

Dear reader,

We are proud to announce our 47th issue website, [gold-standard.procon.org](http://gold-standard.procon.org), which explores the issue of whether or not the United States should return to a gold standard.

Check out the seven amazing winners in our [student video contest](#), and take a look at our own video production on the [pros and cons of milk](#).

More details below as well as our latest research on medical marijuana, euthanasia / physician-assisted suicide, critical thinking lessons, and more.

### **GOLD STANDARD**

**NEW ProCon.org Website!** – [Should the United States return to a gold standard?](#) - Proponents of the gold standard argue it provides long-term economic stability and growth, prevents inflation, and would reduce the size of government. Opponents argue a gold standard would create economic instability, spur periodic economic deflation and contraction, and harm the fragile US economy. A big thank you to our gold standard website sponsor, Teletrade, an online coin and currency auction house since 1986.

### **WHY I LOVE PROCON.ORG - STUDENT VIDEO CONTEST WINNERS**

A panel of prominent film celebrities and education leaders judged 1-2 minute student videos on the theme "Why I Love ProCon.org," and the lucky seven winners in the ProCon.org national student video contest were just announced. [Watch all seven winners of the "Why I Love ProCon.org" national student video contest.](#)

### **CRITICAL THINKING VIDEO SERIES #2: MILK**

Does milk help to build strong bones, or does it weaken them? Does it help you lose weight, or make you fat? Does it reduce cancer risk, or increase it? Does milk contain pus, or is that a myth? [Watch both sides of the milk debate in our latest ProCon.org video.](#)

### **MEDICAL MARIJUANA**

[How many people in the United States use medical marijuana?](#) - There are an estimated 1,029,315 patients in the 18 legal medical marijuana states and DC, as well as an estimated 2,421,069 medical marijuana users in the United States (based on an average of 7.77 patients per 1,000 residents in each legal state).

### **EUTHANASIA / PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE**

[Would financial motivations encourage insurance companies, health care providers, and patients to seek euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide if those options were legally available?](#) - Read new pro and con arguments from physicians, medical organizations, and advocacy groups on both sides of this issue.

### **EDUCATORS IN OVER 3,500 SCHOOLS USE PROCON.ORG**

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universities use our free nonpartisan research to stimulate critical thinking.

Educators, if you have not already done so, please take our [2-minute survey](#) and let us know how YOU use ProCon.org.

Since this email marks our first of 2013, Happy New Year to all the wonderful readers of ProCon.org. Thank you for helping us to spread critical thinking, education, and informed citizenship.

Sincerely,

Kamy Akhavan  
President & Managing Editor, ProCon.org  
*"Promoting Critical Thinking, Education, and Informed Citizenship"*

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