

Statement on Ballot Question 2 by Raymond L. Flynn  
Oct. 31, 2008

Over the years, I have had the opportunity to know and work closely with many dedicated law enforcement officials. I have found the majority of them to be very professional, civic minded and deeply concerned about their family and community. I believe their voice and opinion in opposition to ballot Question #2 is important.

If Question # 2 is approved, our drug laws will be weakened. Under this proposal, getting caught with an ounce of marijuana will be punishable only by a civil fine. Marijuana is a gateway drug. Many users of marijuana often end up using stronger and more addictive illegal drugs. Weakening our drug laws will be a bad example to set for our young people and families across the commonwealth.

This is a quality of life issue. If approved, this proposal would have a negative impact on the stability of the family and society. As a society, we need to send the correct message to young people that drugs are NOT the answer.

We must send the correct example to our children, grandchildren and society. We must provide them with a decent education and a strong moral example.

Society and families work best when we all work together. Clearly, illegal drugs are not the answer. I have also been in contact with the chief law enforcement official in Suffolk County, District Attorney Daniel Conley, who strongly shares my opinion about voting "NO" on Question #2.

I understand and know the important and vital role the Catholic Church plays in our society. I am writing to respectfully ask you to share this information with the Catholic community and to ask them to consider voting "NO" on Question #2 on Election Day, Tuesday, November 4, 2008.

Sincerely,

Raymond L. Flynn  
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