

Will Wooton, a drug and alcohol counselor in Escondido, California:

“First it was almost unbelievable. It was just hard to imagine that you could easily obtain something that can be misused,” Wooton said. “Most of the kids think it’s a joke. In fact, they openly say it’s a get out of jail free card. That is one of the nicknames around high school.”

Wooton said he used to see one to two teenagers a month who used their medical marijuana card as a means to get high. Now he sees more than that every week.

Legally, you must be at least 18 years old to obtain a medical marijuana card, but FOX 5 wanted to find out what else was required, so we decided to follow Wooton’s fellow counselor, Grant Glidewell, as he tried to get a card.

The first clinic we stopped at was in the North County... “The most common thing I hear from kids is that they go in and say they’re anxious and can’t sleep. I’m going to give that a shot and I’m pretty confident that will work,” said Glidewell.

It did work. Less than an hour later, Glidewell walked out of the first clinic with a card to legally smoke pot. “When I saw the doctor, he smiled and had looked over my questionnaire briefly. He said, ‘You have two of three main symptoms we treat here,’ ” Glidewell said. “He then said that I was going to love marijuana, that he and his wife smoked it and that I was going to have the best sleep of my life.”

Bennett, William J.; White, Robert A. (2015-02-03). *Going to Pot: Why the Rush to Legalize Marijuana Is Harming America* (pp. 35-36). Center Street. Kindle Edition.