

# the **RED CUP** Q&A



**separating alcohol fact from fiction**  
EVERY TUESDAY IN THE DAILY WILDCAT

## **Q** What's more dangerous, weed or booze?

**A.** Awesome question, dude. It reminds us of this joke. Now what was it? Oh yeah, what is the difference between a drunk and a stoner at a stop sign? The drunk guy runs it and the stoner waits for it to turn green! I mean, think about it, man, if the whole world smoked a joint at the same time, there would be world peace for at least two hours – followed by a global food shortage. Hack! Koff! Dude!

All kidding aside, it comes as no surprise that alcohol causes more harm than all other drugs. According to the 2010 Independent Scientific Committee on Drugs study, alcohol is more than twice as harmful to the user and 3 times more harmful to others when compared to marijuana.

However, this does not mean there are no risks when using marijuana. The most relevant risks for young adults center on brain development, critical thinking, and memory changes, which may diminish academic success and cloud personal and social choices. Impaired muscle coordination and judgment from marijuana can result in physical harm. Driving a car would be particularly dangerous as studies demonstrate impaired reaction time and diminished attention to traffic signals. Additionally, due to the accumulation of marijuana in fatty tissue, this impairment can last 12 to 24 hours. A reduction in both male and female fertility is another possible side effect of marijuana. Some people experience anxiety attacks and paranoia. Contrary to popular myth, some people can become addicted to pot.

One good thing that sets marijuana apart from most other drugs is that it is virtually impossible to overdose from it.

So before you take up, be aware that anything you put into your body, which alters you consciously and physically, does not take away a responsibility to yourself and others. Stay safe and wise.

**wildfact**

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Got a question about alcohol? Email it to [redcup@email.arizona.edu](mailto:redcup@email.arizona.edu)



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