

**Submission
No 132**

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE REGULATORY
FRAMEWORK FOR CANNABIS IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

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Our Cannabis laws came about without proper research and testing.

The actual truth behind the reasoning for its criminalisation of cannabis is not clear.

At best it was a case of best intentions gone wrong, at worst a cohort of persons using their position and power to create a corrupt empire.

So..

Yes, there were studies done on cannabis before it criminalized. In fact, cannabis has been used for medicinal and recreational purposes for thousands of years, and it was a popular ingredient in medicines in the United States and Europe during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Some notable studies and reports on cannabis from before its criminalization include:

1. The Indian Hemp Commission Report (1893-1894): This comprehensive report by the British Indian Hemp Commission examined the use of cannabis in India and concluded that it was relatively harmless and had several medicinal benefits.
2. The 1926 Report of the Committee on Hemp and Cannabis by the League of Nations: This report acknowledged the medicinal properties of cannabis and recommended its use for certain medical conditions.
3. The 1938 "La Guardia Report" by the New York Academy of Medicine: This report, commissioned by New York City Mayor Fiorello La Guardia, found that cannabis was not a dangerous drug and did not lead to addiction or violent behavior.
4. The 1944 "Cannabis and Marihuana" report by the US Federal Bureau of Narcotics: While this report was used to justify cannabis prohibition, it also acknowledged the plant's medicinal properties and noted that it was not as dangerous as other drugs like heroin or cocaine.

These early studies and reports were largely ignored or suppressed as cannabis was criminalized in the United States and internationally through the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988). However, in recent years, there has been a resurgence of interest in cannabis research, and many studies have been conducted on its medicinal properties, safety, and efficacy.