

My name is Angel Lusso-Harris. I have suffered debilitating juvenile rheumatoid arthritis since i was 19 year's old it is a very painful disease. I thought that was all I would have to deal with in my life. I was wrong at age 28 I found out I had thyroid cancer, the chemo made me feel like death. I was a new mother and I thought my life was over and this beautiful new baby was going to grow up without her mother, I took the cancer treatments and they removed my thyroid gland and my para thyroids. I did not know things were about to get worse for me.

I started having grand mal seizures I was put on massive amounts of expensive, dangerous seizure medicine's some of the list includes. Dilantin, Topamax, Kepra, Alprazolam, to name a few. It would take me all day to name them all. I would have 20 grand mal seizures a day. The expensive poisons the doctors called anti convulsants reduced my seizures to an average of 30 seizures a week it still horrible. I kept taking the meds despite the horrible horrid side effects and the fact I was still having an unacceptable amount of seizures. A few years pasted. I had a major head and brain injury to the left frontal lobe of my brain after the brain surgery to try and fix the damage and remove the blood and pressure on my brain. My seizures increased. Despite the fact I was on all of the anti-seizure meds. I have been through hell when it comes to health issue's I did what traditional medicine and doctors told me to do. Take hand fulls of expensive pharmaceutical medicine that did not work and the side effects from the medication are horrific I had no quality of life. I didn't want to leave the house, I didn't want to embarrass my daughter or my husband or myself.

When you have a grand mal seizure you fall to the floor jerk, shake you lose all control of your body including control of your bodily functions. It's humiliating to come out of a seizure and have a crowd of people staring at you it's not a life i wish for anyone... I wanted some dignity, I wanted to see my daughter's music performances and plays without the fear of embarrassing her because the flash of a camera went off and I had a seizure, so started reading about medical marijuana and I tried it. My seizures have dropped to an average of 2 to 4 a month, I got to see my daughters Christmas program last month the smile on her face lit up the room, I got to be there, she got to see her mom in the 3rd row... with all that happiness I still have a heavy cloud that hangs over me, medical marijuana is illegal in the state Kansas. If I was caught with my medication my life would be destroyed, family's life would be destroyed. All I want is to live with dignity, be a good mother, wife and a good person. I'm not a criminal. I should not be treated like one. Medical marijuana should not be a crime .I should not go to jail and have my life destroyed for choosing a natural medicine that has dramatically decreased my seizures and controlled the horrific pain that comes with my Rheumatoid arthritis. Please pass a bill to legalize medical marijuana..... sincerely Angel Lusso-Harris