

# REQUIRED

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# NORML UK

## WORKING TO REFORM CANNABIS LAWS

happy to consume whatever their friend grew in their garden, but are dissatisfied with street dealers selling them herbs with ground glass in - a tactic they often get away with because of the lack of regulation.

Another important thing to realize is that models of self-regulation already exist. The system by which medical cannabis could be regulated is already up and running everywhere that allows medical cannabis. Harborside Medical Centre has done a great job through their Weed Wars series to tell ordinary folks about how regulation can benefit rather than hinder cannabis consumers. We saw how they inspect every pound they get in for mould and reject any that don't cut it, how they send a sample of every new grow to be chemically analyzed so they can label it with the exact THC and

CBD strength, and how they have gone out of their way to develop ranges of oils, creams, edibles and more to give customers choices in what they want to use and how they use it. So regulation of cannabis is already happening, in some places, but in some places it isn't. Places where, to give a recent example, Vietnamese gangs are human trafficking children to grow massive crops in residential houses, which burn down from time to time and takes the neighbors with it. This is why the industry desperately needs regulation. We don't just want good medical dispensaries; we want to prevent cowboy traders as well. But we can't do this without a consistent regulatory framework set down in law. Cannabis communities can't do anything about abuses in their area effectively if they face the same sanctions from a thoughtless government.

It's ironic that I am writing this as the US federal government is cracking down on Harborside using housing legislation against their landlords, and the dispensary model would be inadequate for an area where cannabis was totally legal anyway, but a combination of dispensaries, coffee shops and already existing legislation for alcohol and tobacco shows us that regulation, voluntary or statutory, need not inherently be about restricting anyone's right to use cannabis for any purpose, but could actually benefit cannabis users in providing them with a greater choice and safer range of cannabis products. Whether you're a Tory or an anarchist, nearly everything in your life, from your clothes to your spice rack, are subject to safety regulations that you, the consumer, benefit from. It is unfair to cannabis users that they cannot be protected under the same legislation.

For more information about Norml UK, go to: <http://norml-uk.org>

## NORML UK needs Bedrocan users!

NORML UK is seeking medicinal cannabis users in the European Union who are prescribed Bedrocan medicinal cannabis to come to London legally with their medicine. Under the Schengen Agreement an EU citizen who is prescribed Bedrocan by their doctor may legally bring Bedrocan into the United Kingdom and use it, whereas a British citizen with the same medical condition may not, even if they were prescribed Bedrocan by a European doctor.

**NORML UK would like to bring attention to this unfair anomaly in the law. Full travel and accommodation expenses will be paid for.**

**For further information, please email: [norml@norml-uk.org](mailto:norml@norml-uk.org), or telephone: +44 7966 583929.**



Image by: Jesse