

NEWS RELEASE



FORUM RESEARCH INC.

MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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TORONTO

July 6th, 2016

HIGHLIGHTS:

- One half agree those with criminal records for marijuana possession should be pardoned, and released if they are in jail (49%)
- "There is a significant skew in favour of pardoning and releasing convicted or jailed Canadians, if the crime is possession. This only makes sense, in that, by April 20th next year, marijuana will probably be legal in this country"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

One Half Want Pot Prisoners and Convicts Pardoned

Agreement strongest among youngest, in BC

In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1429 Canadian voters, one half agree those with criminal records for marijuana possession should be pardoned, and released if they are in jail (49%). This is especially the case among the youngest (65%), the least wealthy (often a proxy for youth - 60%), in BC (58%), among Liberals (54%) and New Democrats (58%) but not so much among Conservatives (35%). There is agreement among the best educated (post grad - 54%), among those who have used marijuana (67%) and those who use it now (80%) and among those who would abolish the monarchy (55%).

Just more than a third do not agree with pardons for simple possession (35%), and one sixth don't have an opinion (16%).

"There is a significant skew in favour of pardoning and releasing convicted or jailed Canadians, if the crime is possession. This only makes sense, in that, by April 20th next year, marijuana will probably be legal in this country" said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at lbozinoff@forumresearch.com or at (416) 960-9603.

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Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1429 randomly selected Canadian adults. The poll was conducted on July 5th, 2016.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3%, 19 times out of 20. Subsample results will be less accurate. Margins of error for subsample (such as age, gender) results are available at www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted by age, region, and other variables to ensure that the sample reflects the actual population according to the latest Census data.

This research is not necessarily predictive of future outcomes, but rather, captures opinion at one point in time. Forum Research conducted this poll as a public service and to demonstrate our survey research capabilities. Forum houses its poll results in the Data Library of the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

With offices across Canada and around the world, 100% Canadian-owned Forum Research is one of the country's leading survey research firms. This Forum Poll™ and other polls may be found at Forum's poll archive at www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp

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Pardoning Those Convicted of Marijuana-related Crimes

Do you agree or disagree that all those Canadians with criminal records for possession of marijuana should be pardoned, and released if they are in jail?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1429	253	196	251	341	388	722	679
Agree	49	65	46	37	49	39	51	46
Disagree	35	21	42	42	41	39	36	35
Don't know	16	14	12	21	10	23	13	19

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	1429	137	272	224	201	154	242
Agree	49	60	49	49	52	51	48
Disagree	35	31	31	33	37	34	37
Don't know	16	9	20	18	11	15	14

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1429	105	320	554	100	144	206	1120	309
Agree	49	45	46	49	41	49	58	49	46
Disagree	35	40	37	36	39	38	26	34	39
Don't know	16	16	17	15	20	13	16	16	15

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1429	377	655	162	75	58	41
Agree	49	35	54	58	66	45	54
Disagree	35	52	31	27	20	40	35
Don't know	16	13	15	14	15	15	11

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Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1429	305	411	501	212
Agree	49	45	48	49	54
Disagree	35	38	34	36	33
Don't know	16	17	17	15	13

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Marijuana Usage

%	Total	Ever Used Marijuana- Yes	Ever Used Marijuana- No	Currently Use Marijuana- Yes	Currently Use Marijuana- No
Sample	1429	614	815	155	459
Agree	49	67	33	80	61
Disagree	35	23	46	11	28
Don't know	16	10	21	9	11

Opinion of Continuation of the Monarchy

%	Total	Favor	Opposed	Don't know
Sample	1429	591	612	226
Agree	49	55	44	44
Disagree	35	34	40	30
Don't know	16	11	17	26

For more information:

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