Dear reader,

Most schools are now back in session, and we've been busy publishing new research for students, teachers, and the public to use. Read on for some of our latest highlights. By the way, you can also keep tabs on our newest research by following us on Facebook, Twitter, or RSS.

1. UNDER GOD - US Founding Fathers

Friday Sep. 16 is Constitution Day, so if you'd like to know who were the 55 delegates to the Constitutional Convention, who signed the Declaration of Independence, and who is otherwise considered a "Founding Father" then check out our chart of 115 historic American figures from John Adams to Robert Yates.

2. MEDICAL MARIJUANA - Deaths from Marijuana v. 17 FDA-Approved Drugs

We filed Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests with the US Food and Drug Administration to get "adverse events," including death, on marijuana and 17 FDA-approved prescription drugs. We tallied the results in a simple chart which, if you have not yet seen, you really should.

3. DEATH PENALTY - Does the death penalty cost less than life in prison without parole?

The cost debate continues here with pro and con responses from lawyers, judges, activists, and others.

4. DEATH PENALTY - Did You Know? Little Known Facts in the Death Penalty Debate

In 2010, 23 countries executed at least 527 people, not including the thousands of executions carried out by China. Virginia executed more people between 1608-2002 than any other state, with 1,361 total executions. The top five occupations of Americans executed between 1608-2002 were: slave (1,748), laborer (585), farmhand (369), farmer (347), and farm laborer (168). Read more about these and other interesting facts relating to the death penalty on our "Did You Know" page.

5. FELON VOTING - Are felon disenfranchisement laws a form of racial discrimination?

Whites make up 56.1% of the US population and 34.2% of the prison population while blacks are 12.6% of the US population and 38.2% of the prison population. See our new data on prison population and race as well as pro and con position statements from experts, court cases, and organizations.

6. TEACHERS AND LIBRARIANS - Please Take Our Survey

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ProCon.org by completing our online survey. If you had taken the survey before you used ProCon.org in your classroom, please take the survey again and let us know what you and your students thought about using ProCon.org.

If you like what we do, please make a tax-deductible donation to ProCon.org and help keep critical thinking alive. As a small nonprofit, we could really use your financial support. If you can't make a financial contribution, then check out the 20 other ways you can help ProCon.org for free.

We really appreciate your feedback, donations, and referrals to people in the media and grant-making foundations, so please keep them coming.

Thanks as always for your interest in our nonpartisan research.

Sincerely,

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

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