

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS.

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

AFFORDABLE CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD.

No matter how you chose to describe it, everyone knows what these words mean. Right? Spiritual and political freedom. For everyone — even the poor. The Government keeps out of it and does nothing to "establish" or otherwise support any religious or spiritual belief. We had this war a while ago about these principles, no?

Maybe so, but liberty is always unfinished business. The Patrons of Prohibition are making a potentially deadly sneak attack on altered states of consciousness. Excuse me. Altered states created by substances that haven't been patented.

A proposed bill in Louisiana — no doubt introduced by those wine swilling descendants of the French who reside there — makes it unlawful to possess or cultivate a remarkably large number of otherwise lawful plants when your intention is to use those poor helpless plants to alter your state of consciousness. Does that sound like a law that addresses matters that are "spiritual?" Does it seem to prohibit a state of mind? Or the pursuit of a state of mind? Don't these fools know that altered states produced by plants played a part in the development of every modern religion? Do they think that only our ancestors had those experiences, and that they had them on the satch? Please.

But I digress . .

The idea that the pursuit of a state of mind (other than the intent to commit a crime) can be prohibited — or at least punished — by legislation isn't just absurd. When that state of mind is considered to be spiritually worthwhile to the person who pursues it, it is absurdly and insidiously dangerous. Perhaps offenders should be stoned to death? Maybe just cut off a hand? Hmmm ... it seems difficult to fashion an appropriate punishment for the pursuit of an altered state of consciousness.

OK, it's no joke. Roughly a million plant and animal species contain dmt (Dimethyltryptamine), the active ingredient in ayahuasca and anahuasca. As one drug prosecutor said to me when apprised of that fact "I guess it means we were meant to be altered." To her I send my deepest respect. May her message be understood by those who would apply the criminal sanction to the natural human desire to use the substances that mother nature developed along with our species and its attitudes, beliefs, and values.. .

Louisiana House Bill 20 Regular Session 2005

It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly or intentionally to produce, manufacture, distribute, or possess with intent to produce, manufacture, or distribute a material,

compound, mixture, or preparation intended for human consumption which contains a hallucinogenic plant.

The law would not be applied to the possession, planting, cultivation, growing, or harvesting of a hallucinogenic plant strictly for aesthetic, landscaping, or decorative purposes.

Therefore one's intent — whether for decoration or for psychoactive value — one's THOUGHTS about the plant that will make it legal or illegal to possess.

Violating this potential law — will get you at least two years of prison. Distributing includes giving stuff away...

In addition the following plants are specifically mentioned....

Brugmansia arborea., *Amanita muscaria.*, *Conocybe spp.*, *Panaeolus spp.*, *Psilocybe spp.*, *Stropharia spp.*, *Vinca rosea.*, *Ipomoea violacea.*, *Datum spp.*, *Pancreatium trianthum.*, *Kaempferia galanga.*, *Olmedioperebea sclerophylla.*, *Mesembryanthemum spp.*, *Viola spp.*, *Anadenanthera peregrina.*, *Anadenanthera colubrina.*, *Erythina spp.*, *Genista canariensis.*, *Mimosa hostilis.*, *Rhynchosia spp.*, *Sophora secundiflora.*, *Peganum harmala.*, *Banisteriopsis spp.*, *Tetrapteris methystica.*, *Heimia salicifolia.*, *Tabernanthe iboga.*, *Pre:sionia amazonica.*, *Ipomoea violacea.*, *Rivea corymbosa.*, *Salvia divinorum.*,

Atropa belladonna., *Hyoscyamus niger.*, *Mandragora officinarum.*, *Brunfelsia spp.*, *Methysticodendron amesianum.*, *Latua pubiflora.*, *Calea Zacatechichi.*, *Physalis subglab'ata.*, *Solanum carolinense.*, *Lagoehilus inebrians.*

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