

# New York Prohibitionist



*Think NY Vote Dry*

*March 2019*

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## Let's Bring Our Folding Chairs

For too long the alcohol industry and other corrupt interests have been allowed to manipulate our state government; to distort our state's policies for their private greed, at the expense of the public wellbeing. But this can be changed. We in the Prohibition Party are working to make positive contributions to our state and our communities, to promote positive policies and social reform, and to advance the revitalization of our republic. The wets in the Democratic and Republican parties, may use their wealth and unequal ballot access laws to try to maintain power, but they cannot keep us down. We are coming for our seats at the table.

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"If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair." Shirley Chisholm

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## Sign Up For The New York Prohibitionist

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## The Need for Restricting Commerce

The prosperity of a society is not merely based in its material wealth, but in the wellbeing, quality of life, security, and cultivation of its people. The conduct of business and commerce is a major aspect of economic activity. It's important for the provision of many products and services and employment of many people. But the conduct of business and commerce is not necessarily a good thing, and does not always benefit the public. Its quality is pendent on what is being done, the merits of it, and its effect upon people. The primary function of a business is to generate profit an income for those who run it. In the process it may end up benefiting others and the public at large. But that is not always the case. If those engaging in commerce are overcome by greed, indifferent to moral responsibility, and/or indifferent towers the effects their actions have on others, and are not restricted by ethical standards, they can end conducting business in ways which are dishonest, which cause harm to people, and which negatively impact society at large. Both history and present-day societies are full of examples of the evils that can come when

greed and inhumanity are allowed to operate. Whether that be the antebellum institution of slavery (which abused and exploited millions of people for the profit of slaveholders), the alcohol and tobacco industry killing millions of people of people a year worldwide with their poisonous products, the inhuman exploitation of people by human traffickers, or any number of other unjust and exploitive actions.

Our republic was established so the people of our society could come together to protect our rights and advance our common interests. It was established not merely to protect us from the tyranny of a monarch, but to protect us the tyranny of abusive actions of individuals and private entities. When someone's actions cause harm to people, violate their human rights, or commit some grave wrong, they become a matter of public interest. The people have the legitimate ability to come together to establish rules restricting behaviors, to protect their lives, rights, and vital wellbeing against the abusive actions of individuals and private entities. This principle applies to the actions of people in business and commerce. This is why there needs to be laws which regulate and restrict the businesses and commercial practices. A well designed and well enforced system of commercial laws (which sets standards of honest business practices, combats fraudulent behavior, promotes fair relations between employers and employees, and businesses and consumers, sets rules for the protection of the health and safety of people, prohibits harmful products, and prohibits the inhuman exploitation of people for profits) can work to greatly reduce various social ills and improve the wellbeing and prosperity of the public.

This understanding has long been expressed by supporters of alcohol prohibition. Alcohol is a toxic substance, which harms people and society. The commercial alcohol industry not only produce and supplies the harmful substance which causes these damages, but promotes its increased and continued use through, and works to oppose efforts to combat the harm of alcohol, for the sake of their own profit. As such, prohibitionists have advocated for laws to ban the commercial production and sale of alcohol. The principled prohibitionist is an enemy of unrestricted commerce and greed, and a friend of honest business and ethical legislation.



## State Assembly Passes Tobacco 21 Bill

The state assembly has passed a bill which would raise the legal age for purchasing tobacco products and e-cigarettes from 18 to 21. Following the passage of the bill, State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie stated, "Smoking cigarettes and e-cigarettes is a dangerous and addictive habit that too often begins in high school or earlier. By raising the purchasing age to 21, we can remove tobacco and other addictive products from our schools and improve health outcomes by stopping smoking before it starts." The bill would still need to pass in the state senate. If it passes in the state senate, Governor Cuomo has indicted that he would sign it into law.

Source: [https://www.wivb.com/news/politics/ny-assembly-passes-bill-to-raise-smoking-age-to-21/18310825257fbclid=IwAR2N5ekhSLLo9IVxhtUuN37YuqwnTUZ\\_LD4bBsrghssLzUTrnPC7pFwes](https://www.wivb.com/news/politics/ny-assembly-passes-bill-to-raise-smoking-age-to-21/18310825257fbclid=IwAR2N5ekhSLLo9IVxhtUuN37YuqwnTUZ_LD4bBsrghssLzUTrnPC7pFwes)

## Alcohol Tax Bill

Assembly member Michael DenDekker introduced a proposed to increase state taxes on alcohol sales. Assembly bill A06349A would increase state taxes on alcohol by 50%, and designate funds raised by it to go to funding addiction prevention and rehabilitation programs. It is estimated that if passed, it could generate 260 million dollars a year for such programs.

For more information on Assembly bill A06349A, you can check out the bill on the State Assembly website; <https://nyassembly.gov/leg/?term=2019&bn=A06349>

Source: <https://www.wkbn.com/news/local-news/doubling-nys-alcohol-tax-could-create-new-fund-to-help-people-fighting-addiction>

"The Prohibition Party stands for maintaining the Constitution and enforcing the Volstead law as well as all other laws, irrespective of the position, influence or wealth, of the law breaker." George Hinds

## Changes to Ballot Access Petitioning

Earlier this year, the state legislature passed a series of reforms to the state's election system. One of these changes was consolidating the state and federal primaries in the state to a single primary date. The Prohibition Party of New York doesn't currently have statewide ballot access, and therefore we don't not have primaries. But this change still affects us. The period for collecting signatures for an submitting independent petitions for ballot access is often tied to the petition deadline party primaries, and thus the change in primary dates will change the petitioning period for various offices. Richard Winger of Ballot Access News provided the following explanation of the change in the February Issue of B.A.N.

*On January 14, the New York legislature passed A779, which moves the petition deadline for independent candidates, and the nominees of unqualified parties, from August to May, for all office, even President. Governor Andrew Cuomo signed the bill on January 24.*

*The old deadline was eleven weeks before the general election, which would have been August 18 in 2020. The new deadline, 23 weeks before the general election, is May 26, 2020.*

*A779 was introduced on January 10 and had passed both houses of the legislature by January 14. There was no time to educate the members of the legislature about the petition deadline problem.*

*New York has always before had a late petition deadline. From 1922 to 1977 it was 28 days before the election. Between 1977 and 1985 it was 49 days. In 1985 it went to 77 days before the election, and now, in an extreme deliberalization, it is 161 days before the general election.*

*Such an early deadline violates the U.S. Supreme Court decision Anderson v Celebrezze, 460 U.S. 780 (1983). That decision says that throughout history, minor party and independent presidential candidates have arisen in the late spring and early summer of election years. It says that the First Amendment requires that states permit such candidacies to arise, after it is clear whom the major parties have nominated.*

*New York's new deadline gives the state the third earliest deadline for president in the nation, if each state's latest procedure (new party or independent) is compared. See the chart on page three which lists the deadlines of all states.*

*There are still four states that have deadlines in September, which makes a mockery of any claim that New York needs a May deadline. A majority of states have August deadlines, for President.*

*Early petition deadlines for minor party and independent candidates have been struck down, or enjoined, in Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Utah.*

*Significant presidential candidates who ran outside the major parties and who didn't declare until a date later than May 26 are: Theodore Roosevelt in 1912, Robert La Follette in 1924, Parley P. Christensen in 1920, William Lemke in 1936, Strom Thurmond in 1948, John G. Schmitz in 1972, and Evan McMullin in 2016.*

*On July 25, 2000, the U.S. State Department criticized Azerbaijan's new electoral law because it barred parties from the ballot unless they had been formed at least six months before any election. But now New York state has done what Azerbaijan had done.*

*The purpose of A779 was to move the primary for state and local office from September to June. However, there was no need for the bill to have moved the independent petition deadline. New York had had a June primary from 1956 through 1972, yet during those years, the New York petition deadline was in early October.*

*New York is in the Second Circuit. There are no precedents on the constitutionality of early petition deadlines in the Second Circuit, because no state in the Second Circuit has ever had an unreasonably early deadline. The only three states in the Second Circuit are Connecticut, Vermont, and New York. Until now, none of those states has had a petition deadline earlier than August.*

Source: <http://ballot-access.org/2019/03/01/february-2019-ballot-access-news-print-edition/>

## Political Intolerance

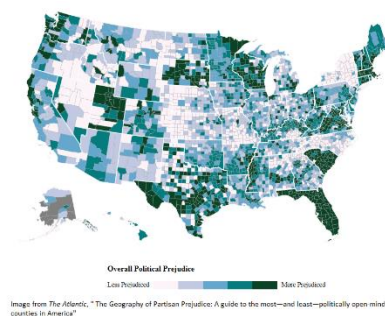
Earlier this month, The Atlantic newspaper and Predict Wise (a polling and analytics firm) released the results of a study into the distribution of partisan prejudice in the United States. The full article detailing the report is titled The Geography of Partisan Prejudice: A guide to the most—and least—politically open-minded counties in America and can be found by this link:

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2019/03/us-counties-vary-their-degree-partisan-prejudice/583072/>

The project gathered data from thousands of respondents and used it to estimate the distribution of partisan prejudice. The analysts calculated that in general there tended to be relatively higher levels of partisan prejudice among Americans who were white, more highly educated, older, lived in urban areas, and were more heavily partisan toward one of the major parties. But the largest and most

common factor they saw with political practice was isolation from political diversity. People whose social interactions were more heavily composed of people with similar partisan views tended to be more likely to hold partisan prejudices and stereotype people with other political affiliations. While those who more regularly interacted with other political views and affiliations tended to hold more complex views of other political groups and were less likely to fall into prejudices and stereotypes.

The analysts estimated the relative rates of political intolerance in each county in the country.



Most of the counties in the New York state were rated with relatively low levels of political intolerance.

Though, we can all still do better. People being able to hold different political views and affiliations is a part of the civic culture of our republic. It is fine to disagree with people on political matters. But it should be done in an informed manner, and with due respect towards others. Political intolerance, prejudice, and stereotyping can have a detrimental effect on our politics. It can produce distorted understandings of others, which can divide people, break down in conversation, and prevent people from coming together to work in areas of common ground. It can be easier to see the intolerance and prejudice of one's political opponents. It can be harder to recognize it in our political associates, and in ourselves. To help combat the political intolerance each of us should be mindful of our own thoughts about others, work to be informed about the issues, seek to interact with people of various views and positions, try to understand where others are coming from (even if we may not agree with their positions or reasoning), seek to keep in mind that those with different positions can have genuine beliefs and motivations (that even if their position may be disagreeable, that doesn't necessarily mean that they are malicious) remember that other political groups are not homogenous (that individuals in them have their own individual thoughts and stances, which be very from the general group), and work to keep in mind that one's political opponents are still people and that we are all still part of the same society.

"The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat." Theodore Roosevelt

## George Hinds: Standing in the Arena

George K. Hinds was a New York City school teacher and Prohibition Party activist. He started teaching around the year 1896 and continued to do so for at least 25 years. He ran as a Prohibition Party candidate for several offices. In 1910, he ran a prohibition party candidate for justice in the first district of the New York Supreme Court. He ran again for the same office in 1911, 1912, and 1916. In the 1912 election, he received 464 votes. In 1920, he was one of the elector candidates in New York for the Prohibition Party presidential ticket of Aaron Watkins and D. Leigh Colvin.

In 1921, Hinds ran as the Prohibition Party candidate for mayor of New York. Hinds ran on a platform centered strongly enforcing national prohibition in New York City, expanding the school system to ensure all children had access to an education, and working to make city departments more efficient. In a news interview Hinds stated, "What other candidates for mayor may promise to do as a duty, I offer to perform as a pleasure". He especially sought to appeal to appeal to women voters and teachers, and expressed hope that he might get more votes than his friend D. Leigh Colvin. Sources differ as to Colvin's vote totals in 1917, so it's uncertain whether or not Hinds accomplished this goal. But Hinds managed to get 1,045 (0.09%) votes and came in 5<sup>th</sup> place.

In a time of adversity, for the Prohibition Party, George Hinds stepped up. In the 1922 election, the New York Prohibition Party needed its candidate for governor to get 15,000 votes to maintain statewide a lot access. The Democratic Party had nominated Al Smith, who was an open anti-prohibitionist, for governor. The Republican Party nominated Nathan Miller (who was personally opposed to prohibition, but claimed that he would enforce all laws). The New York Republican Party attacked the Prohibition Party and claimed that since national prohibition had been established that the party no longer had a point in existing. The Anti-Saloon League sided with Miller as a lesser of two evils, and tried to pressure the Prohibition Party to nominate Miller as a fusion candidate. The New York Prohibition Party resisted this pressure. At the state convention,

the state committee voted 25 to 6, to nominate Hinds instead of Miller.

George Hinds accepted the nomination and ran in spite of the challenges he would face. He advocated for strong enforcement of national prohibition in New York, called out the Democratic and Republican parties for being weak on enforcement, told voters that voting for the Prohibition Party would send a message in favor of national prohibition, and asked voters to give the Prohibition Party chance to show them what they could do if they ran the state government. Hinds received 9,498 (0.38%) votes and came in 4<sup>th</sup> place. Since he came up short of 15,000 votes, the party lost its statewide ballot access. The New Prohibition Party later regained statewide ballot access in 1930, with Robert Carroll's campaign. But the party lost statewide ballot access again in 1934, and has not regained it since. While the political climate was challenging, George Hinds and other party activists persisted, and helped pave the way for future activism and accomplishments.

Sources: "A Bootleggers Candidate". *The Buffalo Commercial*. (Buffalo, N.Y.). October 26, 1922. Accessed, March 27, 2019. <https://www.newspapers.com/image/313415921/?terms=george%2Bhinds%2Bprohibition>  
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"The Prohibition Party is bone dry and the only party in which one can record his vote of protest in this campaign against the return of the saloon with its disgraceful record." George Hinds

## Another Step in the Wrong Direction

The state government took another step in the wrong direction when it comes to the alcohol industry. In December, the state legislature made the misguided decision to create license for allowing farm meaderies. Earlier this month, it was reported that the state has now began to grant these licenses. Once again, we must repeat; Alcohol is toxic substance, whose effects are damaging to the health, safety, and wellbeing of the people of this state. The damages that alcohol causes cost our economy and society more than the economic activity that the alcohol industry produces. Expanding the alcohol industry does not help the economy. It makes our state sicker, poorer, and more highly taxed. We need to end state support for the alcohol industry and get serious about treating it as a social and public health problem.

Source: <https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/buffalo/community/2019/03/21/bring-on-the-tead-ny-state-now-licensing-farm-meaderies>



## Women's History Month Trivia

In honor of Women's History Month, here is some trivia about women and prohibition.

Many women's suffragists were supporters of prohibitionist policies, including prominent figures such as Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Amelia Bloomer.

The Prohibition Party was the first national party to endorse women's suffrage, and stated that endorsement in its first national party platform in 1872. Decades before the Republican and Democratic Parties did so.

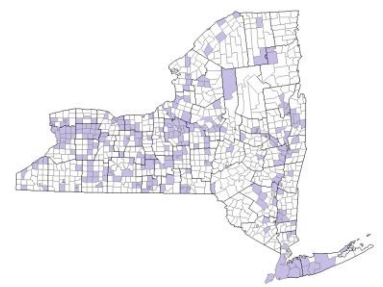
The Prohibition Party was also national party to endorse equal pay for women, with its platform in 1892.

Susanna Salter, the first women mayor in the U.S., was elected under the Prohibition Party ticket.

Anna Woodbey, the first African American woman candidate for office was nominated by the Prohibition Party.

In 1924, the Prohibition Party nominated Marie Brehm as the first legally recognized woman candidate for vice-president following the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment.

"After all is said, the human being is the unit of value, and prohibition is the only divine element of love for helpless childhood, degraded womanhood and down and out manhood expressed in national and civic salvation for those unfortunate victims of the liquor traffic". Marie Brehm



## Expanding Outreach

Our public messaging efforts continue to reach an increasing number of people in New York State and beyond. We continue to reach more people over Facebook. Our most recent data shows that content from our Facebook page has been viewed by people in at least 278 communities across the state, in 59 out of 62 counties. We also reached people in 48 other states, and over 50 countries. The New York Prohibition Party twitter account has reached over 750,000 cumulative views.



## Solidarity In the Face of Tragedy: Mourning Those Lost in the New Zealand Terror Attack

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, the people of New Zealand were struck by a devastating attack, when a white-supremacist terrorist attacked two mosques in Christchurch and murdered 50 people. In the face of this horrendous event, many people, of various religions, around the world mourned the loss of those killed in the attack, and to express interreligious solidarity against hatred. For instance, on March 17<sup>th</sup>, hundreds of people (including Muslims, Christians, Jews, Hindus, Sikhs, and Buddhists) gathered the Islamic Society of Niagara Frontier in Amherst, N.Y., to pray for the victims of the attack, the Muslim community, and for world peace.

We offer our condolences to the victims of the attack and their loved ones, and to those who have suffered from other such attacks. In the face of hatred and violence, let us reaffirm a commitment to compassion and universal humanity.

Source: [https://www.wksw.com/news/local-news/hundreds-show-support-for-wyns-muslim-community-after-new-zealand-shooting?fbclid=IwAR1JbgCAOM9u8KW-LQOynSphC31UzITghDqyCqIiK7zYWJLLDRau\\_H\\_rs](https://www.wksw.com/news/local-news/hundreds-show-support-for-wyns-muslim-community-after-new-zealand-shooting?fbclid=IwAR1JbgCAOM9u8KW-LQOynSphC31UzITghDqyCqIiK7zYWJLLDRau_H_rs)

## Myth Busting

Earlier this month, the Federalist put out an extensive article counter several common myths put forward by advocates of legalizing marijuana. The full article, titled, 7 Arguments For Legalizing Marijuana That No One Should Believe, by Timothy Hsiao, can be found via this link: <https://thefederalist.com/2019/03/07/7-arguments-legalizing-marijuana-no-one-believe/?fbclid=IwAR2omxdR5CFN0tNNmlgbzi4DrqQ-orXlJr5HZJBZEOmmaWK2NWdS9jnwqgl#.XIV4QHJ8t7E.facebook>

The Seven Myths that the article tackled were:

1. 'Marijuana Is Harmless'
2. 'Marijuana Legalization Is Pro-Liberty'
3. 'Marijuana Legalization Will Increase Tax Revenue'
4. 'Alcohol Prohibition Failed, and So Is Weed Prohibition'
5. 'Legalization Will Help Solve Mass Incarceration'
6. 'Legalization Is Necessary to Stop Police Overreach'
7. 'Marijuana Legalization Will Solve the Opioid Crisis'

Here are some highlights of the article:

“‘Marijuana Is Harmless’ This is perhaps the worst argument in favor of legalization. It is a well-established fact that marijuana use carries significant negative health effects, particularly to mental health.”

“The science is very clear: marijuana is *not* harmless. It is a performance-degrading drug

that can significantly damage one’s mental health.”

“Many libertarians and a growing number of conservatives argue that legalization is the “pro-freedom” position. Actually, the exact opposite is true. Marijuana use attacks, degrades, and impairs the very thing that allows us to act freely: our brains.”

“Human freedom is the product of order, both in ourselves and in society in general. This realization gave rise to the system of ordered liberty and natural law upon which our government is based.

This order is reflected in the human ability to make rational decisions. Choices that are not under the control of reason are not free, but random and chaotic. Since intoxicating drugs interfere with our ability to reason properly, they are the very antithesis of liberty.”

“Any tax revenue generated by legalization will be outweighed by its social costs, which are several times greater than its alleged benefits.”

“A recent study conducted by the Centennial Institute looked at Colorado’s legalization regime and found that for every \$1 of tax revenue generated by marijuana taxes, Coloradans paid \$4.50 to mitigate marijuana-related social costs stemming from the health-care and education systems, accidental poisonings, impaired driving, and increased court costs, among other things.”

“The idea that alcohol prohibition was an abysmal failure is a historical myth that never seems to die. Prohibition actually reduced per capita alcohol consumption by around 30–50 percent. Cirrhosis death rates (a good measure of heavy drinking), admissions to state mental hospitals for alcohol psychosis, and arrests for drunk and disorderly conduct also declined dramatically.

As Duke University economist Philip Cook explains: “the Prohibition period was associated with a substantial reduction in per capita alcohol consumption... Mortality rates from alcohol-related diseases were also lower, indicating that the prevalence of chronic heavy drinking was way down during the 1920s.”

Ah, but Prohibition significantly increased crime, right? Wrong. Violent crime remained largely constant during Prohibition. The homicide rate experienced larger increases during the pre-Prohibition period between 1900 and 1910 than during all of Prohibition.”

“The war on drugs is often blamed for the explosion in prison populations within the past few decades. But this is not supported by the data. As Fordham law professor John Pfaff points out, “a majority of prison growth has come from locking up violent offenders, and a large majority of those admitted to prison never serve time for a drug charge, at least not as their ‘primary’ charge.””

“According to a comprehensive survey of state and federal inmates, only 3.6 percent of the nationwide prison population were incarcerated for simple drug possession. Out of those 3.6 percent, half had committed a non-drug crime (e.g., burglary or assault) along with possession. Once those are excluded, the number of inmates incarcerated for simple drug possession drops to 1.8 percent of all inmates.”

“Prohibition comes in various shapes and sizes. During national alcohol prohibition, individuals were allowed to keep small amounts of alcohol in their own homes for personal consumption. It was the sale and distribution that was illegal. So defending prohibition does not mean that you must automatically defend a specific regime of enforcement.”

“If anything, legalizing marijuana may make the opioid crisis even worse. As it turns out, marijuana use increases the risk of other substance use disorders. Rather than serving as a substitute for opioids, research suggests that marijuana functions as a companion drug that people take alongside others.”

“There you have it: seven bad arguments for marijuana legalization. Let’s have this debate on more accurate terms, shall we?”

## County States of Emergency

This month, two New York Counties declared states of emergency, relating to two different public health problems.

On March 26<sup>th</sup>, Rockland County officials declared a state of emergency relating to measles outbreak. Over the past several month’s the county has seen a growing outbreak of measles, which has climbed to 153 confirmed cases (mostly of unvaccinated children). As part of the emergency declaration, the county has banned unvaccinated children (with the exception of those unable to receive vaccination) from public spaces for a 30-day period. The county is also urging parents to vaccinate their children.

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, Broome County officials declared a state of emergency regarding fentanyl. The declaration was made in response to increasing rate of fentanyl overdoses in the county. County officials are working to investigate the matter and plan additional actions the address the problem.

Sources: [https://www.wivb.com/news/measles-outbreak-rockland-county-declares-state-of-emergency/1878925842?fbclid=IwAR1m0Co8zWHBUuE3kdEgu5fsLuneLDWNVsI3O\\_4O54lbF8ng0zc9MnhxUitE](https://www.wivb.com/news/measles-outbreak-rockland-county-declares-state-of-emergency/1878925842?fbclid=IwAR1m0Co8zWHBUuE3kdEgu5fsLuneLDWNVsI3O_4O54lbF8ng0zc9MnhxUitE)

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