

# Pot Smoker Jack Nicholson Wants Discussion on Legalization

By Jeremiah Vandermeer, February 3 2011

CANNABIS CULTURE – Academy Award-winning Hollywood icon Jack Nicholson criticized America's War on Drugs in a recent interview with a British newspaper, and said he still smokes marijuana.

"I don't tend to say this publicly, but we can see it's a curative thing," Nicholson told the UK's **Daily Mail**. "The narcotics industry is also enormous. It funds terrorism and – this is a huge problem in America – fuels the foreign gangs. More than 85 per cent of men incarcerated in America are on drug-related offences. It costs \$40,000 a year for every prisoner.

"If they were really serious about the economy there would be a sensible discussion about legalisation."

The actor – who holds several **Oscar records** and is one of the most celebrated actors in the business – is (also) known as a notorious party animal and **pot smoker**, and has been quoted on the subject before.

"My point of view, while extremely cogent, is unpopular...", he is **reported to have** said. "That the repressive nature of the legalities vis-a-vis drugs are destroying the legal system and corrupting the police system."

Nicholson broke into the movie business with drug-filled pictures like **The Trip**, and **Easy Rider**. Nicholson's *Rider* co-star Peter Fonda admitted, forty years after the film was made, that the actors had been **smoking real marijuana** while filming.

In the *Mail* article, Nicholson recounts his days of hard partying, but said, "There was always a discipline within my partying structure."

"I've woken up in trees, I've woken up almost hanging off cliffs, but I've always known how to sort myself out," he said.

The 73-year-old star said that although he still smokes pot, his days of using hard drugs and alcohol are over.

"The last three times I've been in New York filming, I didn't leave my hotel room for one single night. People won't believe that, but it's true. But you adjust your life to your circumstances, and I can spend a lot of time on my own. I think of myself as social, but my friends are always telling me, "Jack, you need to get out more."