



Karam Shbeeta opened the first **cannabis café** in Israel. The café was called Smoky Monkey, and it was in the town of Tira.

When the man opened the café, many people were scared. Some people wanted to kill the man or burn down the café. Then slowly, they started to understand.

Shbeeta knew many people who smoked marijuana, and they bought it illegally. These people had **chronic pain**, and Shbeeta wanted to help them legally.

Before visitors of the café can buy marijuana, they have to show their **medical file**. Then the staff decide if they will sell it to them. Most users are people with pain after work injuries, car accidents, and so on. They said that marijuana was the only thing which really stopped their pain.

Difficult words: **cannabis café** (a place where people can buy or smoke marijuana), **chronic pain** (a pain which last for a very long time, or it keeps coming back), **medical file** (documents with information about a person's health).

**Discussion Questions****Topic Talk**

1. Define the following words: *cannabis café*, *chronic pain* and *medical file*
2. What was the name of the first cannabis café in Israel and who owned it?
3. What were the people's impression when Karam Shbeeta opened the café?
4. Why did Karam Shbeeta decide to open a cannabis café?
5. What does Smoky Monkey require visitors to show before they can buy marijuana?
6. Who are mostly customers at the cannabis café?

Express Your Thoughts

1. Are there cannabis cafés in your country? *If yes*, where are they located?
2. Is it legal to buy and use marijuana in your country?
3. What is your attitude towards the use of marijuana?
4. Some countries have legalized the use of marijuana for medicinal use. Are you for or against it? Why or Why not?