

The side effects of Arizona's immigration law

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The Obama administration has used a bizarre double standard in dealing with the Arizona immigration law and medical marijuana. The usurpation of federal prerogatives in the case of Arizona's immigration laws pales in comparison to the egregious flaunting of violations of federal law and international treaty obligations created by state and local approval of smoked marijuana.

The right way to handle medical marijuana is to submit the issue to the Food and Drug Administration for judgment regarding the safety and efficacy of smoked marijuana for medicinal uses. If approved, medical marijuana should be prescribed and dispensed just as are all other medicines, especially controlled substances.

The Obama administration, AWOL on medical marijuana, is permitting -- if not encouraging -- a menacing precedent for the political approval of medicines.

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