Pressing & Current International Drug Control Issues

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Major Threats

(1) Threats to the International Drug Control System

(2) Threat of "Either/Or" Approach That Denies Success of Balanced Policies

Threats to the International Drug Control System

Developments in 2012

(1) Summit of the Americas

(1) Cannabis Legalization in the U.S.

Summit of the Americas

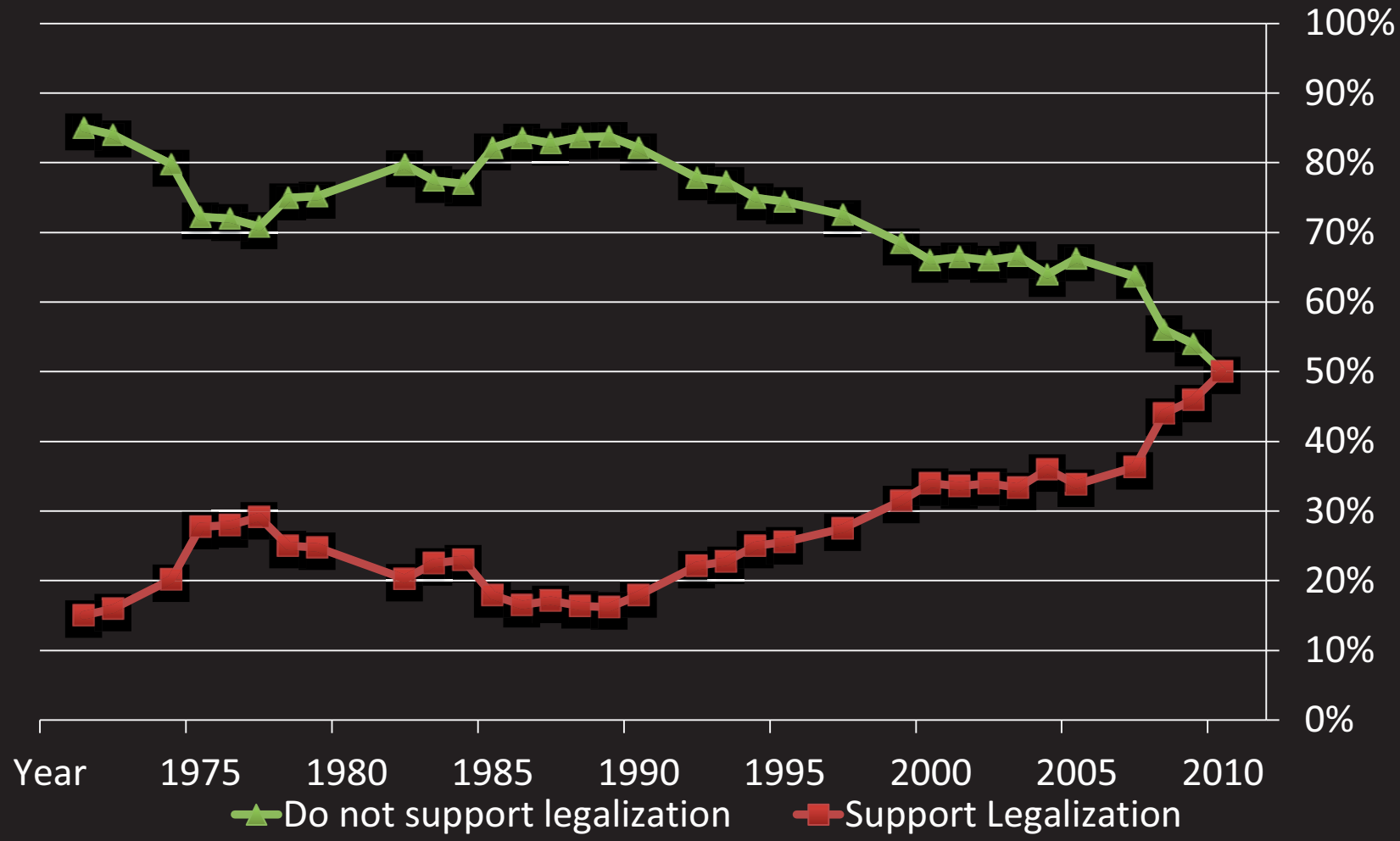
Several Presidents Calling for a Reorientation of Drug Policy, "Market Alternatives"

Uruguayan Proposal

Current Report Drafting with OAS

Cannabis Legalization in the US

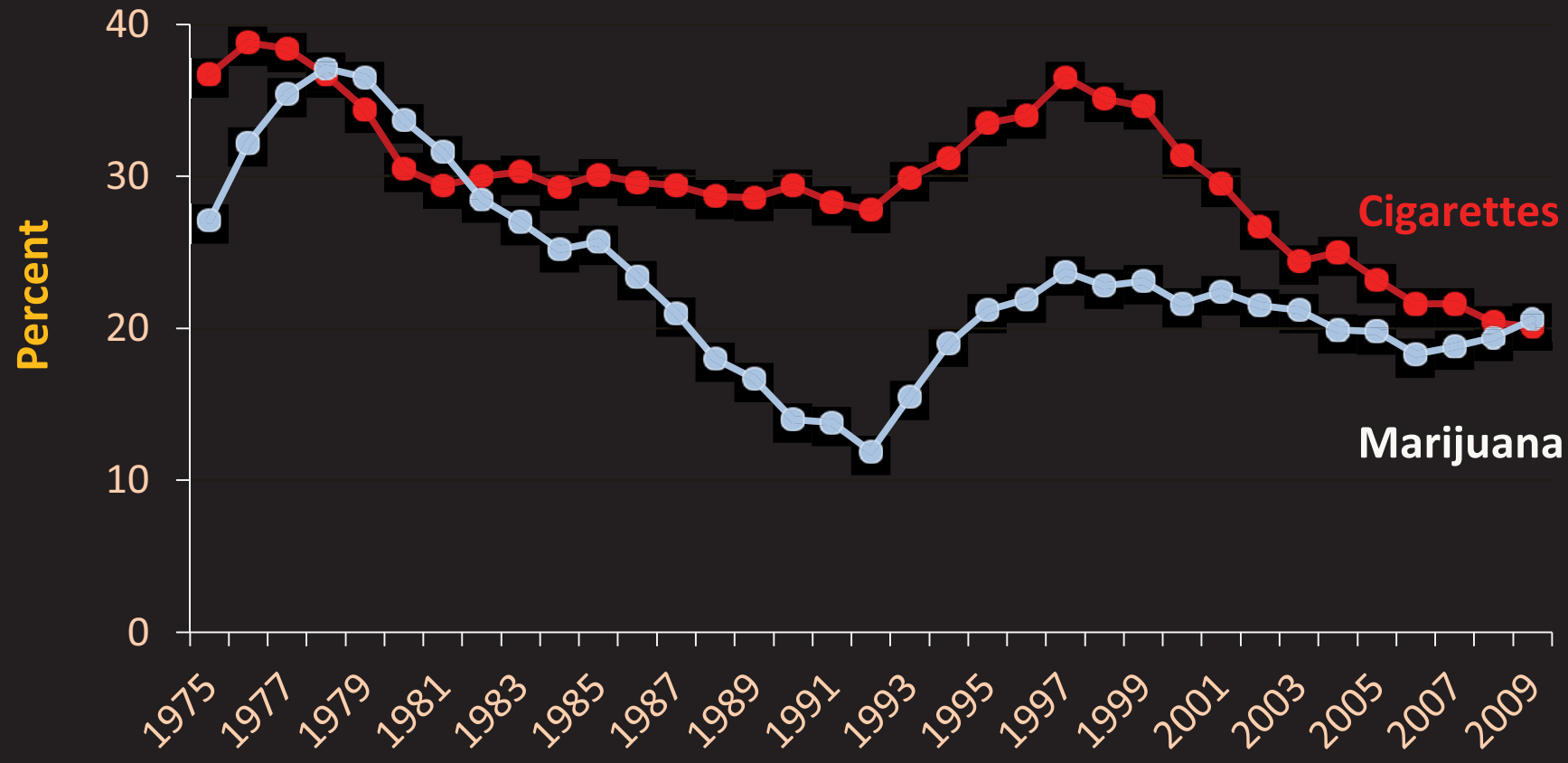
Marijuana legalization could pass: In one poll, National support is 50%



Sources: Gallup http://bit.ly/olrSEQ and GSS

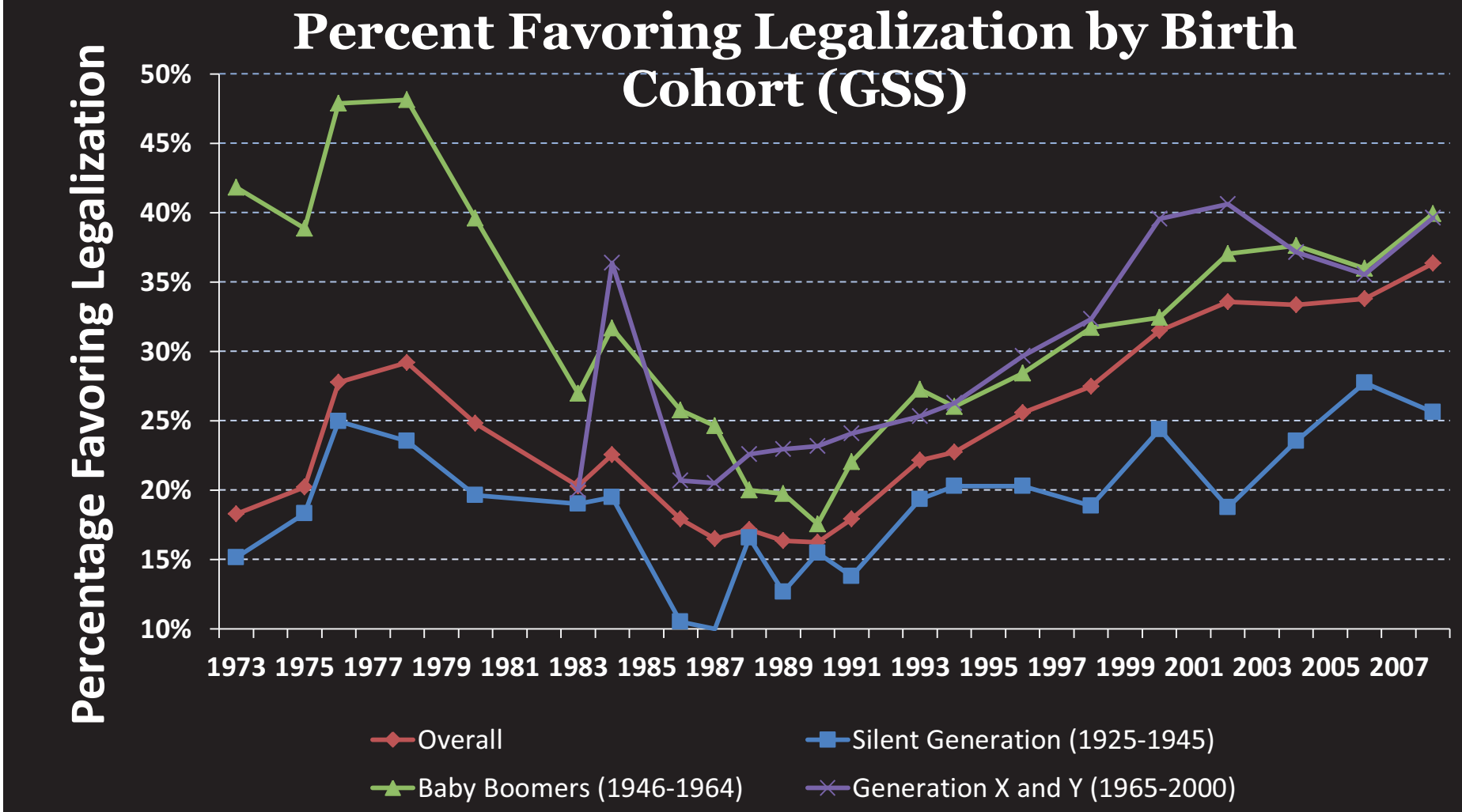
But Have We Seen This Before?

Percentage of U.S. 12th Grade Students Reporting Past Month Use of Cigarettes and Marijuana, 1975 to 2009



Source: The Monitoring the Future study, the University of Michigan

Generational trends in support for legalization (Caulkins)



In 2012

Three States Voting on Marijuana Legalization: OR, WA, CO

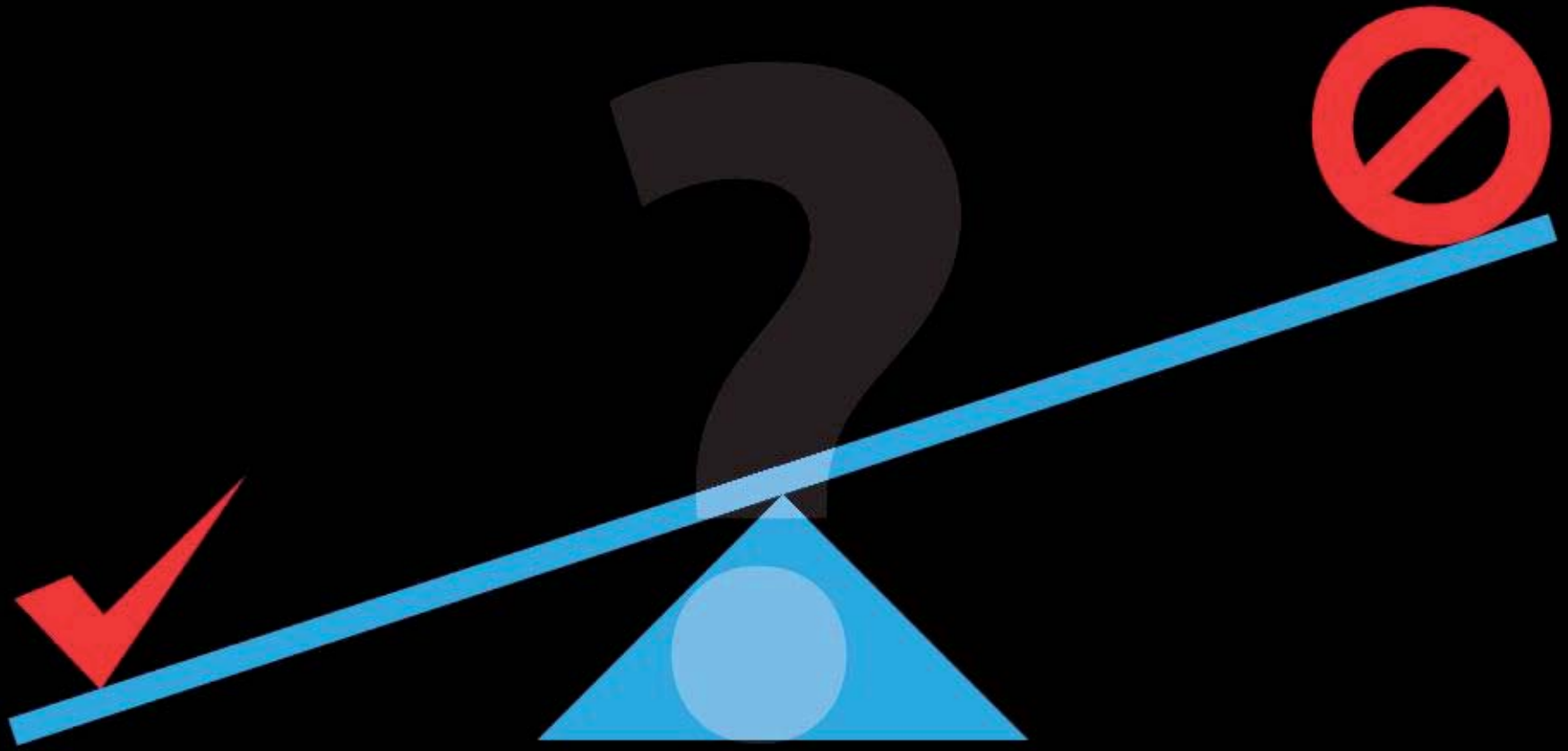
WA and CO are most worrisome – professionally run campaigns with $$$

Four States to Vote on “Medical” Marijuana

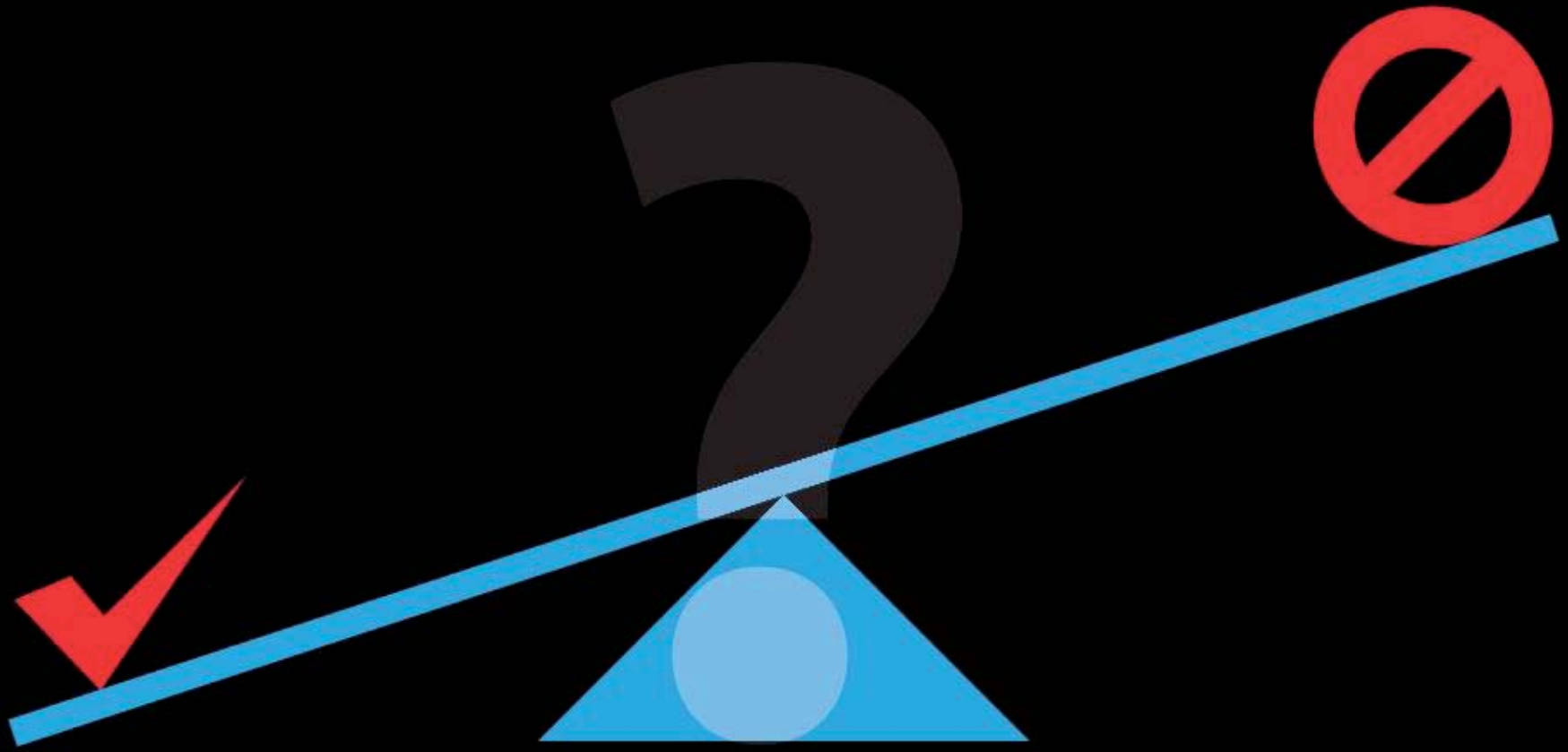
Legalization seen and framed as
sensible alternative

Threats to Advances in Drug Control

All or nothing?
Legalization vs. Prohibition



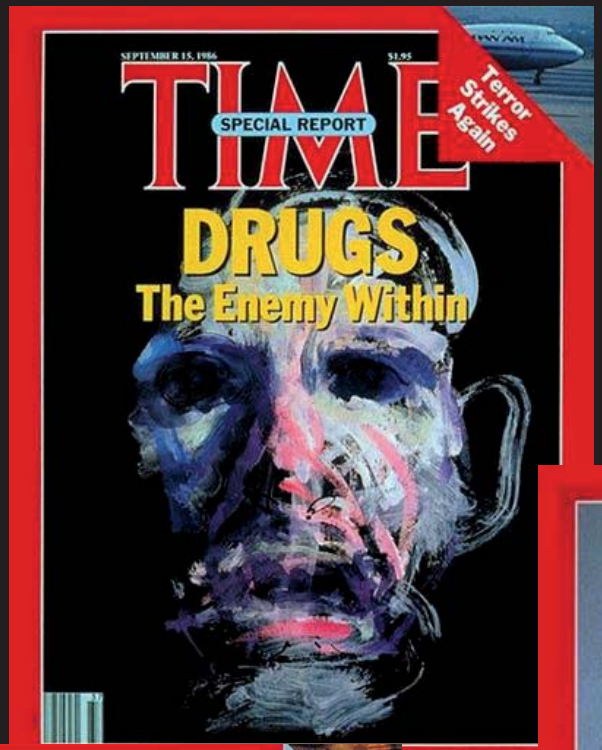
All or nothing?
Treatment vs. Incarceration

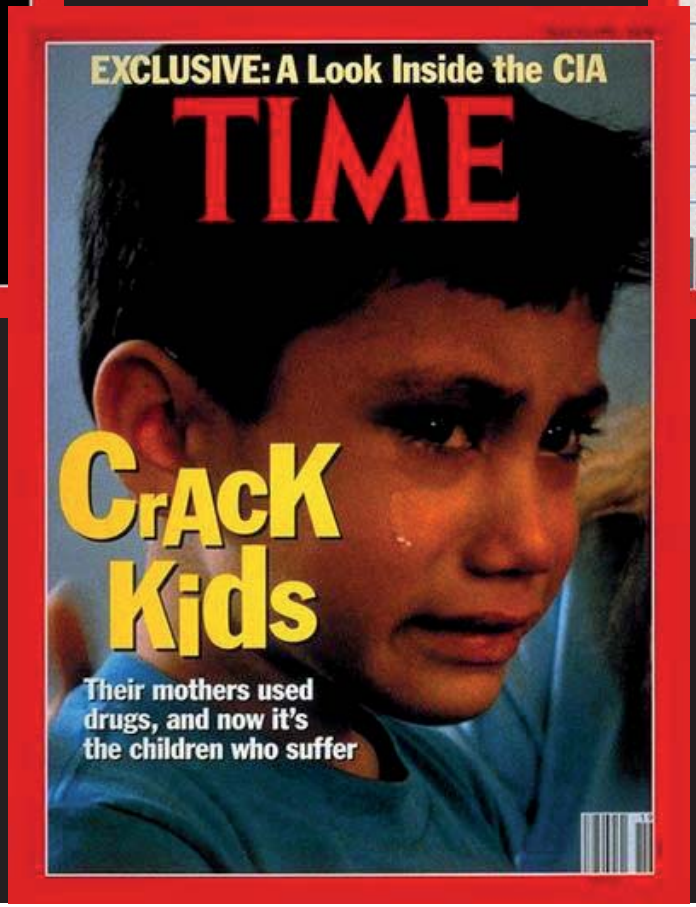


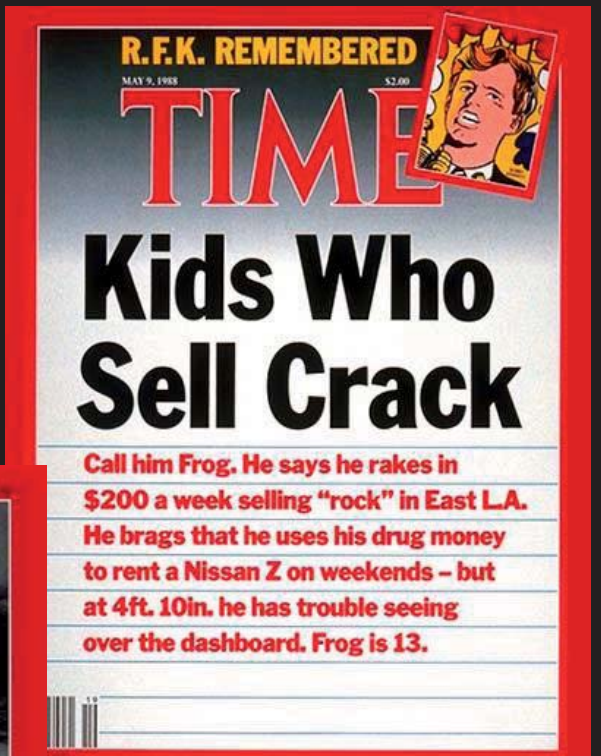
Enforcement and Treatment Can Work Together

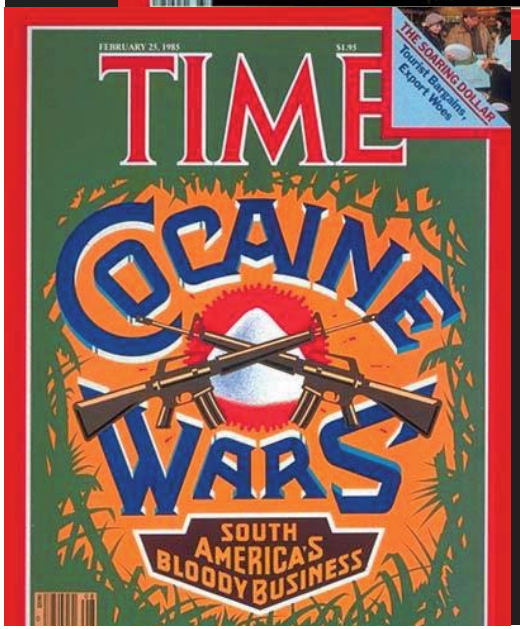


For every **$1.00 invested** in Drug Court, taxpayers **save as much as $3.36** in avoided criminal justice costs alone.


SEPTEMBER 15, 1986
$1.95
TIME
SPECIAL REPORT
Terror Strikes Again
DRUGS
The Enemy Within


EXCLUSIVE: A Look Inside the CIA
TIME
CRACK Kids
Their mothers used drugs, and now it's the children who suffer

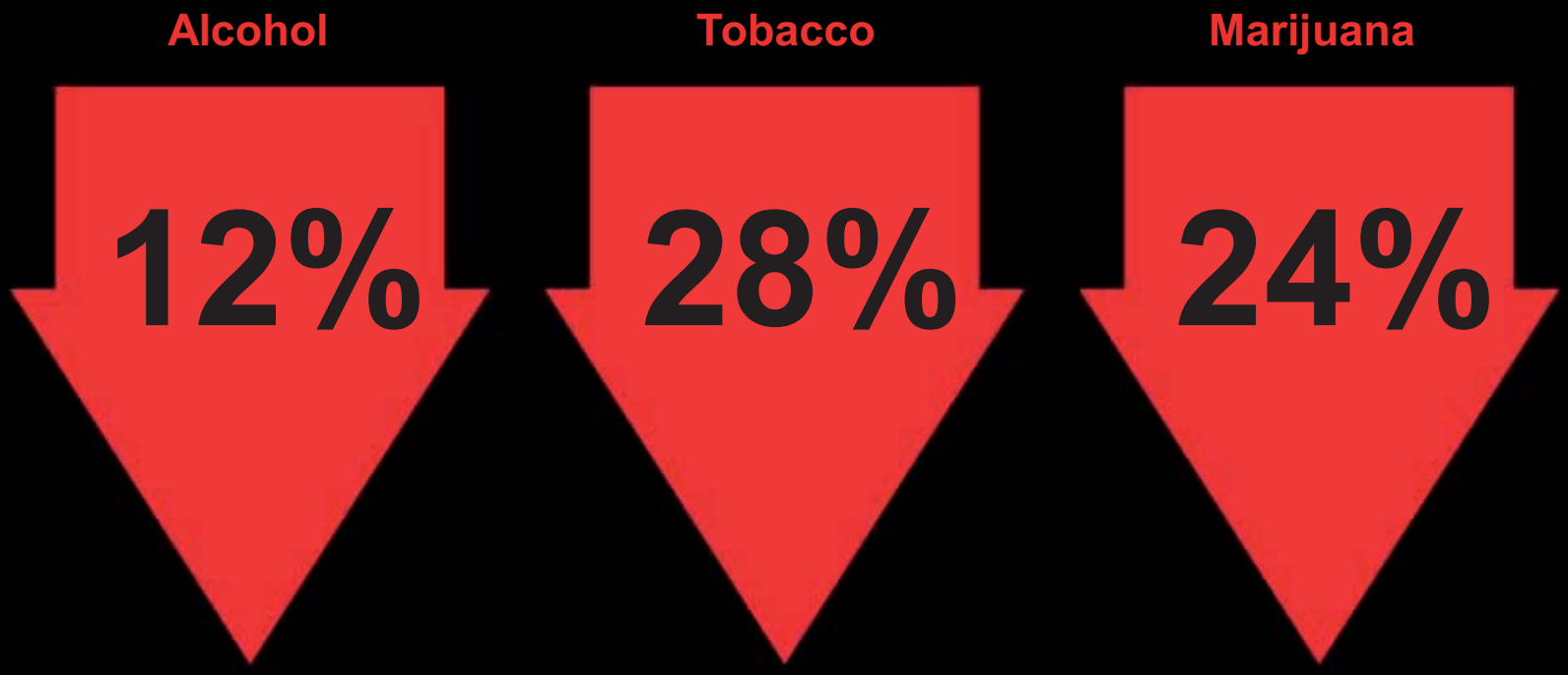

R.F.K. REMEMBERED
MAY 9, 1988
$2.00
TIME
Kids Who Sell Crack
Call him Frog. He says he rakes in $200 a week selling "rock" in East L.A. He brags that he uses his drug money to rent a Nissan Z on weekends – but at 4ft. 10in. he has trouble seeing over the dashboard. Frog is 13.


FEBRUARY 25, 1985
$1.95
TIME
THE SOARING DOLLAR
Tourist Bargains, Export Woes
COCAINE WARS
SOUTH AMERICA'S BLOODY BUSINESS


TIME
TV UNDER FIRE
Too Much Sex And Guns?
HIGH ON COCAINE
A Drug with Status —And Menace

Prevention:
Community-based Coalitions

- Planning
- Multi-Sector approach
- Reduction in use of …



Judicial Systems:
An untapped opportunity for progress

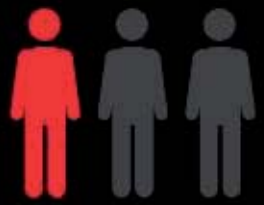
7 million

Americans in the Criminal Justice System

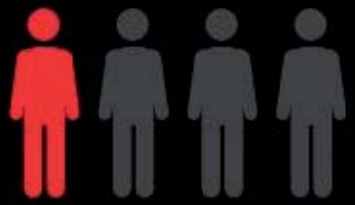


Incarcerated

On Probation or Parole



Nearly a third of State prisoners …



… and a quarter of Federal prisoners committed their crimes under the influence of drugs

Texas Case Study

Should we spend $523 Million on constructing a new prison?

First, commissioned study on how to reduce population: study showed that if $240 million were spent on substance abuse treatment, prison population would decline.

Texas Case Study

Legislature then implemented study findings, which saved the state over $210 million for the 2008-2009 fiscal. year.

Also established permanent monitoring system to ensure continued successful reduction in prison population.

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There are many ways to reduce incarceration and other related consequences without legalizing drugs.

Solutions

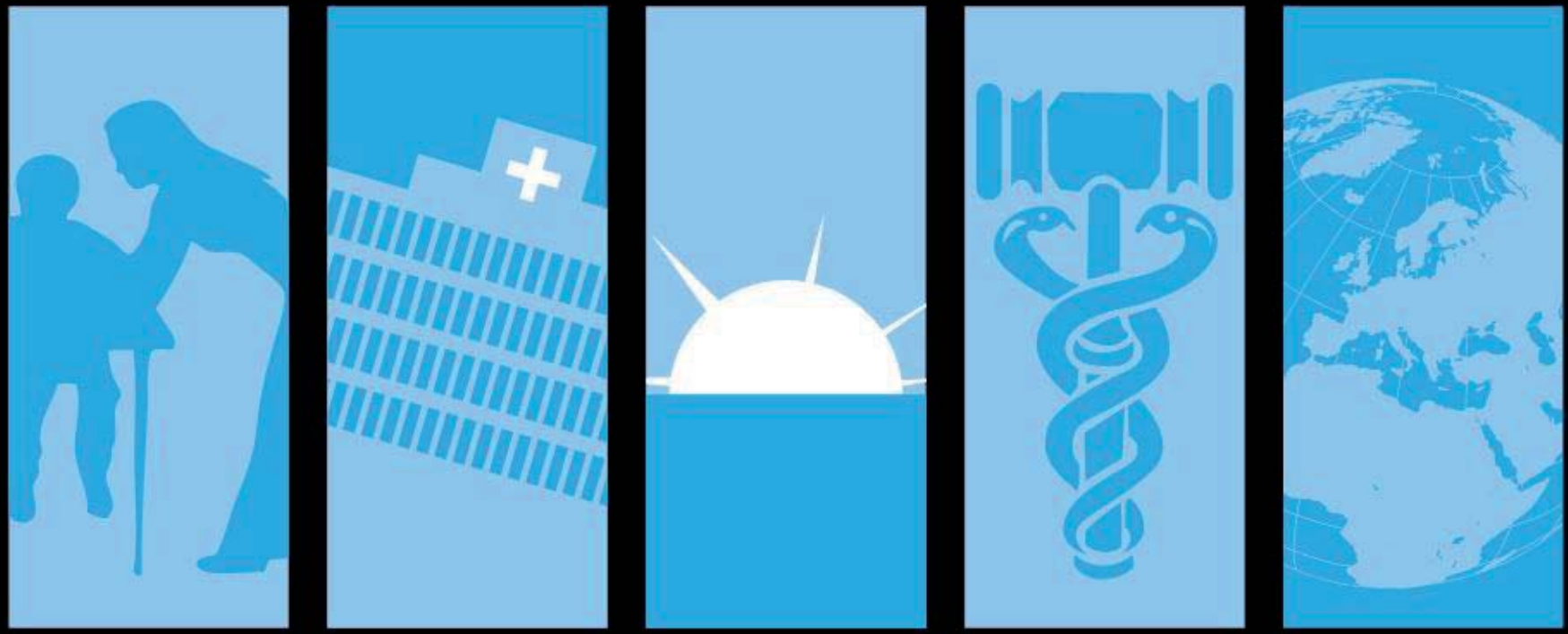
Prevention

Intervention & Treatment

Recovery

Smart Enforcement

International Efforts



Thank you!

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