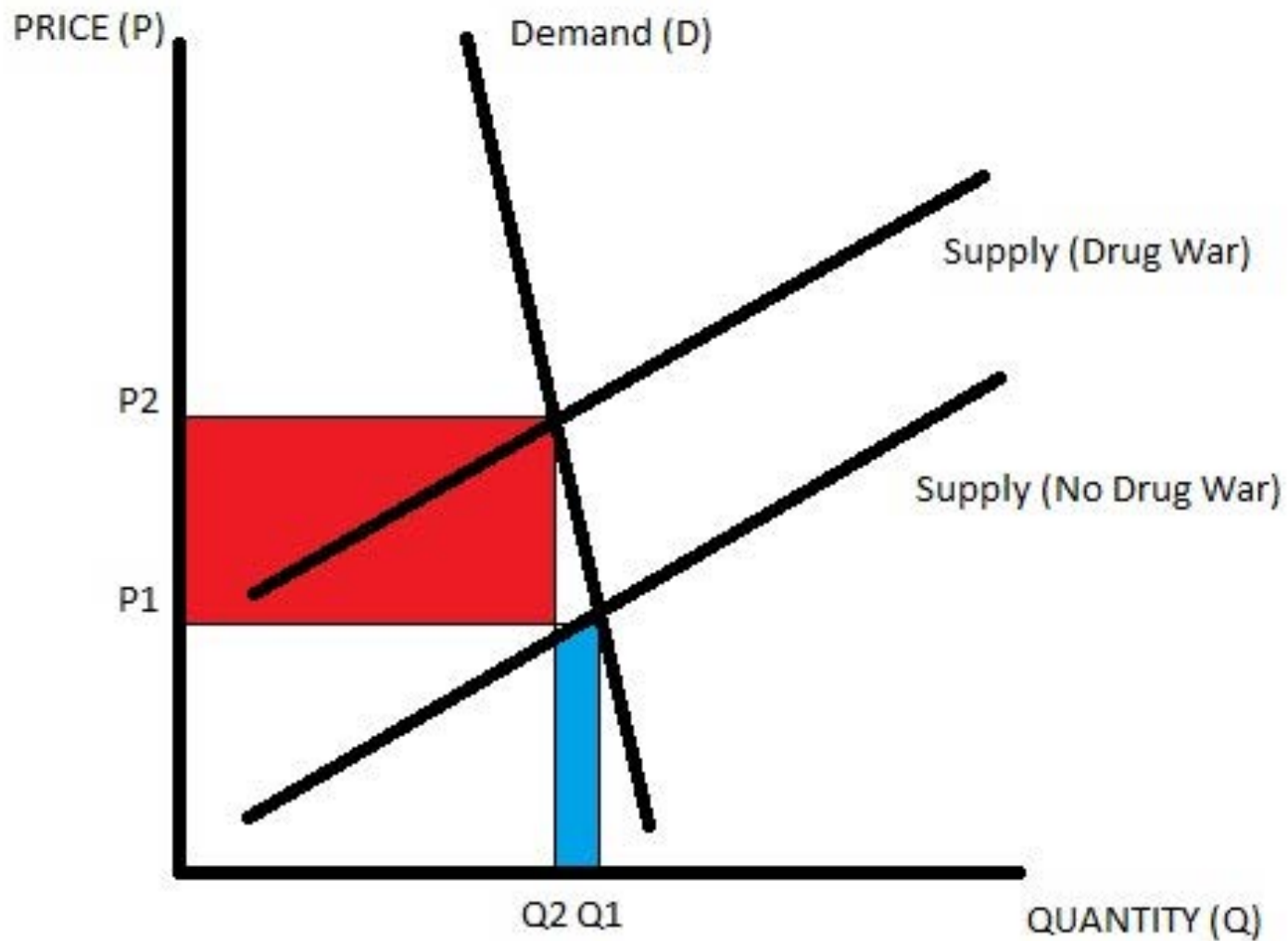
“We’re the people who love drugs,  
we’re the people who hate drugs,  
we’re the people who don’t give a damn about drugs,

but every one of us believes  
that the war on drugs is not the way to deal  
with the reality of drugs in our society.”

- Ethan Nadelmann, Drug Policy Alliance

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## The Market for Illegal Drugs



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AP



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60,000 to 100,000  
dead in Mexico  
due to the War on Drugs

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## The Costs of Prohibition

- Fueling crime through attractive black-market profits
- Creation of a prison/criminal class with endless job opportunities
- Destruction of families and inner cities; welfare costs
- Extraordinary racial implications
- The lures to corruption among public officials
- Loss of civil liberties and the Fourth Amendment
- Denying young people a second chance
- Escalating violence (both sides)
- Foreign policy disasters; harming farmers in poor countries
- Denying medicine to sick people
- Increasing harm for those using drugs
- Lost lives and potential

## The Benefits of Prohibition

- It's possible that some limited number of individuals will be dissuaded from becoming drug abusers due to fear of prison.

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U.S. Drug Addiction Rate, 1970 - 2010  
U.S. Drug Control Spending, 1970 - 2010

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The problem with going after  
consensual crimes  
like drug use.

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# Liberty

# Fourth Amendment

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

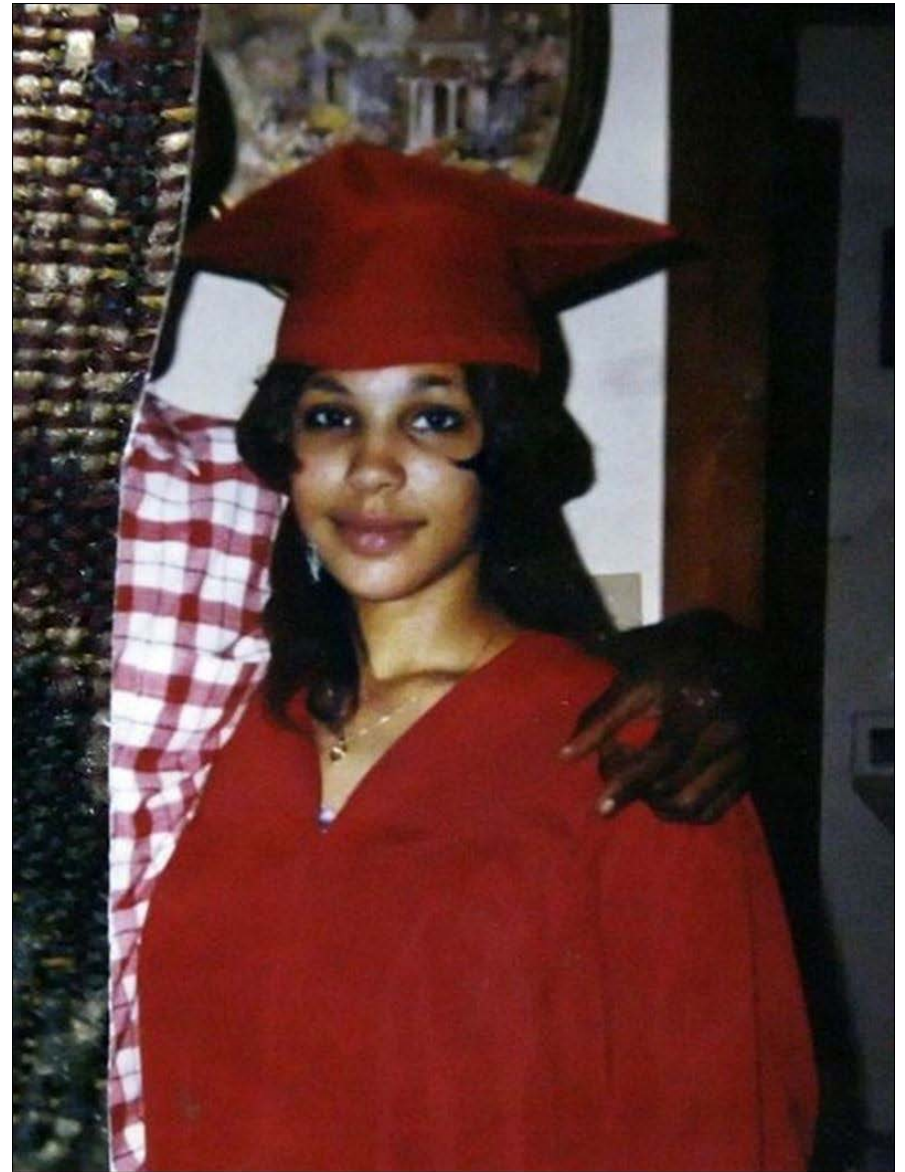


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Tarika Wilson  
Lima, Ohio

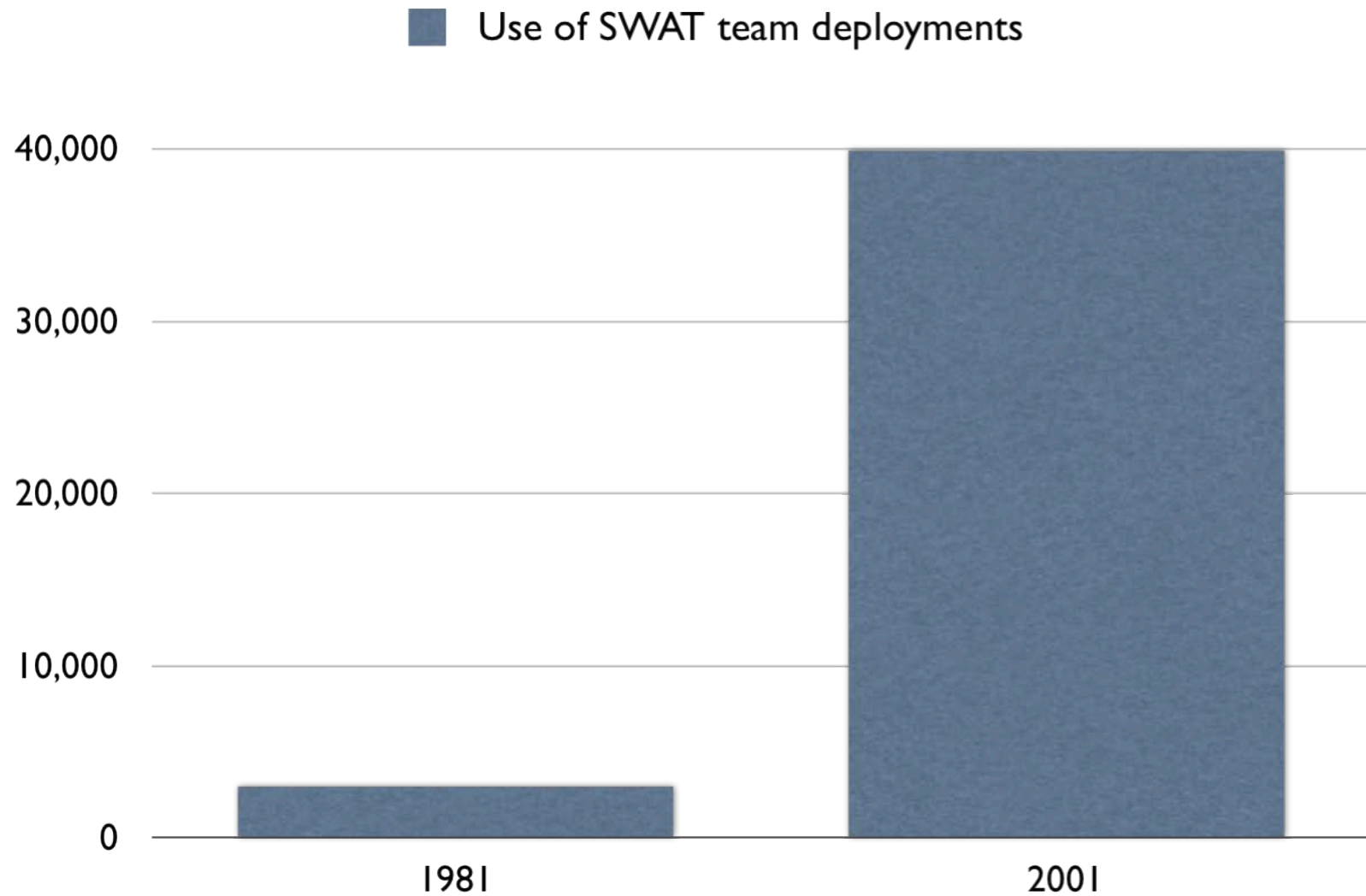


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## Drug War Victims



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Chickasaw, Alabama – pop. 5,500



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Coffeeville, Kansas— pop. 10,295



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Gadsden, Alabama – pop. 36,000



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# Rachel Hoffman



Sent by police to buy 1,500 ecstasy pills,  
2 ounces cocaine, and a gun

# Kathryn Johnston



Shot at 39 times by police, based on informant tip

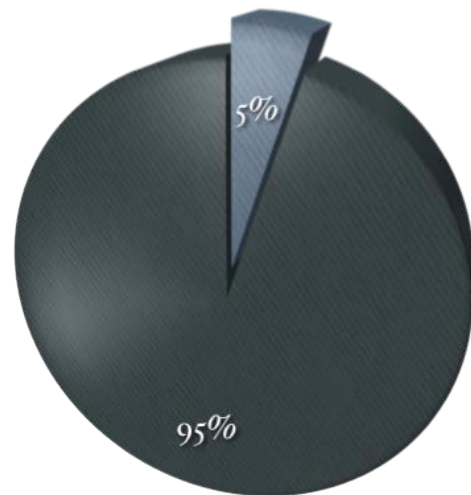
# THE DRUG WAR'S ASSAULT ON LIBERTY



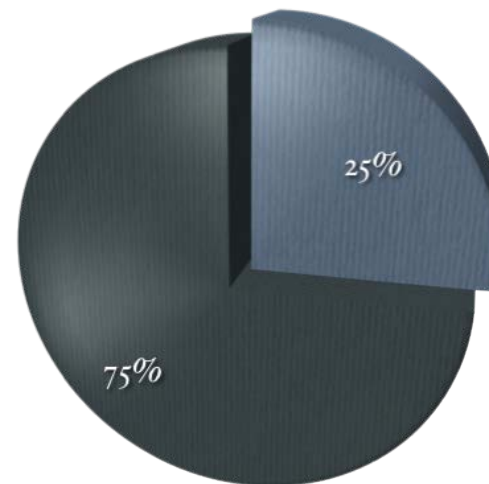
# PROHIBITION KILLS: AN EVALUATION OF THE WAR ON DRUGS

The United States has  
5% of the world's population,  
but 25% of the world's prison population

● U.S. ● Rest of the World

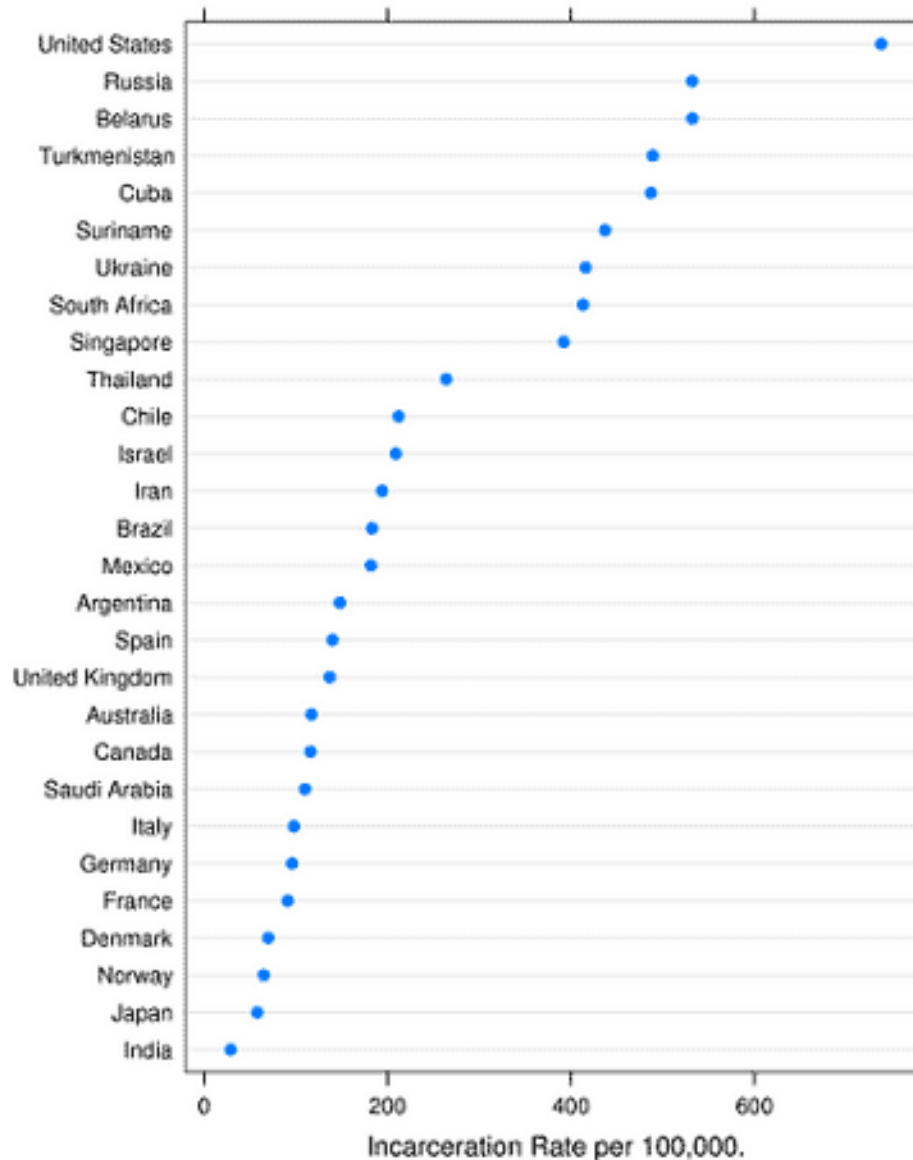


● U.S. ● Rest of the World



# PROHIBITION KILLS: AN EVALUATION OF THE WAR ON DRUGS

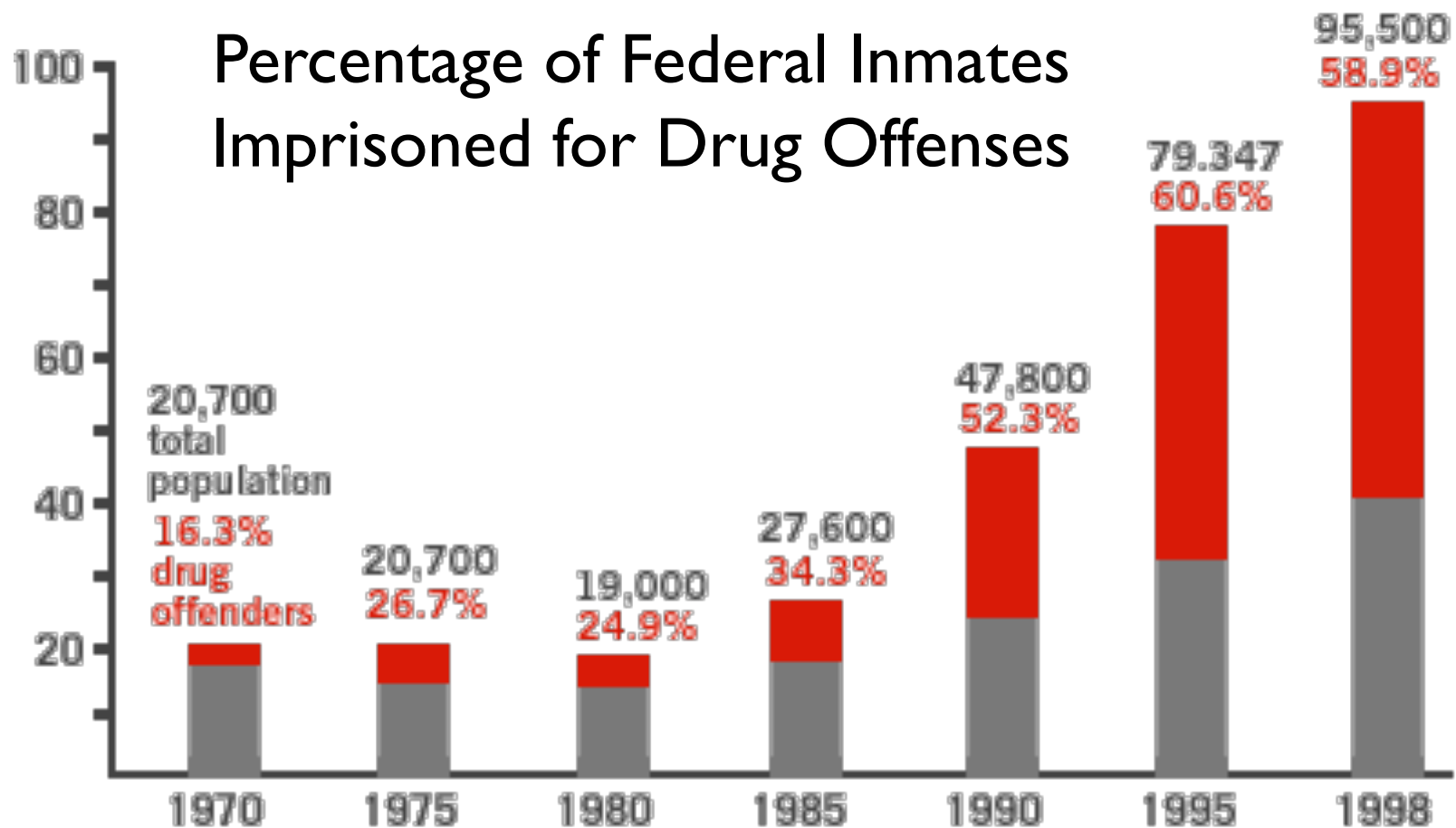
Incarceration Rates for Selected Countries



Data are for 2003, '04 or '05.

Source: U.S. BJS and <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/rel/icps/world-prison-population-list-2005.pdf>

# THE DRUG WAR'S ASSAULT ON LIBERTY



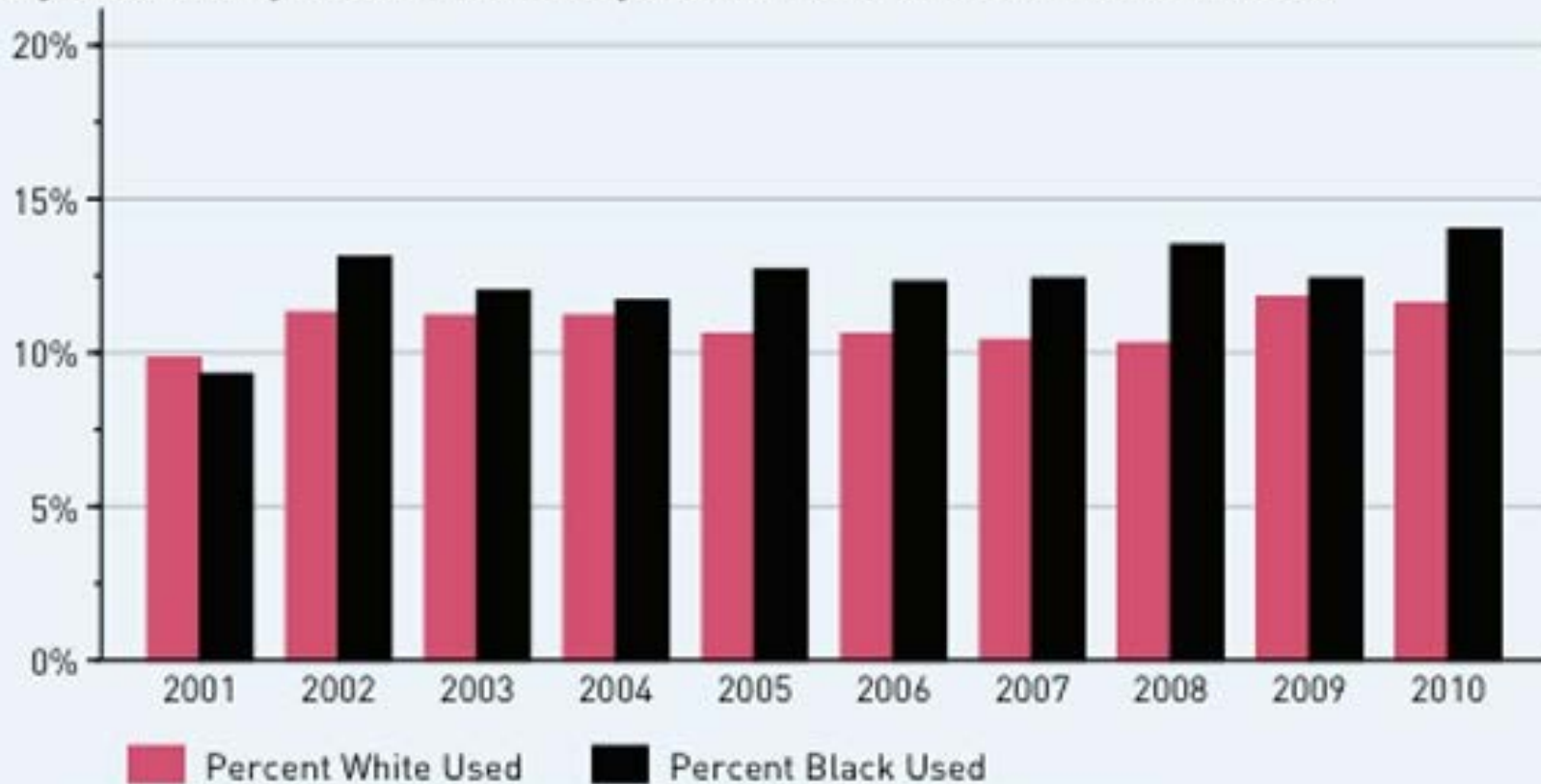
Note: Total population is the total sentenced population of federal prisons in the US, in thousands. The percentage marked in red is the percentage of that total who are sentenced for drug offenses.

Source: Federal Bureau of Prisons

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**FIGURE 21**

**Marijuana Use by Race: Used Marijuana in Past 12 Months (2001-2010)**

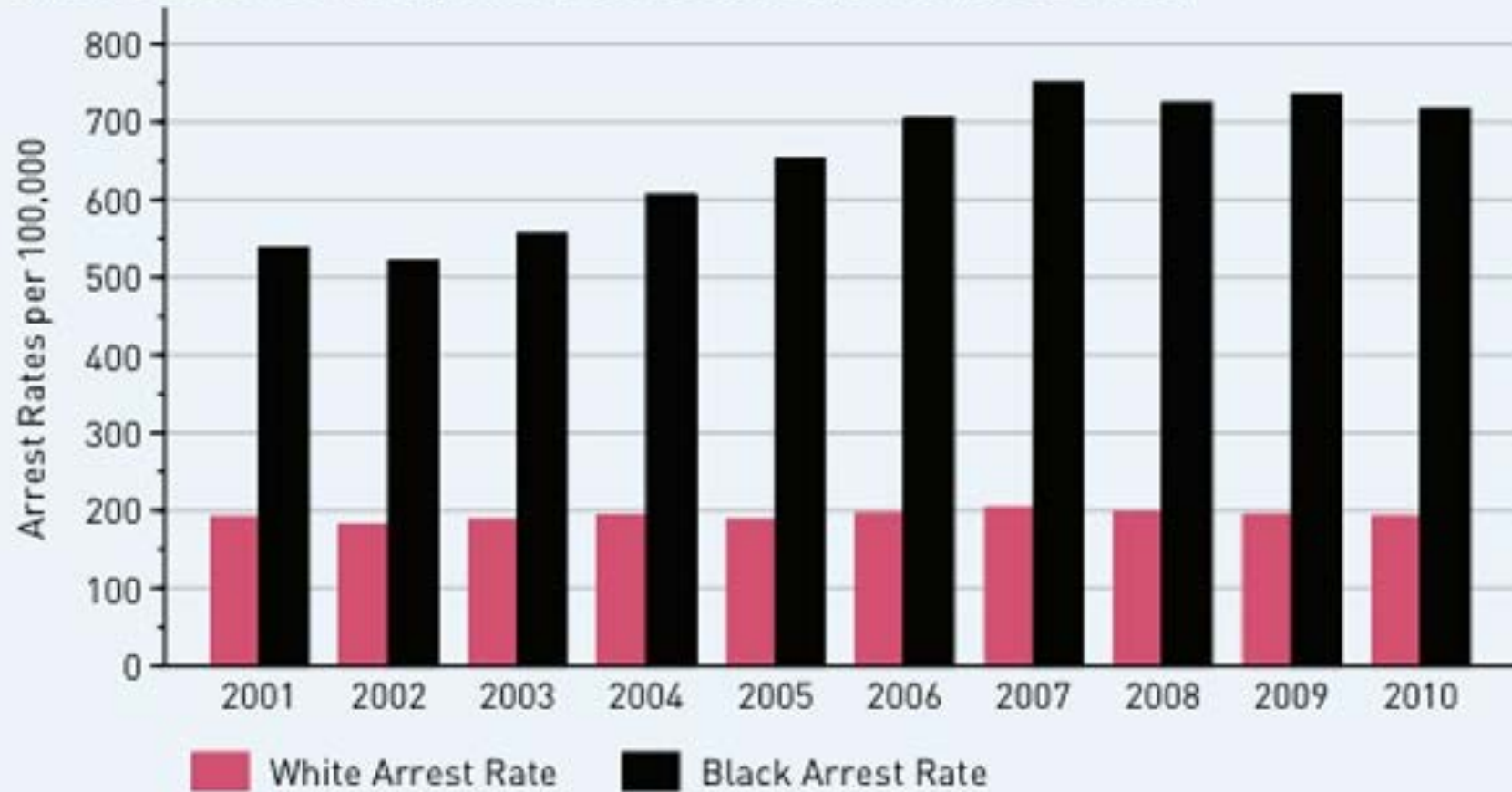


Source: National Household Survey on Drug Abuse and Health, 2001-2010

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**FIGURE 10**

**Arrest Rates for Marijuana Possession by Race (2001-2010)**



Source: FBI/Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data and U.S. Census Data



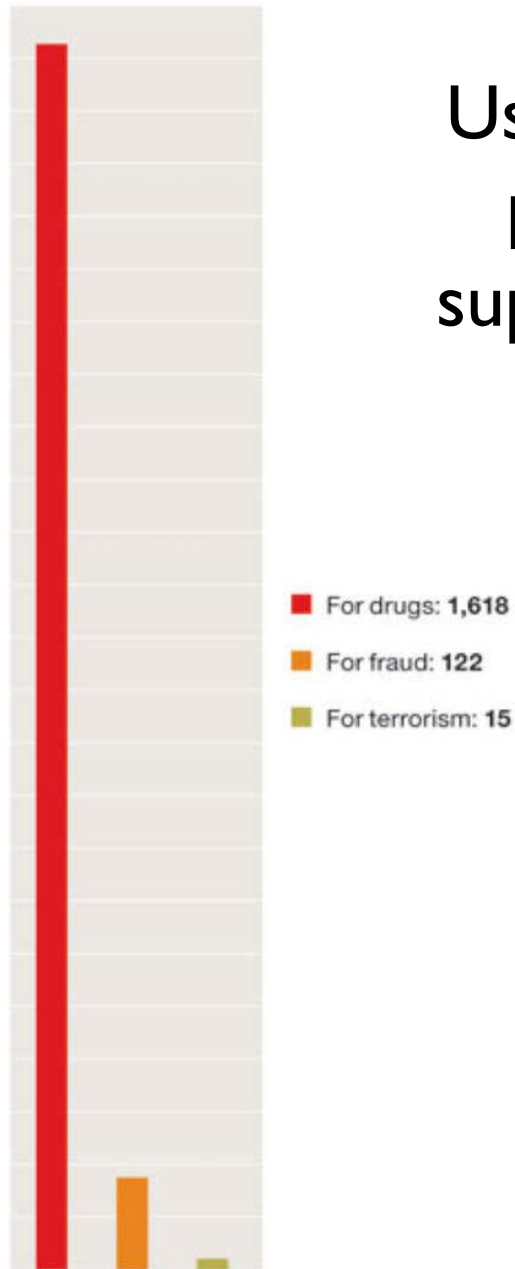
## THE DRUG WAR'S ASSAULT ON LIBERTY

Our drug war is exported around the world where it is often enforced even more harshly.



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Use of the Patriot Act's "sneak-and-peek" warrants from 2006-2009 supposedly passed to stop terrorism



Actual use:  
1,618 for drugs  
122 for fraud  
15 for terrorism

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## Follow the Money Asset Forfeiture



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## Asset Forfeiture



Camp Zoe

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[www.leap.cc](http://www.leap.cc)

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They put me in foster care because my  
mommy and daddy used marijuana



Two months later my  
foster parent killed me

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Drug testing: A multi-billion dollar profit center

Bensinger, DuPont Associates



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## Private Prisons



CCA wants  
20 year  
contract and  
90% capacity  
guarantee.

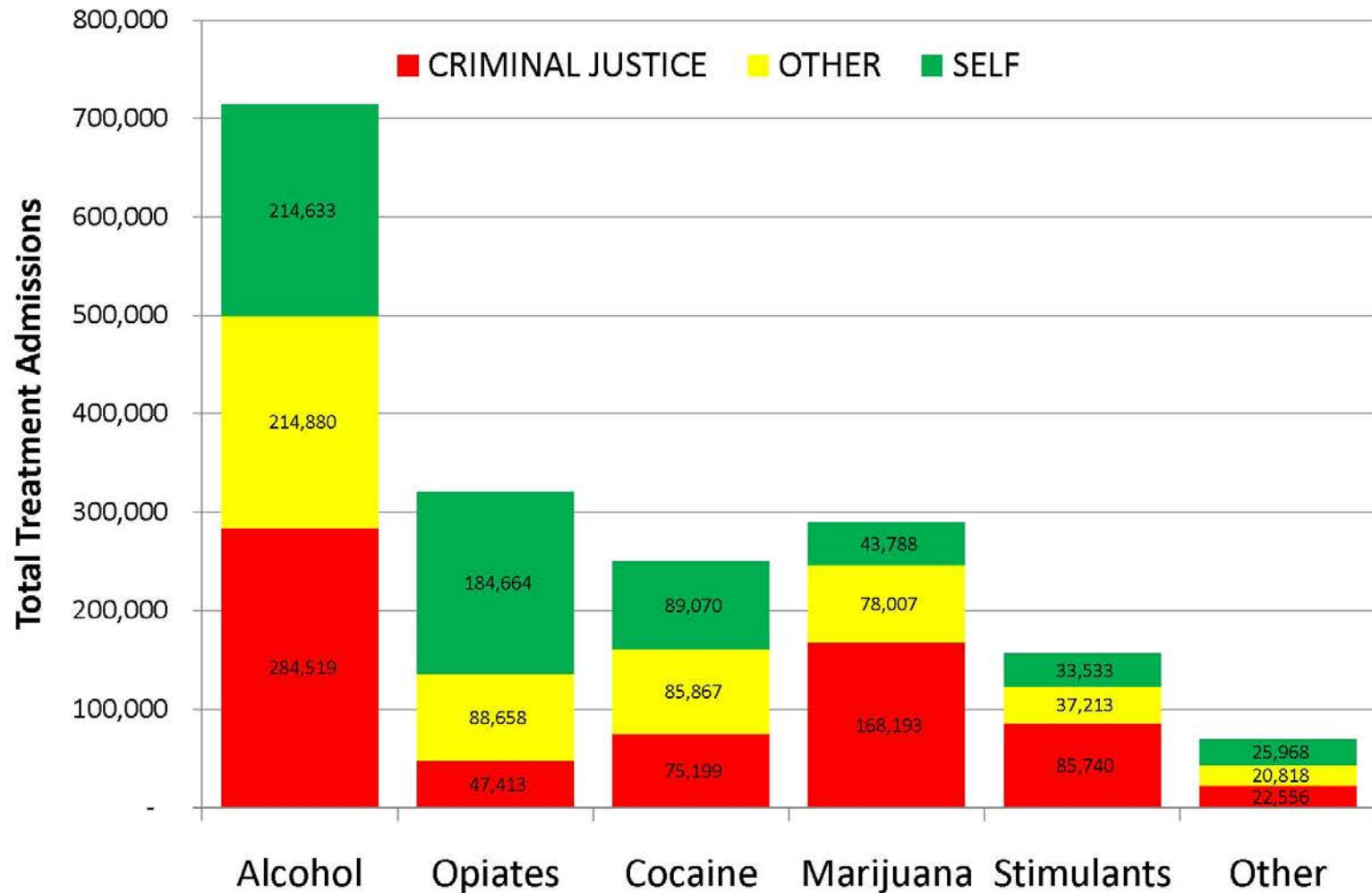




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## Treatment Industry

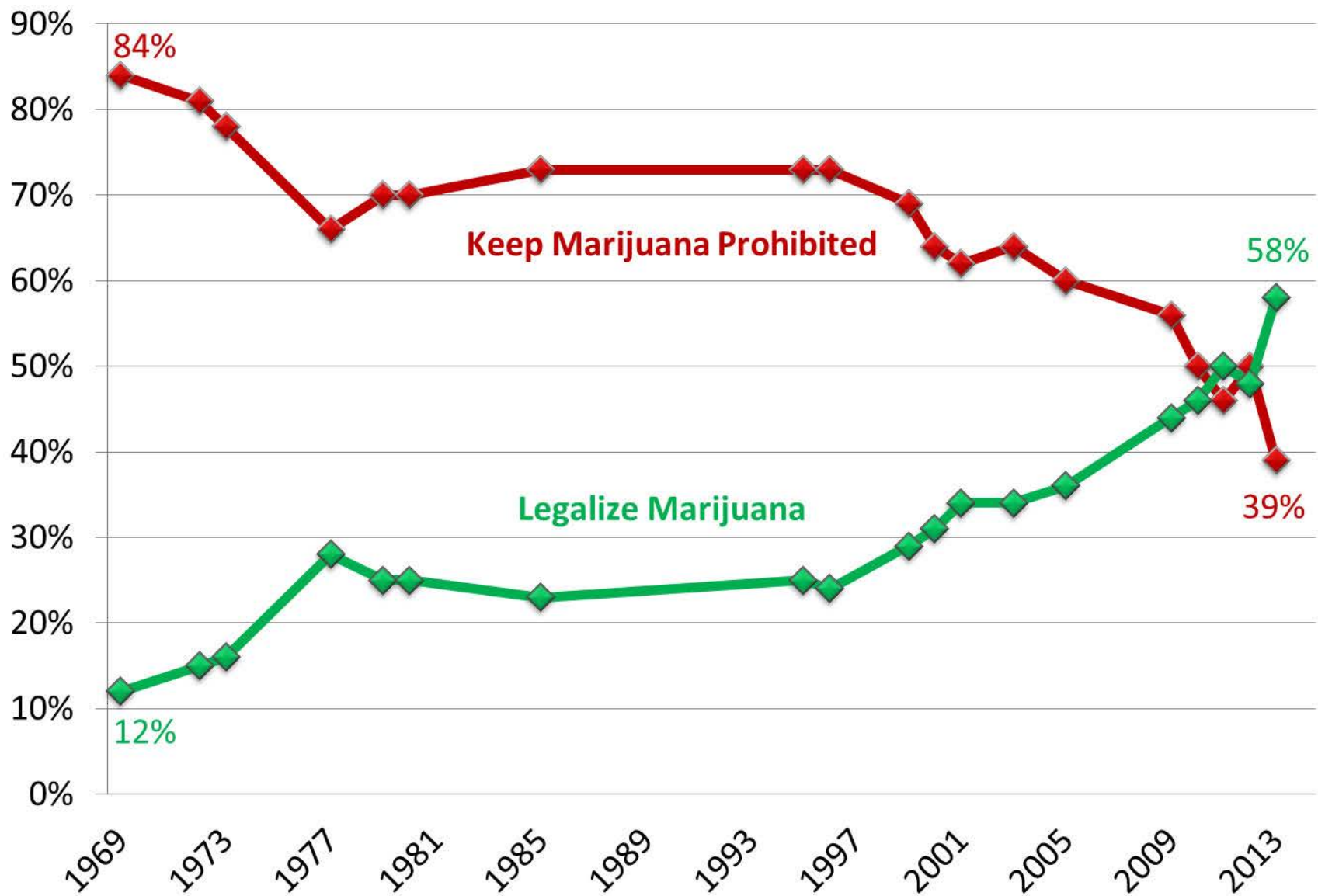
Drug Treatment Admissions by Referral Source



SOURCE: US Dept. of Health & Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Drug Abuse Services Information System

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## US Gallup Opinion Polls Trend Toward Marijuana Legalization



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*"The prestige of government has undoubtedly been lowered considerably by the prohibition law. For nothing is more destructive of respect for the government and the law of the land than passing laws which cannot be enforced. It is an open secret that the dangerous increase of crime in this country is closely connected with this."*

— Albert Einstein,  
"My First Impression of the U.S.A.", 1921

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