

Legalize it

Jamaican-born Peter Tosh wrote and released Legalize it in 1975 in response to his ongoing victimization by the Jamaican police. It was also meant to be a political statement supporting cannabis legalization for medical purposes in particular.

2 AEB-TUSA

Legalize it Lyrics

Legalize it, don't criticize it Legalize it, yeah, yeah, and I will advertise it Some call it tampee, tampee Some call it the weed Some call it marijuana, marijuana Some of them call it ganja, ganja Every man got to legalize it, and don't criticize it Legalize it yeah, yeah, and I will advertise it Singers smoke it And players of instrument too Legalize it, yeah, yeah That's the best thing you can do Doctors smoke it. nurses smoke it Judges smoke it, even the lawyer too So you've got to legalize it, and don't criticize it Legalize it, yeah, yeah, and I will advertise it It's good for the flu, a good for asthma Good for tuberculosis, even umara composis Got to legalize it, don't criticize it Legalize it, yeah, yeah, I will advertise it Birds eat it, ants love it Fowls eat it, goats love to play with it So you've got to legalize it, don't criticize it Legalize it, yeah, yeah, and I will advertise it Keep on telling you, legalize it

Source: Musixmatch

Songwriters: Peter Tosh / Marcelo Peixoto / Rafael Lopes

Activity steps

- Play <u>Legalize it</u>.
- Give each participant a **Legalize it handout.** Walk through the handout, and then play the song again.
- Arrange participants into small groups or pairs. Ask them to talk about and write answers to the 'reflect and discuss' questions.
- Debrief with the group.
- Invite participants to 'look into it' and choose a research activity.

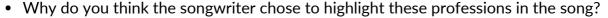


Legalize it

Reflect and discuss

Stigma and racism

Singers smoke it
And players of instrument too
Legalize it, yeah, yeah
That's the best thing you can do
Doctors smoke it, nurses smoke it
Judges smoke it, even the lawyer too





Medical use

It's good for the flu, a good for asthma Good for tuberculosis, even umara composis

- What is your understanding of the medical uses of cannabis? Where did you learn about it?
- Today, in Canada, cannabis is advertised and sold in many forms to help with various conditions. Do
 you think there are some forms of using cannabis better than others for treating health problems?
 Are there any health conditions that you think would be made worse by using cannabis? Explain your
 answers.

Let's look into it!

• **Legalize it** was banned when released, but not suppressed. Singer Peter Tosh became famous. In 1977, Tosh said: "We are the victims of Rasclot circumstances. Victimization, colonialism, gonna lead to bloodbath."

To what degree do you think was Tosh right? Explore legalization and explain your answer in an essay.

Before legalization in Canada in 2018, many people with medical problems accessed cannabis
through compassion clubs. The advocates who ran these quasi-legal entities took legal and financial
risks to provide medical cannabis to cancer patients and others who needed it. This included
marginalized people who did not feel welcome in the mainstream system. Research and explore
Canada's history of compassion clubs, and share your findings in writing or an oral presentation.

