

## Whoever Heard of Fetal Cannabis Syndrome?

**Vicki Gunn**

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This week, I received an email. This is not an unusual occurrence; but this one caught my attention. I not only read the email, but also followed the links. After following the links I sought different sources to verify the information. After that, I searched the Internet for information on the author of the letter.

I'd like to thank Glendon Rayworth, Psy.D., C. Psych. for making me aware of something that deserves a lot more time devoted to it...particularly from our Prime Minister and Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, Jean-Yves Duclos.

The truth is that this was the second letter Doctor Rayworth sent to them. The first didn't receive a response. Is our PM more interested in being the "cool" PM who legalized marijuana than the "stick in the mud" PM who protected babies, families, and society from the heartbreak that cannabis can cause?

In my very brief research of this topic, I found out a lot of information. From this National Post article<sup>1</sup> that there were moderate problems and substantial evidence of greater problems. Among the substantial problems is "lower birth weights." But what isn't listed as a problem is found on the US National Library of Medicine and National Institutes of Health<sup>2</sup>:

"...prenatal cannabis exposure has been found to be associated with fetal growth restriction, and learning disabilities and memory impairment in the exposed offspring."

The Liberal Party website<sup>3</sup> says:

"To ensure that we keep marijuana out of the hands of children, and the profits out of the hands of criminals, we will legalize, regulate, and restrict access to marijuana.

We will create a federal/provincial/territorial task force, and with input from experts in public health, substance abuse, and law enforcement..."

Has the Liberal Party considered how they will protect prenatal children from marijuana use, once our government has given legitimacy to marijuana? Healthline.com<sup>4</sup> tells us, "THC crosses the placenta very easily, so when a pregnant mother uses the drug, so does her child."

Today, adults hide their drugs to prevent being caught by the police. Yet, their children find drugs... both legal and illegal drugs. When drugs are kept openly in the drug section of the liquor cabinet, what will protect children from accessing it?

If the Liberals will listen to public health experts, why will they not even respond to an email from an expert in the field...a child psychologist.

This is a huge topic so I encourage you to do some independent studies. It's generally best to be careful to choose information from those "in the know" rather than your local cannabis distributor.

CHP Canada does not support the legalization of the recreational use of marijuana. We believe that pre-born children deserve legal protection. None of us would approve harming a child by leaving drugs accessible to children. Equally, we must enact laws that would protect pre-born babies from a lifetime of damage caused by making drugs more accessible to them.

Join CHP Canada today<sup>5</sup>. We will protect Canada's future!

## **Footnotes**

<sup>1</sup> [news.nationalpost.com/news/canada/gordon-clark-another-huge-study-finds-almost-no-medicinal-use-for-pot](https://news.nationalpost.com/news/canada/gordon-clark-another-huge-study-finds-almost-no-medicinal-use-for-pot)

<sup>2</sup> [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3252200/](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3252200/)

<sup>3</sup> [www.liberal.ca/realchange/marijuana/](https://www.liberal.ca/realchange/marijuana/)

<sup>4</sup> [www.healthline.com/health-news/children-cannabis-impairs-fetal-brain-development-012814](https://www.healthline.com/health-news/children-cannabis-impairs-fetal-brain-development-012814)

<sup>5</sup> [www.chp.ca/get-involved](https://www.chp.ca/get-involved)

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