
Highlights of the convention speeches

Culver Kidd

State Senator, Georgia

"The Russians don't have to worry, the initiative that has made this country the greatest nation on earth is being sapped by drugs. Drug abuse is the largest threat to our communities and social fabric.

"As a political figure for some 30 years in the state of Georgia, and one that I hope will still be in politics for a long time to come, it is difficult for me to understand why some of our politicians will try to put politics above the need and input that we must have in the drug abuse field.

"We need tough laws. Over 3,000 pushers who have been apprehended have never been brought to trial. We need laws that make it so that anyone caught with 100 pounds of marijuana faces ten years in prison with no parole. All levels of government must do whatever is necessary to stop the availability of harmful drugs to their children. And we need leaders, like Mr. LaRouche, who lays it on the line."

Ganesh Shukla,

Editor, New Wave, India

"India, a nation of 650,000,000 people, sits at the center of the \$200 billion dope trade—which traces its route from Peking to Hong Kong to Singapore and Thailand to the United States. It is clear to us that the deliberate objective of this dope trade is the destruction of the youth of the United States.

"The aim is to target U.S. youth and destroy it and in the process destroy this nation's productive capability. This will prevent the industrialization of the Third World. The intended result of this policy can only be the mass genocide of entire nations.

"Thus, you and the Anti-Drug Coalition are fighting for us, for the hundreds of millions of us in the Third World."

Jesse Miller,

Mayor, Highland Park, Michigan

"My city, like many other cities, faces a crisis. Twenty-five percent of Highland Park's tax base is completely dependent on the Chrysler Corporation. If Chrysler goes under and those workers are laid off, demoralization will increase, drug addiction will rise....

"I am 100 percent committed to ending drug addiction and the drug traffic. In Highland Park, we are just beginning to attack the drug problem and shut down the pushers. ... We will soon be proclaiming an Anti-Drug Week there, but we need Congress to pass legislation that will shut down the entire business.

"Let the word go all out to all the mayors of the United States to make drugs a number one priority on the political agenda. ... This coalition is the only thing standing between America and bedlam."

Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

Presidential candidate

"The fact that those who shift from opposing drugs passively, to fighting drugs actively are met with ugly threats and evil harassment shows that drug addiction is an organized evil. Drug addiction is not the product of the weakness of our children but an organized evil that preys on the weakness of our children.

"What must be emphasized is the moral issue. In this sea of suffering humanity is a more profound moral impulse which we must bring forth and enable the individual to act on it effectively.

"It is our responsibility to build the foundation stones for future generations. But if we have no posterity, we are building foundation stones in the desert. Our nation will become a 'Clockwork Orange.'

"Seventy-five percent of the American population understands that there must be a moral purpose to life. The other 25 percent will disagree with me. They say, 'I have a right to smoke marijuana.' They not only destroy their own minds. They neglect to look at the consequences to see that they create a climate of dope in which little children are hooliganized to submit to a dope culture. They refuse to recognize that where marijuana is grown, food is not grown; they refuse to

recognize that their opposition to nuclear energy means that billions of people will die because of their special private needs.

"Our job is to win the fight against drugs. This is not merely to argue, but to win this political fight, we must reach beyond the sheeplikeness of so many, to touch them, to evoke that sense in themselves of what is human. We must cease to be cynical about the adult citizenry, and mobilize that moral purpose in them. If we do that, we will win the fight against drugs and we will do something much more fundamental. We will have turned sheep into human beings with a sense of dignity."

Arthur Overton

President, Michigan Laymen's Association of the African Methodist Episcopal Church

"The question of decriminalization of marijuana to me parallels the story of the snake who said to the man, 'I'm cold. Would you permit me to take shelter under your coat?' And the man replied, 'If you promise not to bite me.' So the snake curled up on the man's chest. In a little while the snake bit the man, and very angrily the man flung the snake from him, saying, 'You promised that if I let you warm yourself you would not bite me!' To which the snake replied, 'You knew I was a snake when you permitted me to get close to you!'"

"The decriminalization of marijuana holds the same danger: first, decriminalization, then legalization. As early as the 1950s and 1960s, I was made aware of the devastation which could be wrought by the use of marijuana, and the ultimate evil: leading to the use of hard drugs. At that time the use of drugs was confined mostly to the areas populated by blacks. Young blacks apprehended for various infractions of the law were in 75 percent of the cases users of some kind of drug. In interviews with them, it was determined that in many instances their first venture in that direction was the use of marijuana, and a little bit later, when this failed to give them the required 'high,' they tried hard drugs. As a Christian, a father, a grandfather, a member of a national church organization, and a person living in a city which has felt the effects of the use of marijuana and other drugs, I appeal to those under the sound of my voice here, to help in this battle to defeat those who would by legislation pass a decriminalization bill in Michigan and other states."

Fausto Charris

Colombian agrarian leader

"It is the purpose of the state not to expand vices but to eliminate them. Anyone who says that it is in a nation's interest to legalize marijuana and drugs is either a drug pusher or a drug addict. The true wealth of a nation is its people; a president who is elected by drug addicts has committed vote fraud...."

"The Colombian peasant continues to be poverty-stricken. The peasant who grows marijuana may have money but he has no food; he is undernourished. What we need is that the youth of the United States help rebuild Colombia. Those who want to destroy the youth of the United States are those who want to destroy Colombia. Thus, there is an alliance between our two nations, our two peoples."

Dr. Edward Christian

An assistant to Phila. medical examiner

Edward Christian, a leader of the Pennsylvania Anti-Drug Coalition and a trained pathologist, presented a slide show to the conference on the horrifying effects of drug addiction. The drug pusher is a murderer. He took the audience through a half-hour viewing of dead and dying victims of drug addiction, showing the effects of drugs on their minds and bodies. He showed that although seven out of every ten victims of death caused by drug abuse are black, drug addiction afflicts every racial and socioeconomic sector of the nation. The last slide showed Mr. Christian's brother, dead of an overdose with the needle still in his arm.

After the presentation, a number of people, including children in the audience, fainted. "We must make our children faint," said Juan Torres, Michigan Anti-Drug Coalition chairman, "to burn in their minds the destruction drugs means."

In the coming weeks and months, Mr. Christian will present his slide show before hundreds of communities and schools across the country.

Alan Cropsey

Republican Michigan State Representative

"In the Michigan Legislature last year, marijuana decriminalization was passed by both houses but it did not go to the governor because a Democrat, Matthew McNeilly, stood up and asked the Legislature to reconsider the bill. He explained why—his son had started on marijuana and last year he buried his son, who had died of an overdose of heroin. Only because of the

courageous act of this Democratic senator was decriminalization not made the law.

"When I came to the Legislature in the next session, the anti-marijuana forces were in total disarray, and then Peter Signorelli of the Michigan Anti-Drug Coalition knocked on my door. I will work with anyone who wants to fight drugs.

"The people of Michigan don't want marijuana decriminalization. What we must do is mobilize people to make their leaders do what they want, and if their leaders don't do it, they must be changed."

* * *

"Is someone from the Detroit Free Press here this evening? I wish they were; they might have gotten some facts from this seminar today that they might not have known before. A couple of weeks ago Peter Signorelli called me up and said, 'You made the Detroit Free Press,' and I said, 'Well, I thought I would because they had called me up and said, 'How come you are with the Anti-Drug Coalition? Do you know there are certain extremist elements in that coalition,' and I said, 'I don't really care *who's* in it; the purpose of what they're doing is trying to stop drug abuse.' They said, 'Did you know that they tend to be anti-Semitic?' Boy, they come up with some loaded ones! And I said, 'Well, I didn't realize that.' And he said, 'Well, they do' ... and on, and on, and on.

"I wonder if another newspaper had called up and had started inquiring about the communists, or started inquiring maybe about the gays up in the capital or something like that, whether all of a sudden we wouldn't have heard words like 'McCarthyism' flying around in the capital; 'McCarthyism!' flying around in other newspapers; 'Witchhunts!' May I ask why is the Free Press going on a witchhunt against an organization that is trying to stop the drugs in this state?

"Let me ask why the Free Press isn't going on a witchhunt trying to find out how drugs are related to the criminals who are going around trying to get money for a fix, about the crimes that these criminals are committing against our senior citizens, against our businessmen—and it doesn't matter what color the businessman's skin is, whether he's black or white—and against the homeowners Why aren't they going on a witchhunt looking to see who's *behind* who's pushing drugs? Why aren't they going on a witchhunt to see *why* these families are being broken up because of

drugs? Why aren't they going on a witchhunt to see who's behind the drug culture that is destroying the minds of our young people, that is killing our young people? Why aren't they going on a witchhunt asking how many tax dollars are being spent to try to rehabilitate these young people whose minds have been destroyed by drugs?

"I'm asking the Detroit Free Press: Why don't you go on a witchhunt like *that*? That is, if you're a *free* press, certainly you're free to look into the Anti-Drug Coalition, but you're also free to give the other side of the story, and I wish you'd do that also!"

Edward Bivins

Former mayor, Inkster, Michigan

"Those who have attended today should have the ammunition, the knowledge, and the moral strength to make drugs an issue from the family dinner table to the White House."

Jeffrey Steinberg

Co-author, Dope, Inc.

"The same forces behind the Oct. 6 environmentalist invasion of the Seabrook nuclear plant are the forces behind drug pushing. We have to name the names."

Dr. Gabriel Nahas

Adviser to the UN on drug abuse

"We are merely confirming facts observed by Islamic scholars 600 years ago: marijuana is debilitating to the mind and the body."

Kena Moreno

President, National Executive Committee of the Center for Juvenile Integration, Mexico

"To decriminalize marijuana is to legalize ignorance."

Aleem Sultan Abdullah

Representative for the Hon. Wallace Deen Muhammad of the Community of al-Islam in the West

"Every man has a right to an education."