When Bush dodged questions of illegal drug use he said people could “go find somebody else to vote for” and that “voters are weary of the politics of personal destruction.”

Why must ordinary people’s families be destroyed by drug arrest and imprisonment?

The drug war has produced millions upon millions of life-long felons. Today, on any given day in our country there are over two million prisoners.

Use your power! Stop the hypocrisy!

- Become a member of the November Coalition for $30 a year: $15 students; $6 prisoners
- Call, and visit your representatives
- Write letters to the editor of your local newspaper
- Speak out when leaders lie
- Invite us to speak in your community
- Share your views about the war on drugs with your friends and associates
- Call talk radio stations and speak up
- Register and never forget to vote
- Be involved in your government

Incarceration rates of the last twenty years have made the United States the world’s leading jailer. The U.S. imprisons its citizens at rates three to ten times higher than other democratic societies. Punitive drug laws enacted in the 1980s, and to the present, have resulted in 25% of all prisoners in the United States serving time for a drug law violation. In the federal system, these people make up about 55% of the prison population. (Prior to 9/11, when there were less immigration and national security detainees, drug war prisoners were nearly 60% of the federal prison population.)

Many states, struggling to balance their budgets, are beginning to release drug war and other nonviolent prisoners early. Meanwhile, the Federal Bureau of Prisons is growing faster than any state prison system in the country, with no parole or hope of early release.

Stay informed! Visit our websites and participate in a campaign today!

www.November.org
www.JourneyforJustice.org
www.OpenTheCon.org

Also visit our friends at:
www.DrugWarFacts.org
www.DrugPolicy.org

The November Coalition

Working to end drug war injustice
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When the rich and politically connected buy and use illegal drugs, they rarely face criminal sanctions. In the United States it’s “alive and in graduate school” for one class of citizens—prison and stigma for another.

It wasn’t until a major news reporter said that G.W. Bush “certainly did drugs until 1974”¹, that the presidential candidate told reporters he “had not used illegal drugs for the past 25 years.”² Few have forgotten Bill Clinton’s MTV, “I didn’t inhale, didn’t try it again . . . but I wish I had,” lines.

Al Gore admits to illegal drug use in college and the Army. A co-worker, and close friend at the Tennessean newspaper, supported allegations of regular recreational marijuana use by Gore.³ The most candid admission of past illegal drug use is from former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, who declared, “Smoking marijuana was a sign we were alive and in graduate school in that era.”⁴ Today he is a ‘senior fellow’ with the American Enterprise Institute.

These four men, equally representing Democrats and Republicans, used their political office to intensify the war on drugs by broadening police powers, search and seizure, and mandatory prison sentences. Each are responsible for expanding prosecutorial authority—all at the cost of ordinary citizens’ civil liberties.


The United States general population is 70.4% White, 12.3% Black, 12.6% Hispanic and 4.7% “Other” (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Profile of General Demographic Characteristics 2000)