

The background of the entire image is a solid purple color with a faint, large-scale pattern of cannabis leaves. The leaves are rendered in a slightly darker shade of purple, creating a subtle texture.

# SHOULD CANNABIS BE LEGALISED?

PHARMACY  
DEBATE PACKS

## SOME ARGUMENTS FOR:

Cannabis has been used for pain relief for thousands of years.

It is believed that Queen Victoria took cannabis to treat her period pain.

Cannabis has proven medical benefits.

If cannabis has less serious effects than other drugs like heroin or cocaine, police resources should be targeted at those rather than cannabis.

## SOME ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

Cannabis is the most widely-used recreational drug. It accounts for 75% of drug-related offences.

Some cannabis users have shown signs of damage to their health as a result of long-term use.



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## SOME THINGS FOR YOU TO THINK ABOUT

**What is cannabis?  
Why is it illegal?**

**Alcohol and tobacco are not illegal.**  
Why is there this difference?  
Should there be a difference?

How would you weigh up the advantages  
and disadvantages of legalising cannabis  
to come to a decision?

**Should any drugs be illegal?**  
Is it just up to the individual to decide  
whether they want to take them and  
suffer any consequences?



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## WHERE TO FIND OUT MORE...

### **'Cannabis: some facts'**

Information Sheet.

### **'Control of harmful substances'**

Information Sheet.

### **'Cannabis: first person accounts'**

Information Sheet.

Have a look in the newspapers this week to see if there are any news articles about cannabis. It's often in the headlines.

### **[www.mindbodysoul.gov.uk](http://www.mindbodysoul.gov.uk)**

Click on drugs and then 'what are they?' to find out more about cannabis and its effects.

### **[www.plantcultures.org/plants/hemp\\_landing.html](http://www.plantcultures.org/plants/hemp_landing.html)**

The Royal Botanic Gardens' website has great pages about the plant, its history and its uses.



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