

# The Future of Psychedelics in Society



Reilly Capps, drugs  
reporter

<https://authorly.com/ReillyCapps>

Twitter @reillicapps

Suggested donation to Nowak Society — \$10  
Venmo: @Nowak-Society



Vic Vela ✓

@VicVela1

...

An old man tells kids a story about the last time it snowed in Denver



# **From Egoism to Ecoism: Psychedelics Increase Nature Relatedness in a State-Mediated and Context-Dependent Manner**

[Hannes Kettner](#),<sup>†</sup> [Sam Gandy](#),<sup>†\*</sup> [Eline C. H. M. Haijen](#), and [Robin L. Carhart-Harris](#)

<https://authory.com/ReillyCapps> Twitter @reillicapps

## Opinion: Behind the Mile High City's journey into magical (mushroom) thinking



Campaign manager for the Denver Psilocybin Initiative Kevin Matthews wears a pin for the first ordinance in the nation decriminalizing psilocybin mushrooms. (Mick)

NEW! Gift this article to share free access

Opinion by Reilly Capps



## Four-Inch Headlines: How New Psychedelic News Outlets are Shaping Culture and Industry



Women

## How MDMA, Octopuses, and Gül Dölen Reopen Minds

May 19, 2021

345 345 SHARES



Reilly Capps

**DOUBLE BLIND** Learn

### This Dot-Com Guru is Asking Trump to Legalize Psychedelics

Michael "Zappy" Zapolin, who made an ayahuasca documentary with Michelle Rodriguez, is recruiting Lamar Odom to his psychedelic legalization "Mind Army."

Reilly Capps // August 14, 2020  
Updated May 26, 2021



COMPANY OR  
EMPLOYER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION APPLIED FOR: \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Employment Application***

APPLICANT TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

Middle

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU LEGALLY ELIGIBLE FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE U.S.A.?



No

Yes

or

Yes

if

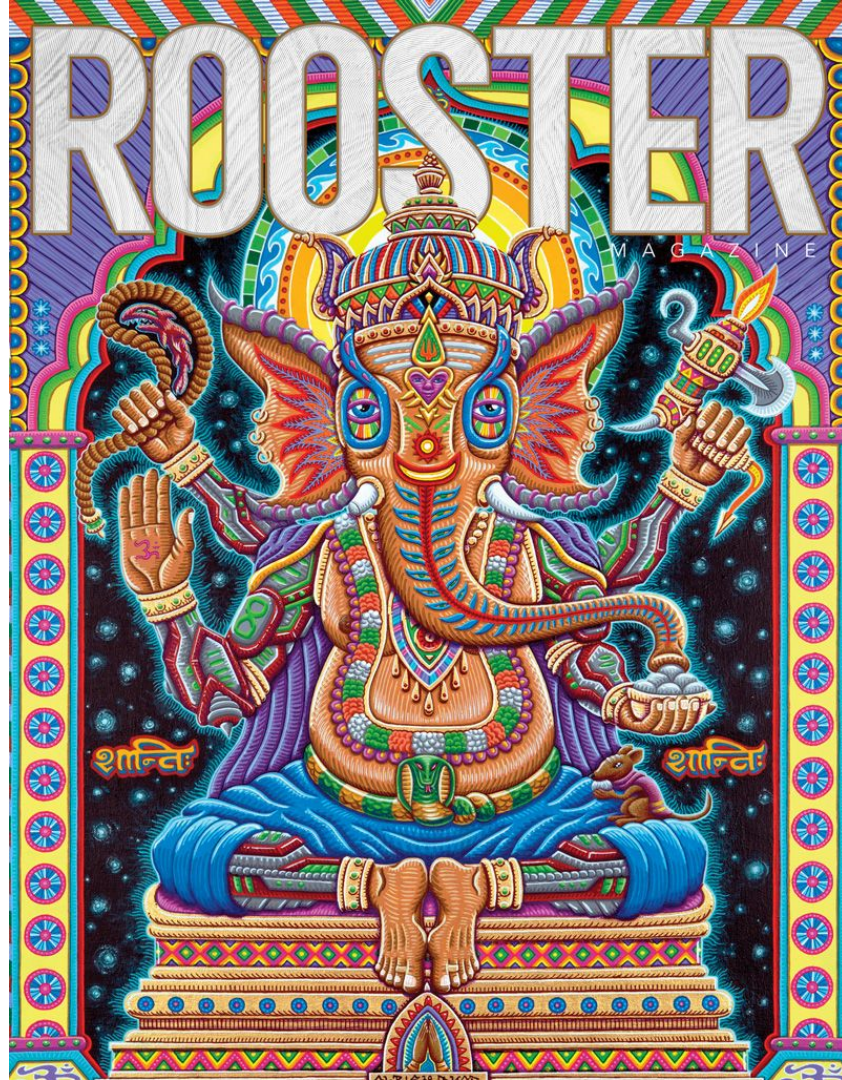
required

Yes



# ROOSTER

MAGAZINE



How will psychedelics  
be in our lives?



In the beginning....





Stoned apes?



Right now in the West (or North)





Right now in the West (or North)



Right now in the North - organized ways -festivals





Right now - small religious groups



Right now - ketamine clinics



Right now - Global South - Ayahuasca





## Right now - Global South - Iboga





How will psychedelics expand?

Like cannabis?



One answer: Nobody, nothing nowhere



# Public acceptance

[HOME](#) > [POLITICS](#)

## Over a third of US voters say magic mushrooms and other psychedelics have a medical use, new poll shows

John Haltiwanger Jun 1, 2021, 1:40 PM



The New York Times

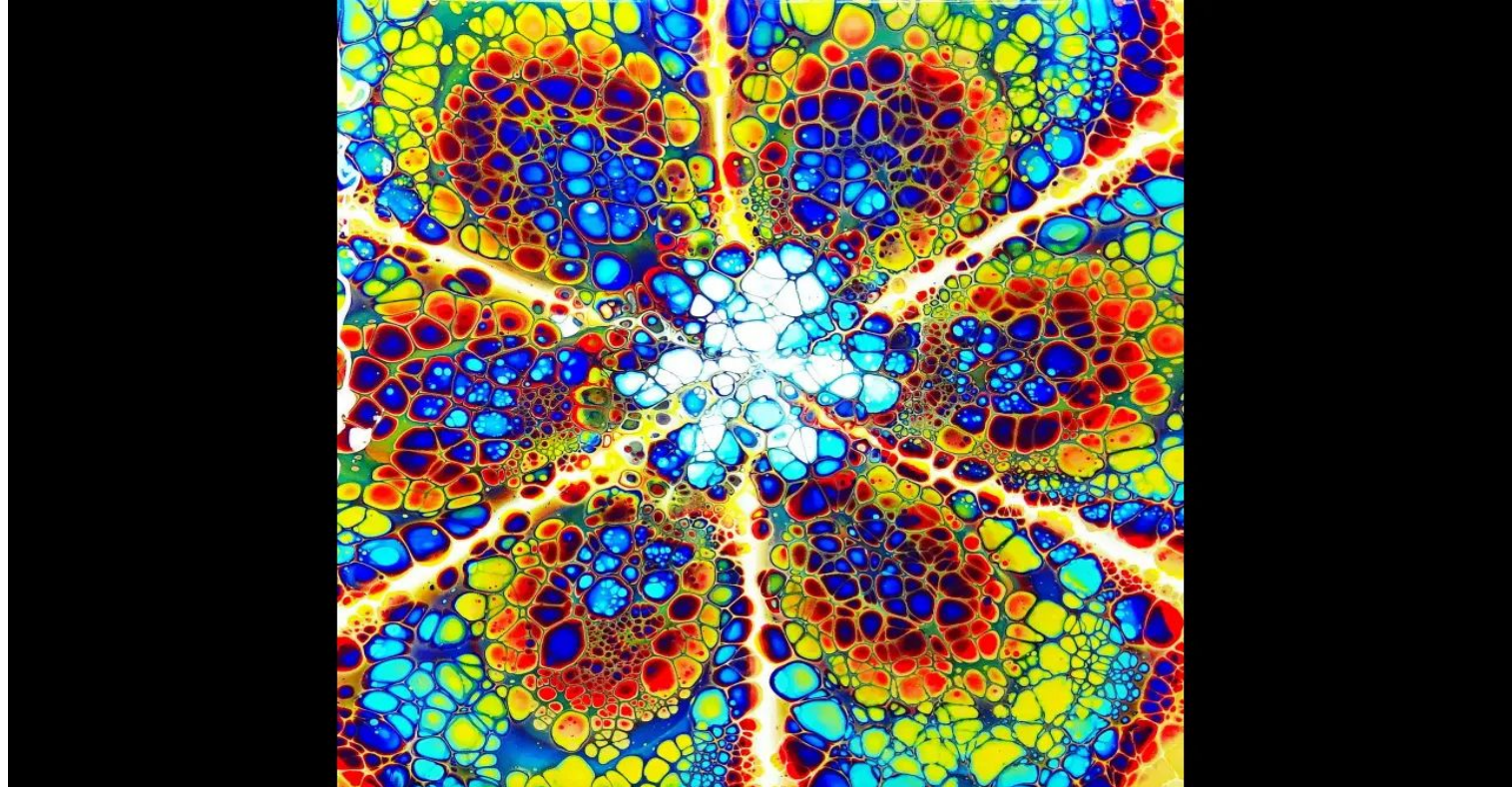
**Stay informed**



# How will psychedelics expand?

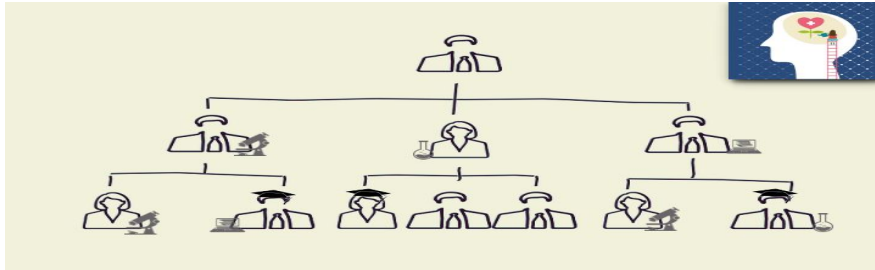


Powerful things tend to get rules around them.

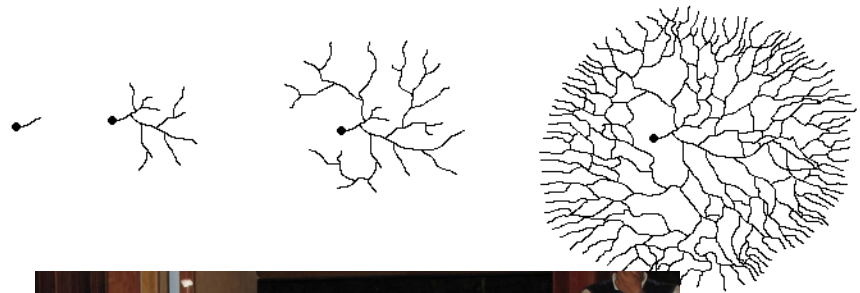


# Spectrum for control of psychedelics

Western - Hierarchy



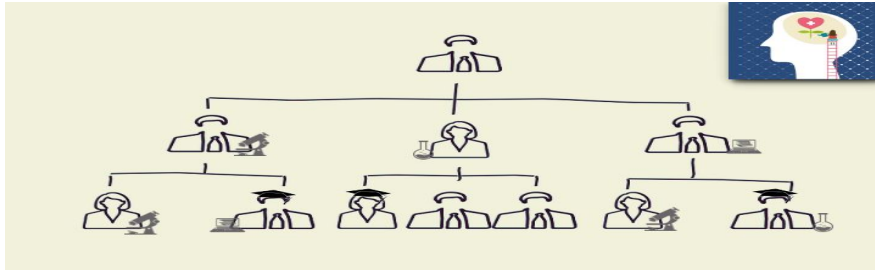
Southern - community



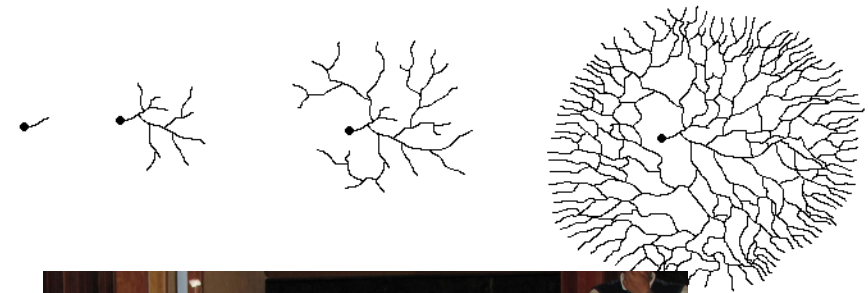


# Hierarchical and mycelial systems have existed for eons

## Hierarchy



## Mycelial



# Spectrum of control

Western Hierarchy



Southern community



# Spectrum of control

Western Hierarchy



Southern community





Western Hierarchy Authorities

# The West



# Western Hierarchy - Medical model



Western regulatory agencies are busy designating these substances as medicines.

Hierarchy is how we get most of our powerful medicines today, from antidepressants to blood thinners to antibiotics.











We go to a Doctor with massive amounts of training and experience who evaluates us and prescribes a med

Deep benefits to all this knowledge and evidence-based care.

## Western Hierarchy - Medical model



# Western Hierarchy - Medical model

Psilocybin alpha 				
Home   Psychedelic Companies ▾   Watchlist   Data ▾   News ▾   Learn ▾   Jobs   Contact 				
Company	Indication	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III
	Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	MDMA III		
	Treatment-resistant depression (TRD)	COMP360 II		
	Major depressive disorder (MDD)	Psilocybin II		
	Eating disorders (anorexia nervosa and binge-eating disorder)	MDMA II		
	Anxiety associated with a life-threatening illness	MDMA II		
	Social anxiety in autistic adults	MDMA II		
	Anxiety	LSD II		
	Cluster headaches	LSD II		

More than 50 clinical trials in progress. Drugs include DMT, 5-meo-DMT, LSD, psilocybin, mescaline

Indications include depression, suicidal ideation, addiction, anxiety, parkinsons, eating disorders, social anxiety in autistic folks



# Western Hierarchy - Medical Model



Biggest movement right now in western psychedelics is using them as a medical adjunct for therapy.

MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD from MAPS is likely in 2023, barring unforeseen events

# Western Hierarchy - Medical model



For FDA-approved medicine, exact method TBD

As of now:

Dr's script



Trip with a therapist or other health care provider

At least one integration and one integration session

# Western Hierarchy - Medical model



Benefits:  
Medical control (risky  
folks screened out [risk  
of psychosis etc])  
Follow up  
Trained people  
Trackable  
Insurance pays



# Western Hierarchy - Medical model



Downsides:

Limited

Spiritual, recreational,  
creative, intellectual,  
pain uses not much  
accounted for

**Nature is not much  
included**

More expensive to  
society

**No community  
element**



# field trip



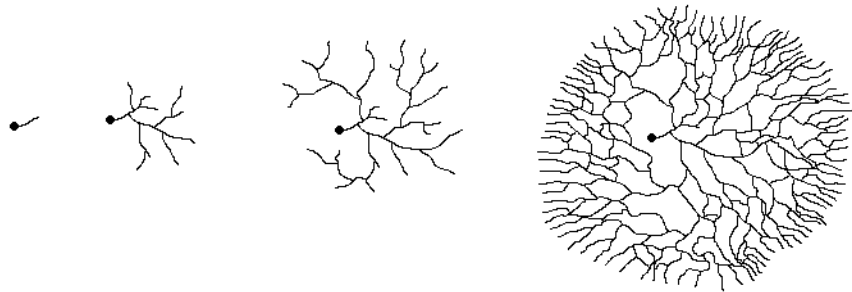
Ketamine  
clinics being  
built into which  
MDMA  
psilocybin and  
other will be  
inserted later

Massive hiring  
and expansion  
right now.







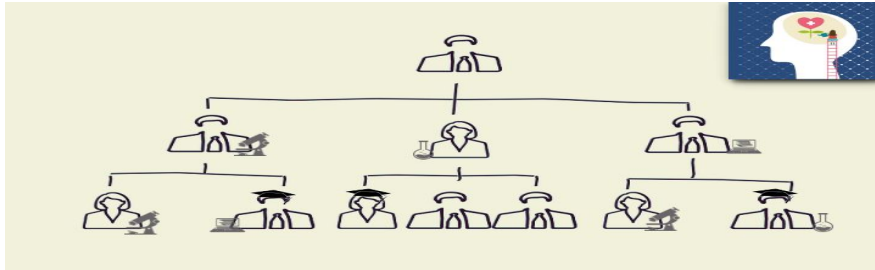


Part II —

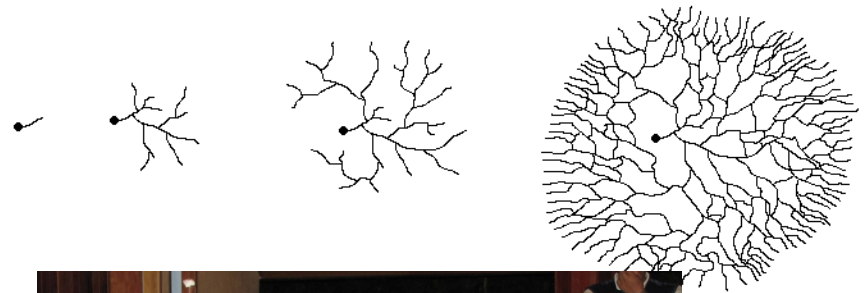
Decriminalization and  
community control

# Hierarchical and mycelial systems have existed for eons

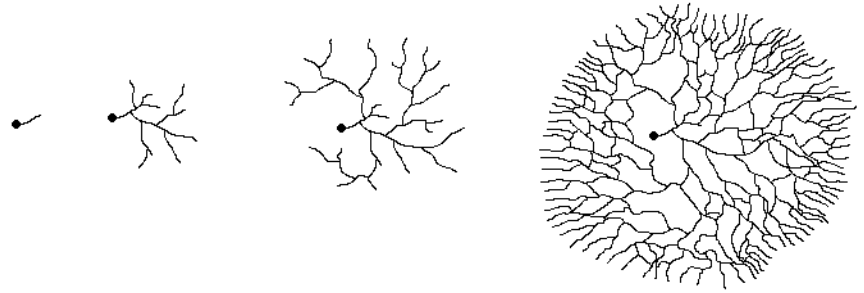
## Hierarchy



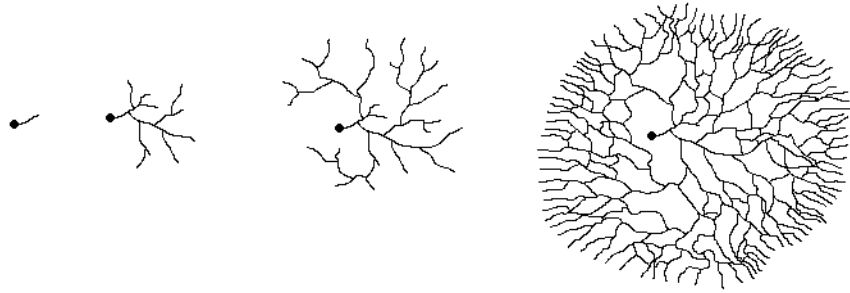
## Mycelial



# Mycelial



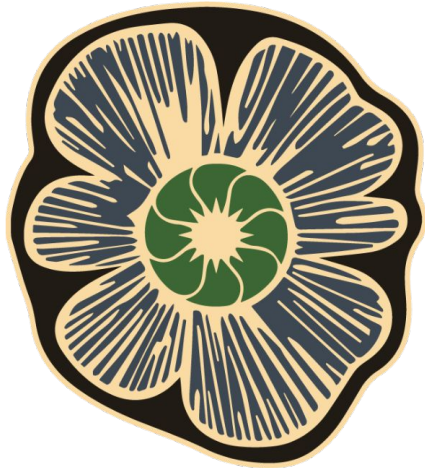




In decrim, state loses  
power to punish you  
for personal use

Decriminalization

And community control

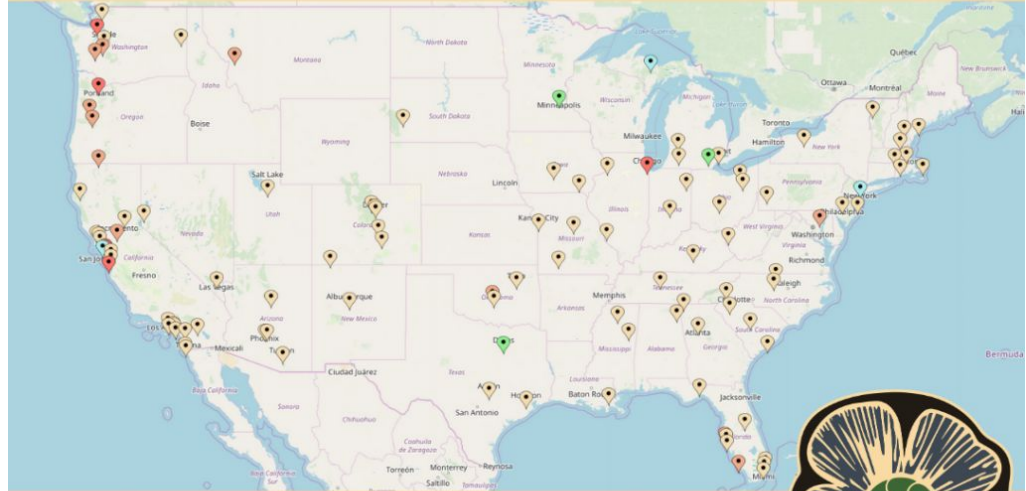


**Decriminalize**  
**Nature**

# Decriminalization

## And community control

# DECRIMINALIZE NATURE RESTORING OUR ROOTS



The garden continues to grow!  
Go Team Nature!



**Red pins:** Introduced to city council and agendized or in process

**Green pins:** Hosting events, beginning engagement with City Council, may have interviews in media

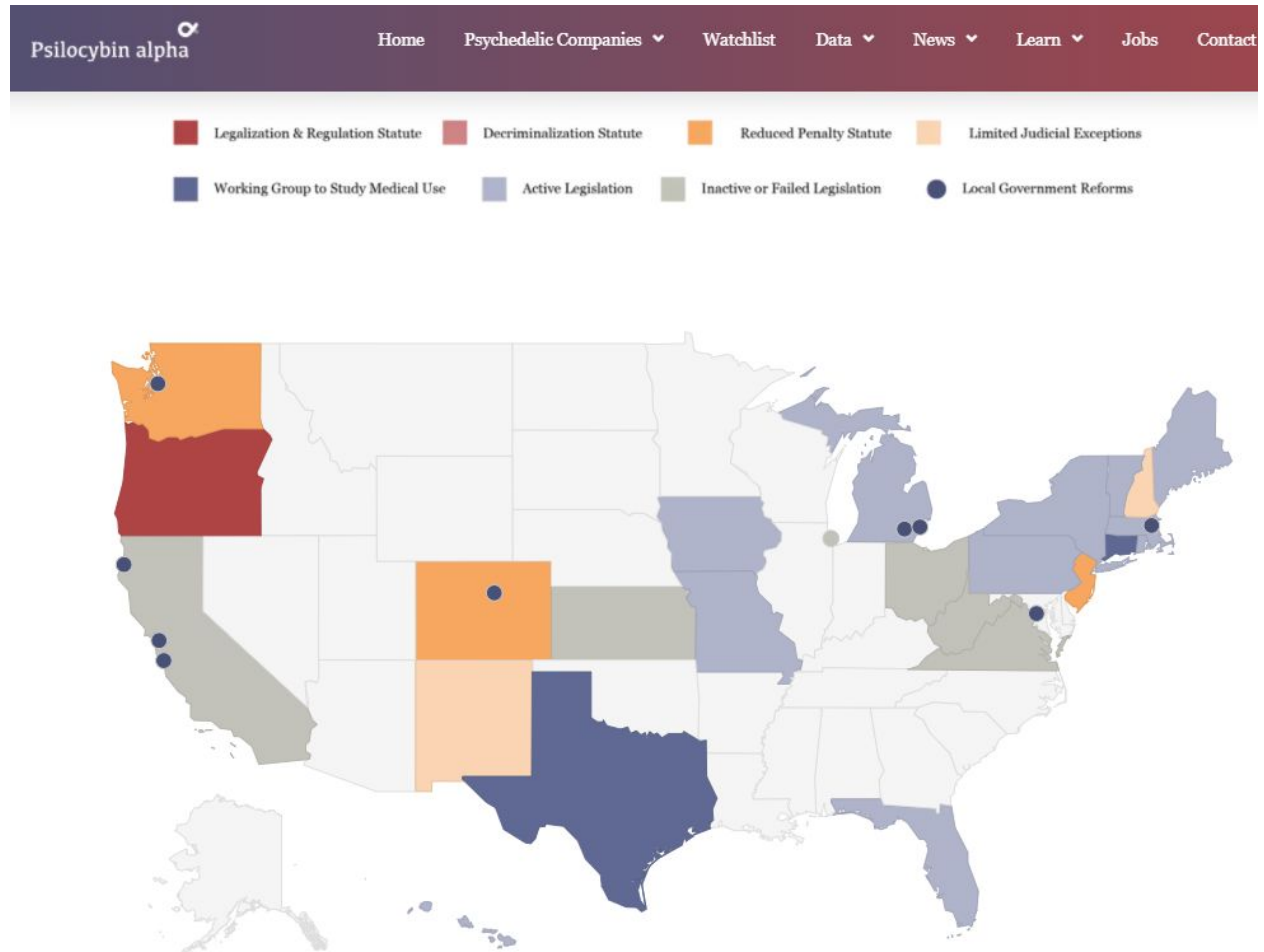
**Blue pins:** Beginning to organize, DN social media accounts, Launch events, or Participated in Visit Your Local Reps Day

**Orange pins:** Attending DN webinars and communication channels, organizing community

**Cream pins:** Have reached out to DN and recieved DN info-packet

#DNUSA  
#decriminalizenature #yourcity  
decriminalizenature.org

## And community control







Decriminalize  
**Nature**  
Colorado Springs

Decriminalization

And community control

What does decrim  
look like on the  
ground?

Decriminalization

And community control

Denver as case study

Case study

Denver





# Decriminalization

And community control



After legalizing weed, two Colorado groups are now working on mushrooms

Jan 10, 2018 • [Article at Rooster Magazin](#)



Psilocybin mushroom push in Denver gains momentum



ROOSTER

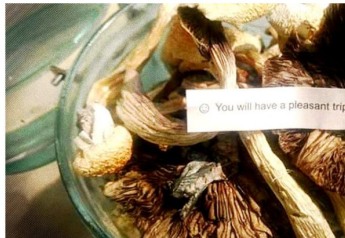


**Colorado's mushroom legalization campaign aims for vote next spring**

VICES | JULY 04, 2018

BY REILLY

ROOSTER



**Mushroom legalization in Colorado gains both political and legal support**

VICES | SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

BY REILLY CAPPS



ROOSTER



**Mushroom legalization effort polling at 39 percent**

Psilocybin in Denver has more support than you might think

VICES | OCTOBER 08, 2018

BY REILLY CAPPS



**Gathering signatures for psilocybin vote, a wave of enthusiasm in Colorado**

VICES | OCTOBER 23, 2018

BY REILLY CAPPS



# Decriminalization

## And community control



# ROOSTER

search...



## In a nail biter, Denver voters say 'yes' to psilocybin magic mushrooms

Psychedelic decriminalized by 2,000 votes

VICES | MAY 08, 2019

BY REILLY CAPPS

The shrooms won.

34k  
Shares



1501 W. ELIZABETH  
(970) 672-8136

THU-SUN 8AM TO MIDNIGHT  
MON-WED 9AM TO MIDNIGHT  
HOLIDAYS 8AM TO MIDNIGHT

# Decriminalization

And community control

Denver Psilocybin Policy Review Panel found there's been no significant downsides to mushroom decrim. No hospital emergency room visits, deaths.

In Denver mushrooms being grown and sold, but not openly. No store I'm aware of.

You still have to know someone.

Still not easy to buy LSD or synthetics.

Decriminalization

And community control







DENVER  
MUSHROOM  
COOPERATIVE



PSYCHEDELIC  
— CLUB —  
DENVER

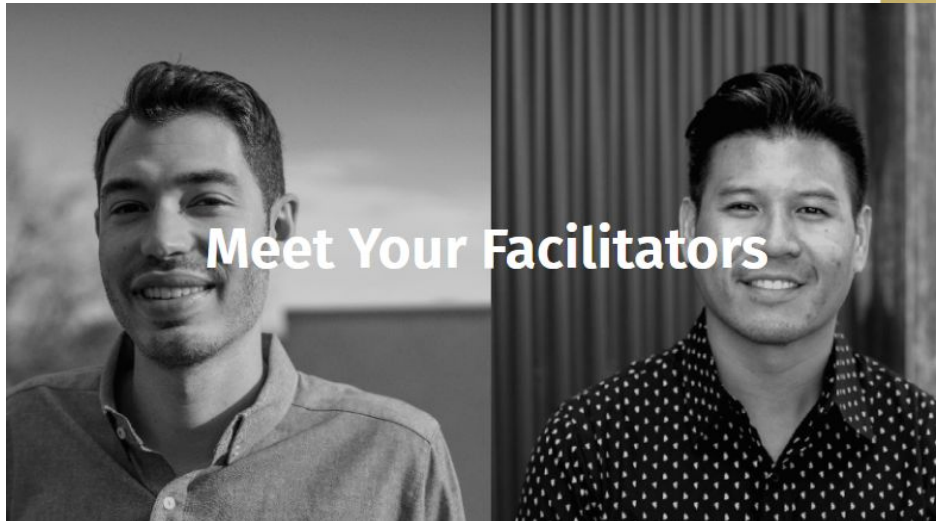


# Decriminalization

## And community control



T., who is one of Denver's first above-ground trip sitters. Magic mushrooms were decriminalized in the city in May. Photo by Reilly Capps.]



Guides openly offer to sit with you while you take your own mushrooms

# Decriminalization

## And community control

Retreats are very nascent, mostly hidden. I only know of one Denver retreat booking openly on the Internet.

Group retreats start at \$2800.

Private retreats listed at \$20,000



Decriminalization

And community control

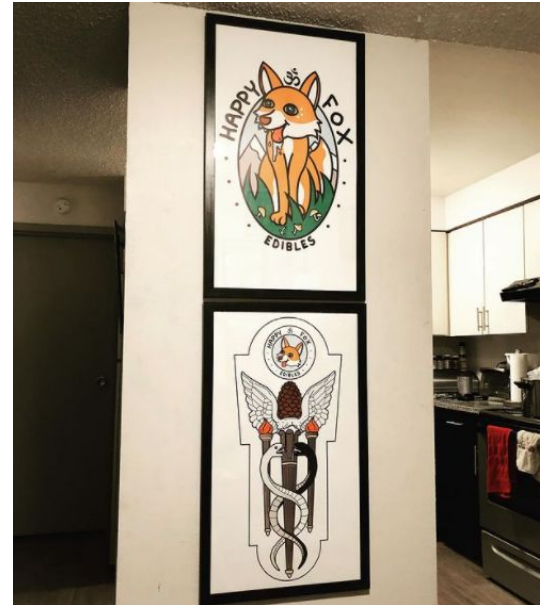
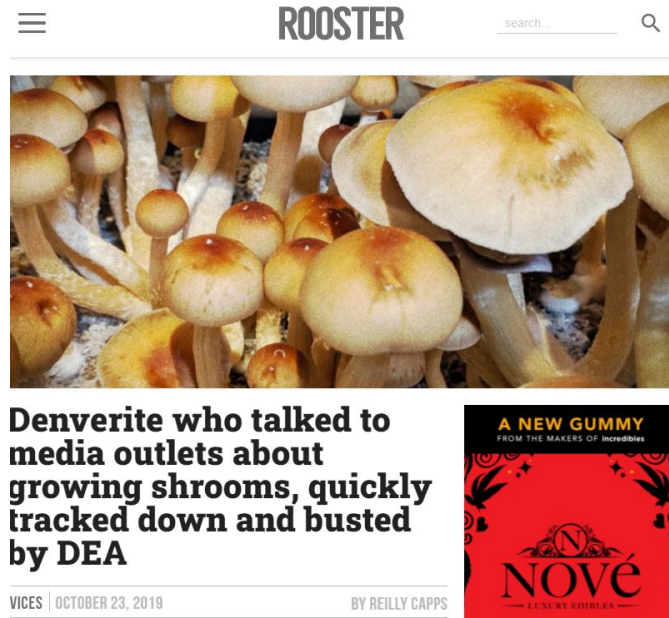
So Denver is growing slowly  
and limited.

Why? Fear of federal DEA.  
Arrests are rare but disrupt  
community when they happen.



# Decriminalization

## And community control



Decriminalization

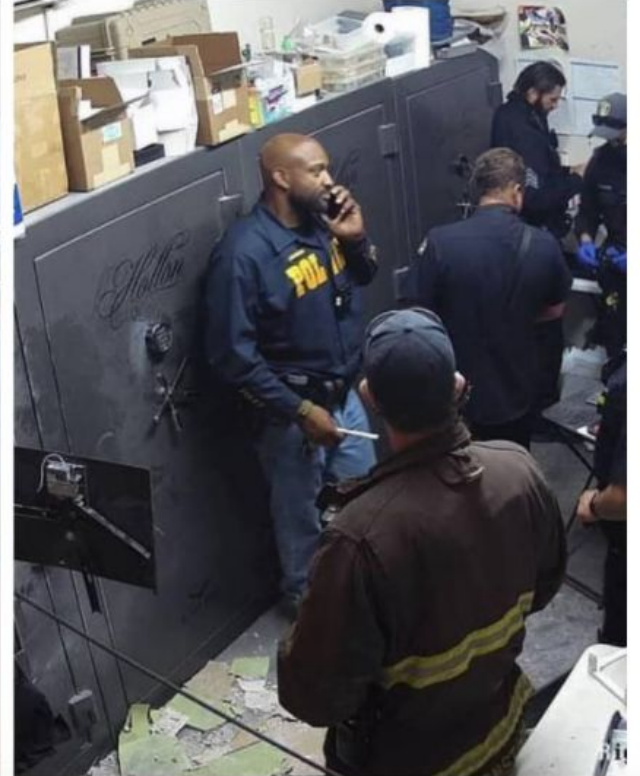
And community control

## Oakland Police Raided the Town's Only Magic Mushroom Church

By Nastia Voynovskaya

Aug 21, 2020

[Save Article](#)



# Decriminalization

And community  
control

Canada more  
open

---

**VICE** World News

## **Magic Mushroom Stores Are Open in Canada — But They're Still Illegal**



At least in America, decrim strikes me as not enough.







Decriminalization

And community control

What kind of control, if  
any, should there be?

Decriminalization

And community control

# Colorado Psilocybin Practitioners Study



**COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

We started a study after decriminalization — was included in report to Denver City Council from the official policy review panel

# Colorado Psilocybin Practitioners Study



**COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

Interviewed 16 practitioners

Microdose coach

Guide with indigenous lineage

Folks who do sitting and guiding in a more therapeutic way



# Colorado Psilocybin Practitioners Study



**COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

Shift away from using the word "underground," which conjures dark alleys and police chases.

Many prefer "community" to "underground," as in, "community practitioners" or "community guides."

# Colorado Psilocybin Practitioners Study



**COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

## What guides want in regulation

Spectrum of opinion

Most want some sort of oversight. But want it to come from community. Like mentorship, community groups.

# Colorado Psilocybin Practitioners Study



**COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

## What guides want in regulation

Generally don't want a strictly therapeutic model

- barring therapists and clients from being part of the same social circle.
- the rules being laid down now are too limiting and will not allow him to do the work that needs to be done.

# Colorado Psilocybin Practitioners Study



**COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

## What guides want in regulation

- Use song, prayer, movement, and all kinds of other healing practices.
- Befriend their clients, which therapy rules usually forbid. " Seeding communities.
- Work in nature or in their clients' houses, not just a clinic. Work with different substances at different doses, even combining them, especially MDMA with other psychedelics.
- Microdose. A surprising amount of the mushroom work in Colorado is with small doses.
- Self-experiment. Control how their medicines are grown or made, including the intentions that went into them.



# Colorado Psilocybin Practitioners Study



**COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

## What guides want in regulation

- Something that allows use for things like pain, like cluster headaches.

# Colorado Psilocybin Practitioners Study



**COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

## What guides want in regulation

"There are a lot of people who want to control the field without knowing what the field is," says Joseph. "And the field is not what they think it is. This is about a deeper truth. It's about bringing life back to life."

# Colorado Psilocybin Practitioners Study



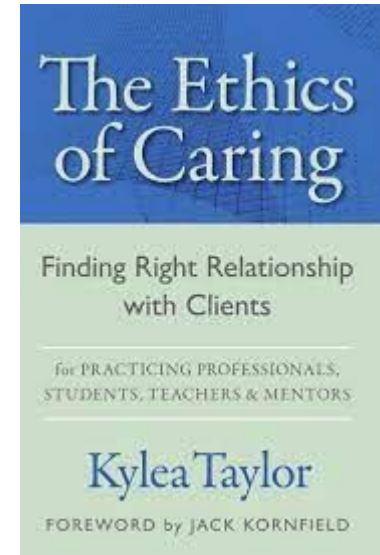
**COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

## What guides want in regulation

We are recommending to city council they explicitly allow community tripping.

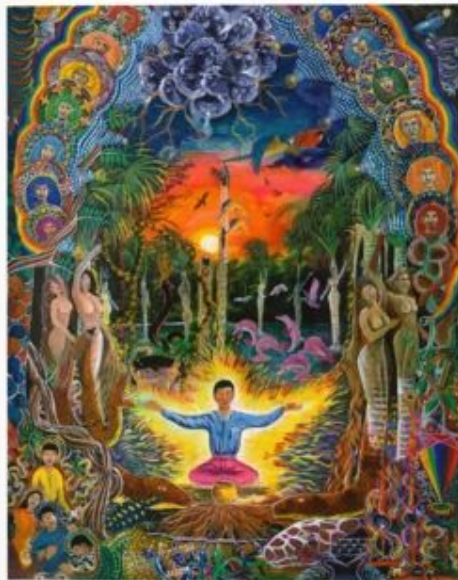
# Colorado Psilocybin Practitioners Study

Self-regulation is happening now; albeit piecemeal. In the Netherlands, a professional organization called the Guild of Guides connects people and helps them stay safe and up to date.





# DOUBLE BLIND



Issue No. 4



Decriminalize  
Nature

OCHI

Decriminalize Nature's Oakland Community Healing  
Initiative

Suggests psychedelics be given out by community organizations, and regulated by a community board



Accepting applications Jan. 1 2023

Fairly liberal.

Could be for depression, anxiety, or pain. Or just exploration.

No ability to trip on your own.

Although all drugs are now decriminalized in Oregon, there's no way to legally buy anything.



# NATURAL MEDICINE HEALTH ACT of 2022

Language filed with state by New Approach in Colorado

Like what they did in Oregon with 109 — psilocybin therapy -- but possibly expanding to more medicines

— ibogaine, DMT, mescaline-containing cactus (excluding peyote) and psilocybin

Legalizes "natural medicine services." Basically — sitters, retreats, centers. Broad and undefined.

Do not have to be a therapist. Do not need an indication. Do need prep and integration sessions.

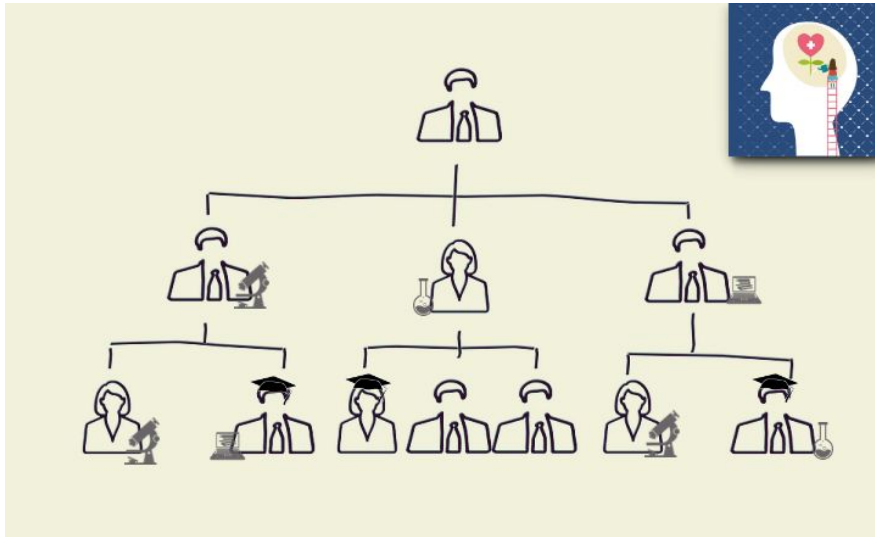
DORA implements rules ... nitty gritty not totally worked out. ... Does this sound hierarchical or community?

I wish it included more drugs. I don't see why it should include iboga but not MDMA or 2CB (or even cocaine) — more common, safer, more familiar drugs.

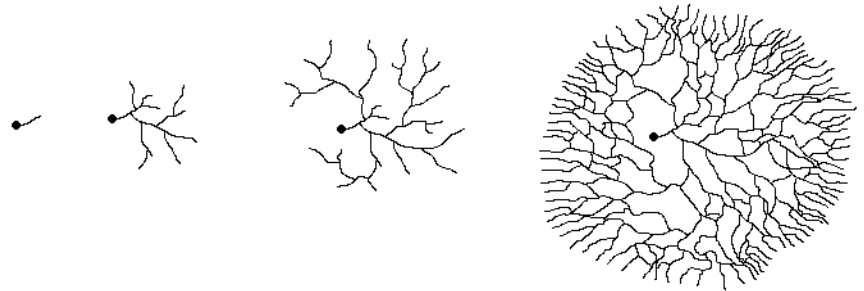
Concluding thoughts

# Again: will one system dominate? Can they coexist?

Hierarchy

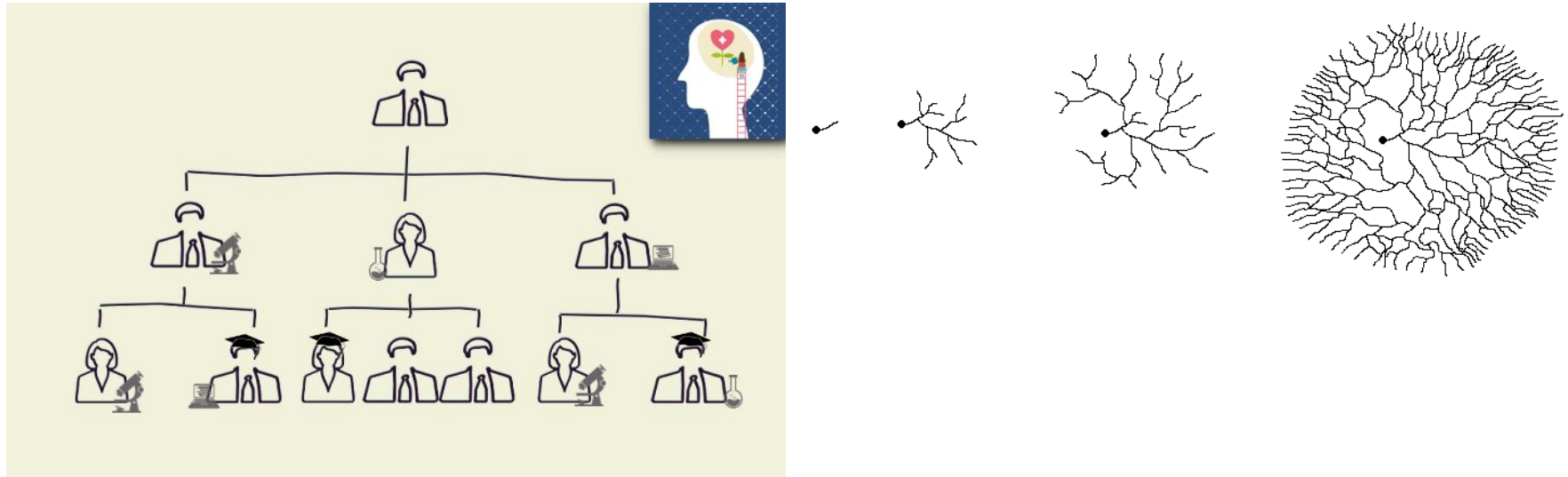


Mycelial



# Can they coexist?

They are existing together right now. In the future, people could choose whether they want hierarchical/medical, or community/mycelial. Advantages to each. Better angels of our nature and spirit of siblinghood no reason they can't coexist.



One caveat:  
Western Hierarchical tends to push out southern community mycelial





Western Hierarchical tends to push out southern community mycelial



Global Tech Driving the Future

10.01.2021  
**Newsweek**

A NEW

**TREATMENT**

FOR

**DEPRESSION**

Psilocybin, aka **MAGIC MUSHROOMS**, could be  
the biggest advance since **PROZAC**

---

Cover of Newsweek Oct. 1, 2021

# Western Hierarchy - Medical model

## Market is highly excited about these companies

Mind Medicine MindMed has a market cap of **\$794.32 M**, which price of \$2.59 multiplied by its outstanding share number of 306.

<https://www.zacks.com> > chart > MNMD > fundamental ▼

[Mind Medicine MindMed Inc. \(MNMD\) Market Cap ·](#)

[COMPASS Pathways Plc - American \(CMPS\) Stock Price ...](#)

Find the latest **COMPASS Pathways** Plc - American (CMPS) stock quote, history, news and other vital information to ... Market open. ... **Market Cap**, 1.324B.

<https://www.marketwatch.com> > ... > Stocks > United States ⋮

[ATAI Life Sciences NV Stock Quote \(US: Nasdaq\) | MarketWatch](#)

Open \$16.52; Day Range 16.07 - 16.59; 52 Week Range 13.13 - 22.91; **Market Cap** \$2.53B;

# Psychedelics Are a Billion-Dollar Business, and No One Can Agree Who Should Control It

For-profit companies want psychedelics to be treated as medicine; others want them to just be legal. They'll have to learn to get along.



By [Shayla Love](#)



# Western Hierarchy - Medical model

## Controversies





# Western Hierarchy - Medical model

TURN ON, TUNE IN, DROP DOLLARS

## A millionaire couple is threatening to create a magic mushroom monopoly



# Western Hierarchy - Medical model



87. The method of claim 86, wherein the room comprises soft furniture.

88. The method of claim 86, wherein the room is decorated using muted colors.

89. The method of claim 86, wherein the room comprises a high-resolution sound system.

90. The method of any one of claims 86-89, wherein the room comprises a bed or a couch.

# Western Hierarchy - Medical model



COMPASS's first US patent, No 10,519,175, was granted in December 2019 and covers the use of formulations of COMPASS's high-purity crystalline psilocybin in psilocybin therapy for patients with TRD.

# Western Hierarchy - Medical model

Synthesis


A. M. Sherwood et al.



PSP



## An Improved, Practical, and Scalable Five-Step Synthesis of Psilocybin

Alexander M. Sherwood  
Poncho Meisenheimer  
Gary Tarpley  
Robert B. Kargbo\* 

Usona Institute, 2780 Woods Hollow Road, Madison,  
WI 53711, USA  
robert.kargbo@usonainstitute.org



While Compass is elbowing out competition for psilocybin, Usona, published its recipe on the Internet for free

# Western Hierarchy - Medical model



MAPS  
Public Benefit  
Corporation

MAPS Public Benefit corporation will send all its profits to its nonprofit to further the goal of legalizing psychedelics.

Most of MAPS intellectual property is given away for free.



Can both systems coexist? Worlds are colliding.



Can both systems coexist?







# The Future of Psychedelics in Society



Reilly Capps, drugs  
reporter

<https://authory.com/ReillyCapps>

Twitter @reillicapps

Suggested donation to Nowak Society — \$10  
Venmo: @nowak-society









# The Future of Psychedelics in Society

By Reilly Capps, drugs reporter

<https://authory.com/ReillyCapps> Twitter @reillicapps

# Western Hierarchical tends to push out southern community mycelial

On its website, Compass also writes that to make sure psilocybin therapy is safe and effective in patients, "psilocybin therapy needs to be approved by medical regulators, not legislators."

"People are worried that if psychedelics are medicalized, they'll fall into this category where their medical use will be permitted, but not if they're used outside of medicine, and that they will not be decriminalized," said Ismail Ali, the policy and advocacy counsel at the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS). "I don't think it's an irrational fear."

- VICE, Sept 23, 2021

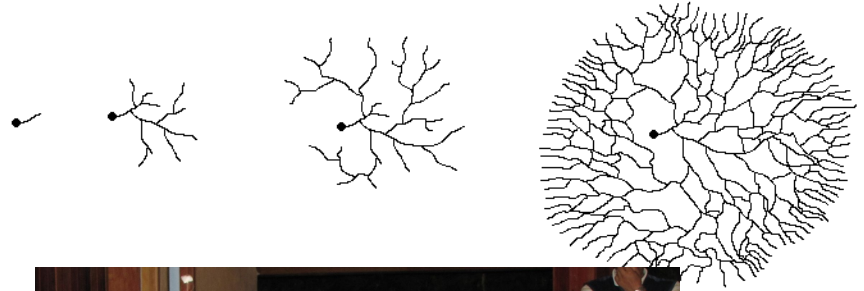
Compass claimed to Vice it wouldn't try to stop community control. But Compass hasn't been the most trustworthy company. But we'll see.

The end

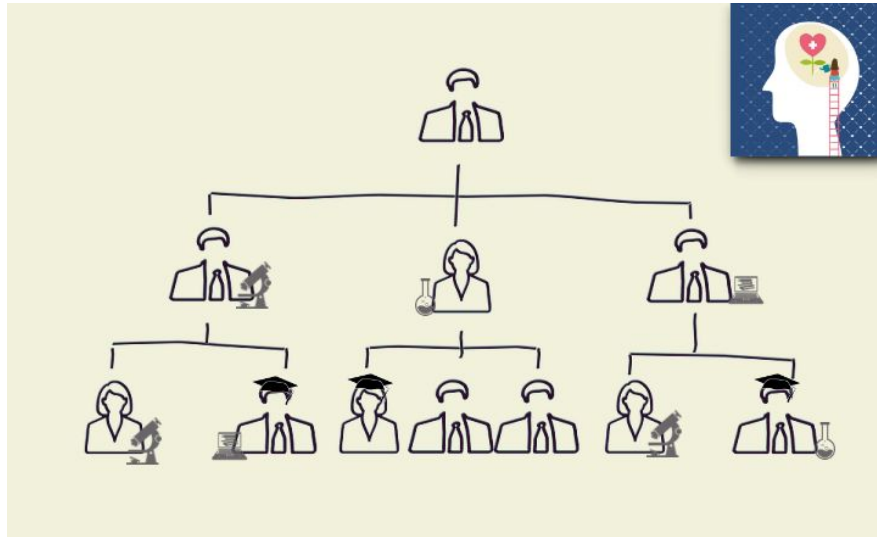


# Spectrum for control of psychedelics

Mycelial



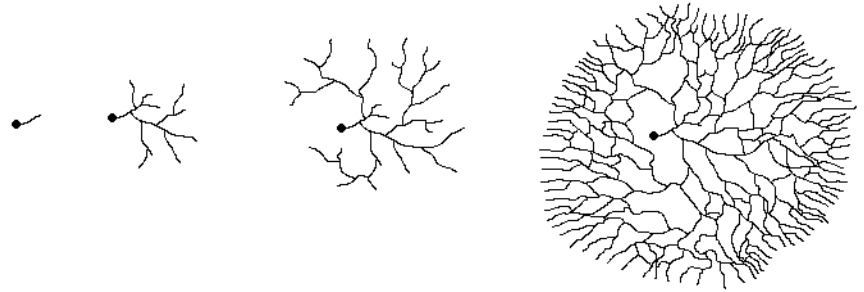
# Hierarchical



Hierarchy is when a few people with power decide who can take psychedelics, when and where and for what purpose.

# Spectrum of how communities handle psychedelics

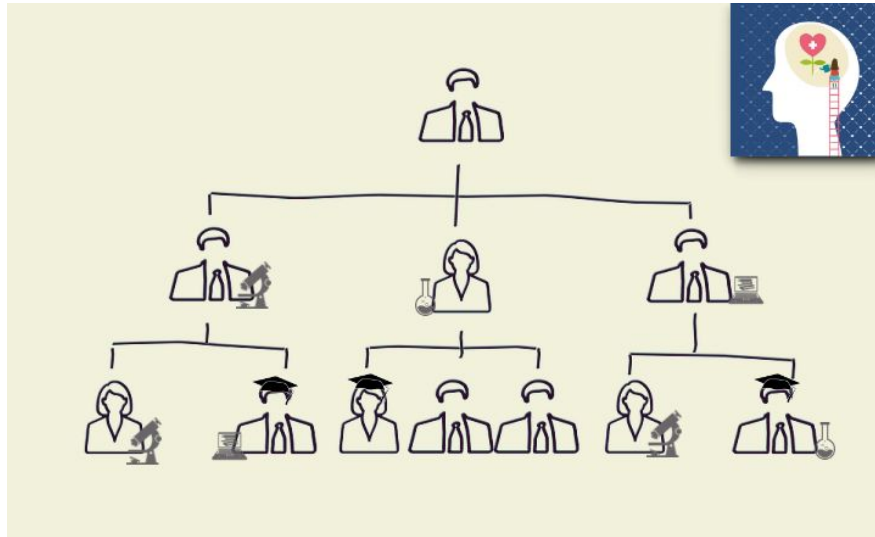
## Mycelial



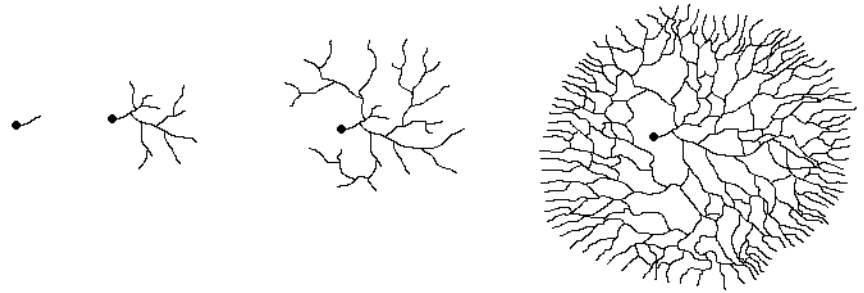
Mycelial is based on the model laid down by the mycelia, the roots or body of mushrooms. It's a very popular idea in psychedelic community. The idea that a group of individual cells working together can do a better job navigating the environment and bringing health than a few top-down cells dictating things

# Which system will dominate? Can they coexist?

Hierarchy

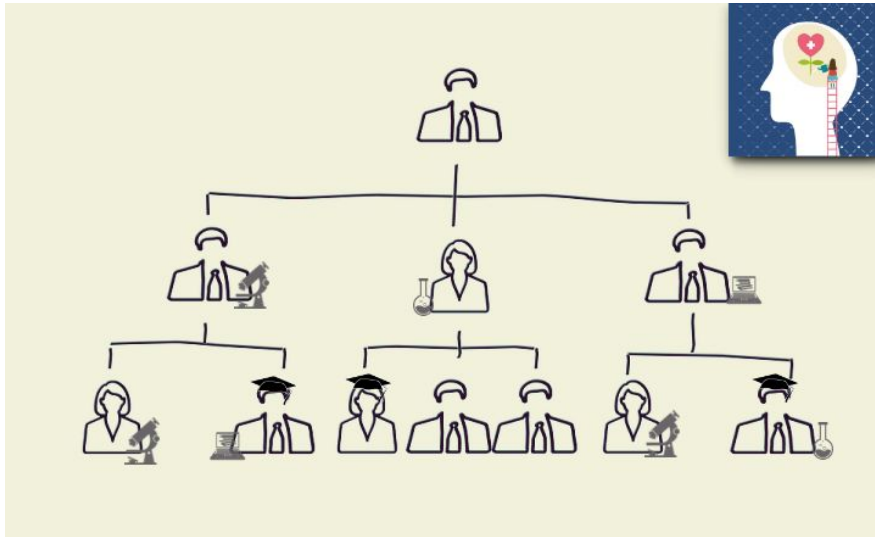


Mycelial

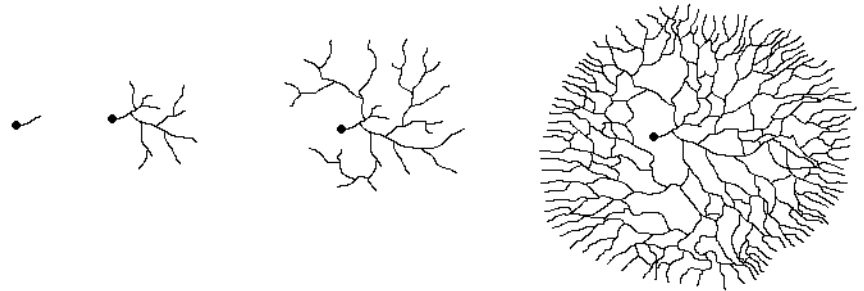


# Hierarchical and mycelial systems have existed for eons

Hierarchy



Mycelial







Decriminalization

And community control



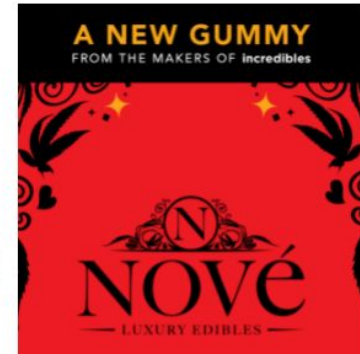
## How Denver's mushroom vote inspired Oakland to free all natural psychedelics

Oakland cops to ignore shrooms, DMT, ayahuasca, ibogaine, more

VICES | JUNE 07, 2019

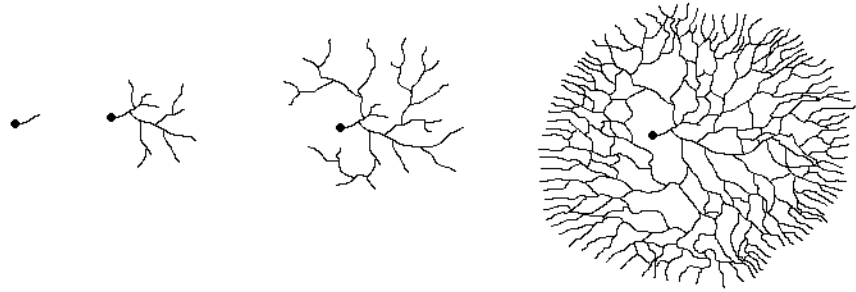
BY REILLY CAPPS

The Mile High City's enthusiasm for drugs is catching.



# Decriminalization

And community control



# Decriminalization

And community control

## Benefits

Community

Exploration

Can use psychedelics for any reason: medical, spiritual, creative, aesthetic, pain — like cluster headaches — or just to look at trees and flowers

Less profit motive

## Downsides

Chaotic

People do get "spun"

No way to pay federal taxes or declare income

In unregulated sessions, there has been at least one sexual assault I'm aware of. Almost certainly more I'm not aware of. Man in question was not prosecuted. Although he did come to a bad end.

# Decriminalization

## And community control

In Denver, many community members want no rules, complete freedom. Others want guidelines of some sort — so they can be more comfortable knowing what's accepted and what's not, at least by their fellow Denverites. Many conservative Denverites fear a return to a Sixties free-for-all. And in other places I believe it's the same.

"We have to allow ourselves to develop. You start governing us too early and you're imposing an old system on us, and you're preventing us from growing. Either we'll become like you or we'll go into hiding and do what we want to do."

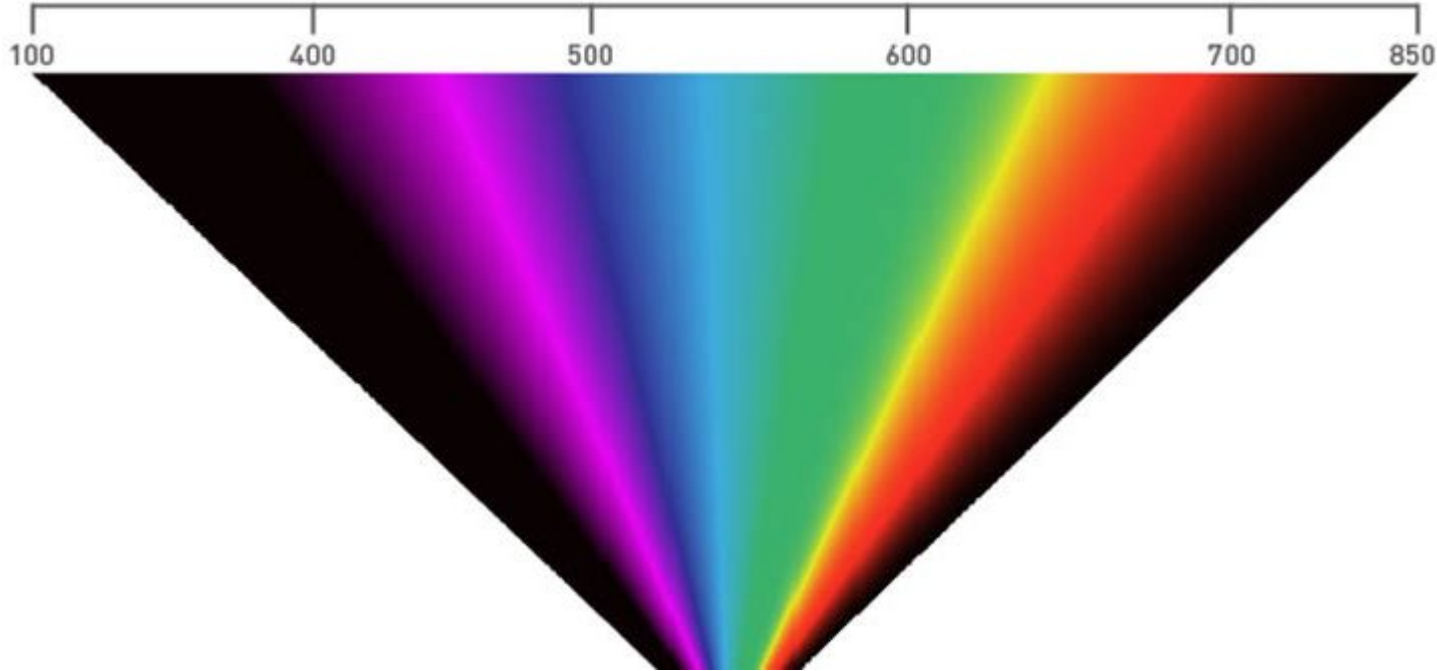
- "Joseph," a "community" guide I interviewed



# Back to our spectrum for how communities handle psychs

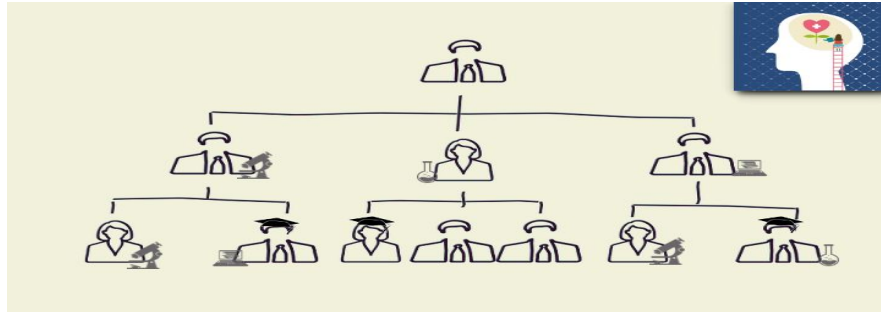
Western Hierarchy

Southern Community Mycelial



# Western Hierarchy NOT NEW

Eleusinian mysteries 1600BC-392AD

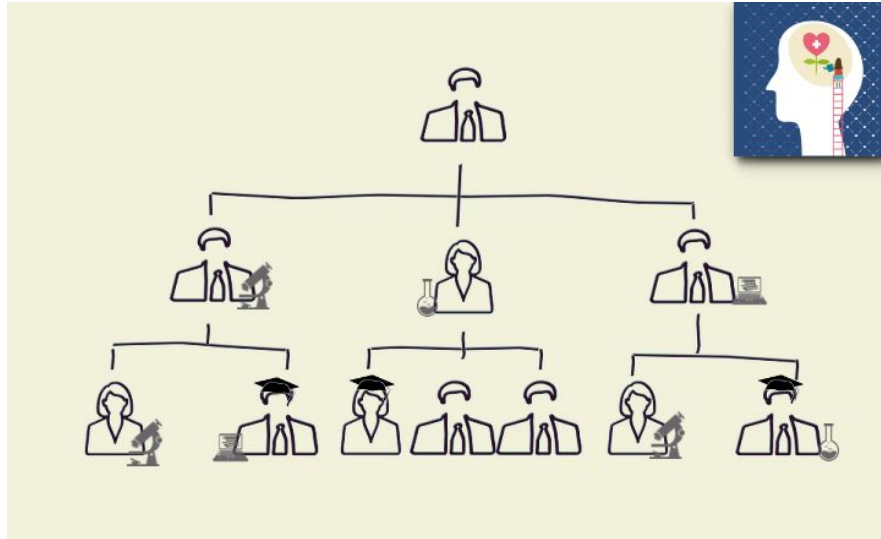


The most famous was the eleusinian mysteries at the temple of demeter. Very centrally controlled. Only a few priestesses could give out the drug, kykeon. Which many think was ergot, a fungus from which LSD comes. The ritual only happened at few times a year at night. You couldn't talk about what you'd seen or you'd get kicked out of society. You couldn't take the drug on your own or experiment or microdose or take it for pain.



# Western Hierarchy Authorities

Long lasting, controlled, state benefits



Ppl say this ritual sustained Greek civ. Said to have cured fear of death



# Western Hierarchy Authority continues



Many scholars say mysteries of Eleusis didn't die with death of Greek civ, just transmogrified.

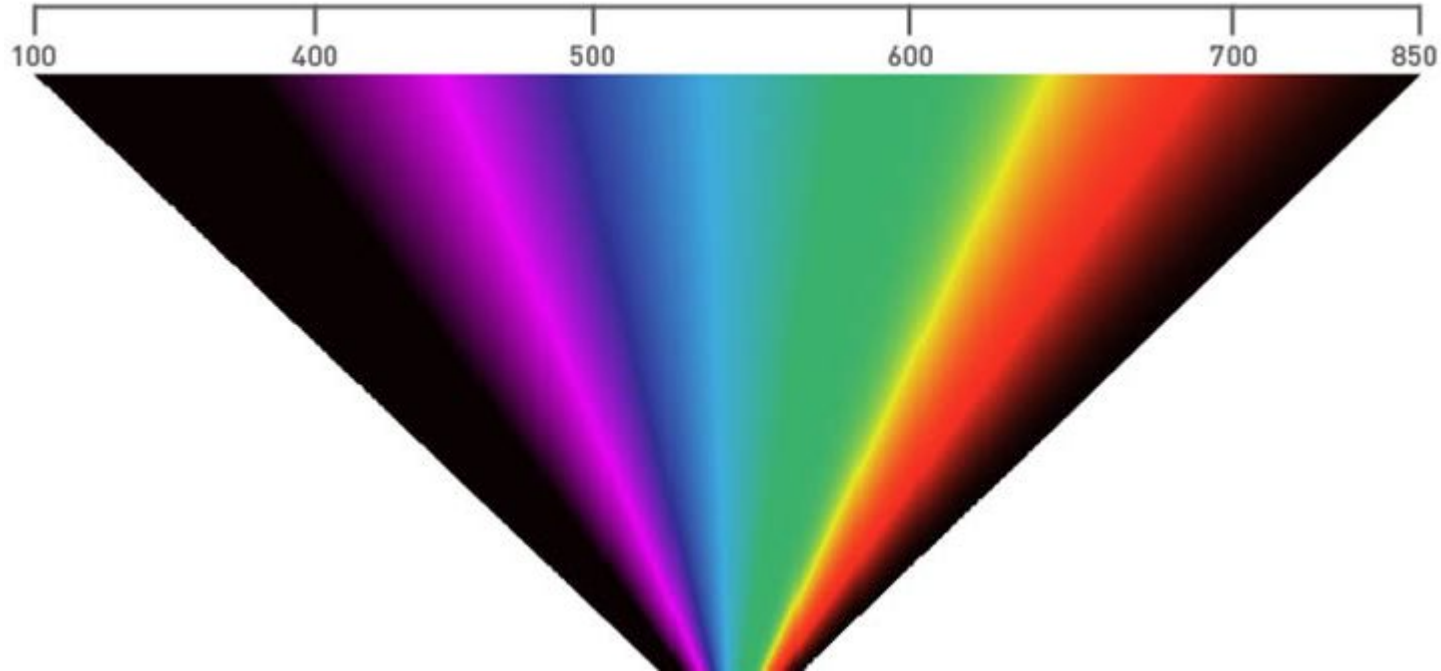
Catholics have Hierarchical control of their most sacred substance. Say where, when how, it could be used.



# Hybrid between mycelial and hierarchy

West - Hierarchy

South - Community Mycelial







## I'm tired of tripping balls, but my health depends on it

VICES | JULY 31, 2017

BY REILLY CAPPS







About once a month, when Ashley Hattle has to take her powerful and effective headache medicine, she preps for the unwanted side effects.

She clears her schedule for eight hours. She gets out the finger paint. She turns on a Harry Potter movie. Why? "Because it's magic," she says. And then

Been writing about  
clusterbusters for 4 plus  
years.



# Western Hierarchy - Medical model

Psilocybin alpha 			Home	Psychedelic Companies ▾	Watchlist
			<i>Short-lasting unilateral neuralgiform headache attacks (SUNHA)</i>		
			<i>Cluster headache</i>		
			<i>Migraine</i>		
			<i>Migraine</i>		
			<i>Cluster headache</i>		



PRESS RELEASE

# Phase 2 Clinical Trial of LSD for "Suicide Headaches" Begins Treating Patients

## Phase2 Clinical Trial of LSD for "Suicide Headaches" Begins Treating Patients

MindMed Is Collaborating on a Phase 2 Clinical Trial of LSD For Cluster Headaches with University Hospital Basel's Liechti Lab

I'm not aware of how MindMed plans to ask the FDA for permission to give out LSD for clusters. With a therapist with a doctor's note?

# Measure 109 (Oregon)

Psilocybin for Medical Use

# PASSED

AP projection as of 8:08 p.m. PST



[opb.org/election2020](https://opb.org/election2020)