As a young boy I never aspired to be a Cannabis breeder (CB). I thought like all the other kids, maybe drive a fire engine or be a doctor and help people. Let’s face it the job of a CB did not exist in my families’ world. In fact I did not even know what it was as a young boy of 8 years old...what kids do?

Now I have 3 of my own and they grew up with it from birth. They help clean seed and packet seed for summer jobs so they can get things like I-pods or skull candy headphones? I realize they will aspire to jobs I never could dream of because they do not exist at present, just as mine did not exist a little time ago. The world changes slowly with moments, but has leaped forward with the years.

We live now in the 21st century where the love of the plant exists with medical patients being the fore front to our movement currently. CB is a sort after vocation. The love of the plant has lead us to this time, for without it, we may have lost the battle if we believed man made authority or bowed any longer to big business only!

In the 1990s, the golden age of Holland’s Cannabis revival, I released a new strain of cannabis seed each year for the High times Cannabis Cup with a lot of success. My journey of travel and collection of seed had lead me to this place; probably the best job that had never existed as I grew up. Since it was now my reality, paid my rent and bills, food and transport and meant working from morning to night on cannabis plants it had also become my work? The love of a single species of plant had shaped my world and so many others who felt the same as...
I did. Jobs were created where vacant spaces existed only a minute before! Designs, philosophies, ways of life, responsibility, dedication, honesty, friendship were all being affected by this unique plant. It helped so many of us to focus, work and gain meaning in our lives! It was and still is a great period in the resurgence of popularity and applications of Cannabis. Now a second wind and unlikely group has made and is making a solid push to legalize or at least decriminalize the plant for certain medical illnesses…..it is the SICK!

Medical licenses and doctor prescriptions have lead the attack, with the sick and medical users being the foot soldiers. Buyers clubs are opening up in the USA (California +13 other states) and patients who prefer to medicate with Cannabis are now finding alternative ways to do so. Education, breeding and competence in growing are forging the future while Cannabis is creating jobs where nothing existed previously. Undergraduates aspire to work in shaping their future with knowledge and applications of cannabis, as well as wanting to research and develop new potential compounds and products generated by this plant. My mother still does not know how to explain to her friends what I do as a job, but I see the new workers of today getting a packed lunch and a lift to the Cannabis farm by their parents. How the times changed?

Speaking to several buyers’ club owners in the USA and becoming friends as well as donating genetics to their libraries of mothers, I have gained a better picture of how things are moving. Things are moving fast and slow, depending upon who you ask! The sick think the times and their voices count now, and are taking their situation into their own hands. Recreational users sit on the fence still not ready to leap off and be counted as that part of the law is still locked in a Drug War! So the hypocrisy of Cannabis exists, if you are sick it seems Cannabis dealers can be found on the I-phone applications, whereas if you are a user without being sick, your dealer is still possibly undercover DEA agents trying to catch you doing the same thing but considered wrong for a well person?

What seems to be the message going out to people in general? Be sick to legally use Cannabis? Be sick to have a voice in the legal movement of Cannabis? Or we (the sick) decide what medicine is best for ourselves to use to cope with our sicknesses? The actual message is unclear even today! The truth is not really known nor is any one person heading this movement as is the case normally…it is a team game and all teamsters count!

Now in certain cases, there is a medical grower designated for the cultivation of cannabis for several patients unable to cultivate. This makes great sense and opens up the Cannabis Industry for all possibly to be a part of it legally. The healthy gardeners can grow for their unhealthy users, be taxed by their governments with a strong message of compassion expressed by simply growing a cannabis plant. Not to mention the jobs and extra taxes and lower carbon footprint future awaits! It seems the future is looking green and positive for members of the world wide cannabis movement. It is each of our responsibility to keep it going strong, so being reliable and dedicated to the cause and not stray from the reasons we have been lucky enough to have working in all out favors. The time is to resist greed and power and selfishness and go for the cause. Show everyone where the love has gone…

As an owner of the www.mrnice.nl website and moderator of the forum there, I am receiving on average 10 job applications from students of biology in University world wide each week. They want to research or work with Cannabis and use the net to hunt for potential employers. It is the SICK! into the plant from nature called Cannabis!