

## Illinois Elks Association Drug Awareness Program

### Wax is a drug more powerful than marijuana

"There is no weed out there that possesses the punching power that the wax does," an undercover DEA informant who asked to remain anonymous told ABC News' "Nightline." "And it's like smoking 20 joints of the best grade of weed that you have into one hit of the wax."

Making the drug is risky. Butane, a substance so flammable that any spark can set off an explosion, is used to strip out the THC, the chemical in marijuana that gets a person high. But law enforcement says the process of making wax is not the only thing dangerous about it.

"We have seen people have an onset of psychosis and even brain damage from that exposure to that high concentration of THC," said Gary Hill, assistant special agent in charge at the DEA's San Diego office. "Our concern is that this is going to spread before we get it under control."

But a thousand miles away, in Colorado, wax is legal. Anyone over 21 can walk into a recreational marijuana dispensary and buy it right off the shelf. There's even a three-day contest, named the X-Cup, held in broad daylight in Denver, to see who can make the most potent batch of the same drug upon which DEA agents are cracking down in California.

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/colo-marijuana-businesses-embrace-drug-center-dea-crackdown/story?id=22686105>

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