A BOOK

Medical Cannabis? It's About Safety

VIZO YOUNG

An English original by VIZO YOUNG, a retired professor who has studied the history, science, analysis and uses of hemp since 2007, and is now an author and artist.

The question

Was cannabis truly a medicine in Asia? The old records answer: it was used as medicine, but it was not a medicinal plant.

Every use of the plant written down in the historical records of Korea, China, Japan and Thailand was read and counted, one passage at a time. What the records hold, above all, is the plant of clothing and mourning, of tax, rope and light.

473
passages on cannabis in Japan's *Koji ruien*, each read and classified

3.4%
of them medical; cloth, ritual, tax and rope make up most of the rest

0.5–8.5%
the medical share in Korea, Japan and China, almost all of it the seed

46 of 87
Thai passages before 1935 are medical; next come smoking (18) and the laws that forbade it (16)

The last chapter sets these records beside recent harms in the region, most of which came through food and sweets, and argues that **safety must come before the medicalisation and recreational use of THC.**

Contents

- Preface
- Prologue
- The Short Answer
- **Part One.** The Question
  Chapter 1. A Decade Called Medicine
- **Part Two.** The Count
  Chapter 2. Reading the Whole Record
- **Part Three.** The Parts the Law Releases: Seed, Stalk and Root
  Chapter 3. The Seed: Eaten, Pressed and Burned for Light
  Chapter 4. The Stalk: The Skin Became Cloth, the Bone Became Fire
  Chapter 5. The Root: A Mourning Rule and Borrowed Prescriptions
- **Part Four.** The Parts the Law Forbids: Leaf and Flower
  Chapter 6. “They See Ghosts and Run Wild”
- **Part Five.** Today
  Chapter 7. The Law of Four Nations Now
  Chapter 8. YSP: Naming What the Law Left Out
  Chapter 9. It’s About Safety
- Epilogue
- A Word of Thanks
- A Response from the Editor and Planner
- **Appendices**
  A. Usage by country (full tables)
  B. Word-by-word tables
  C. Further counts
  D. The research archive

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VIZO YOUNG · Published by VIZOVIZO (鼻祖飛鳥)
E-book (EPUB3) · USD 100 (KRW 100,000) · Now available
ISBN 979-11-222114-1-2