

A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park\*

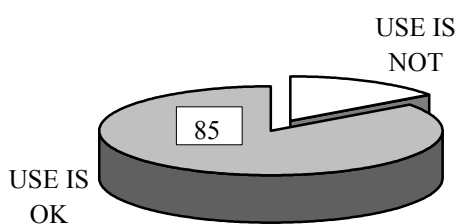
## *Youths Who Use Marijuana Are More Likely to Say Their Friends Approve of Its Use*

Data from the just released 1992 Maryland Adolescent Survey (MAS) of students enrolled in public schools in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12, reveal an association between a youth's drug use and his/her perception of peer approval of use. Students were asked whether their friends would think it was "OK" or "Not OK" if they used certain drugs. Eighty-five percent of marijuana users felt that their friends would approve of their use; only 20% of non-users felt their friends would approve of their use of the drug. The unanswered question: Which came first--the marijuana use or the perception that friends would approve?

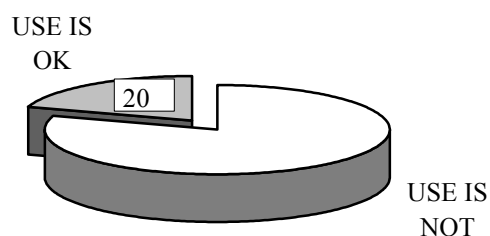
### **What Would Your Friends Think If You Were To Use Marijuana or Hashish?**

(Students in Grades 8, 10, and 12)

**Marijuana Users**



**Non-Users**



SOURCE: 1992 Maryland Adolescent Drug Survey, Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).  
A copy of the MAS may be obtained by contacting Debbie Somerville at (410) 333-2680.

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