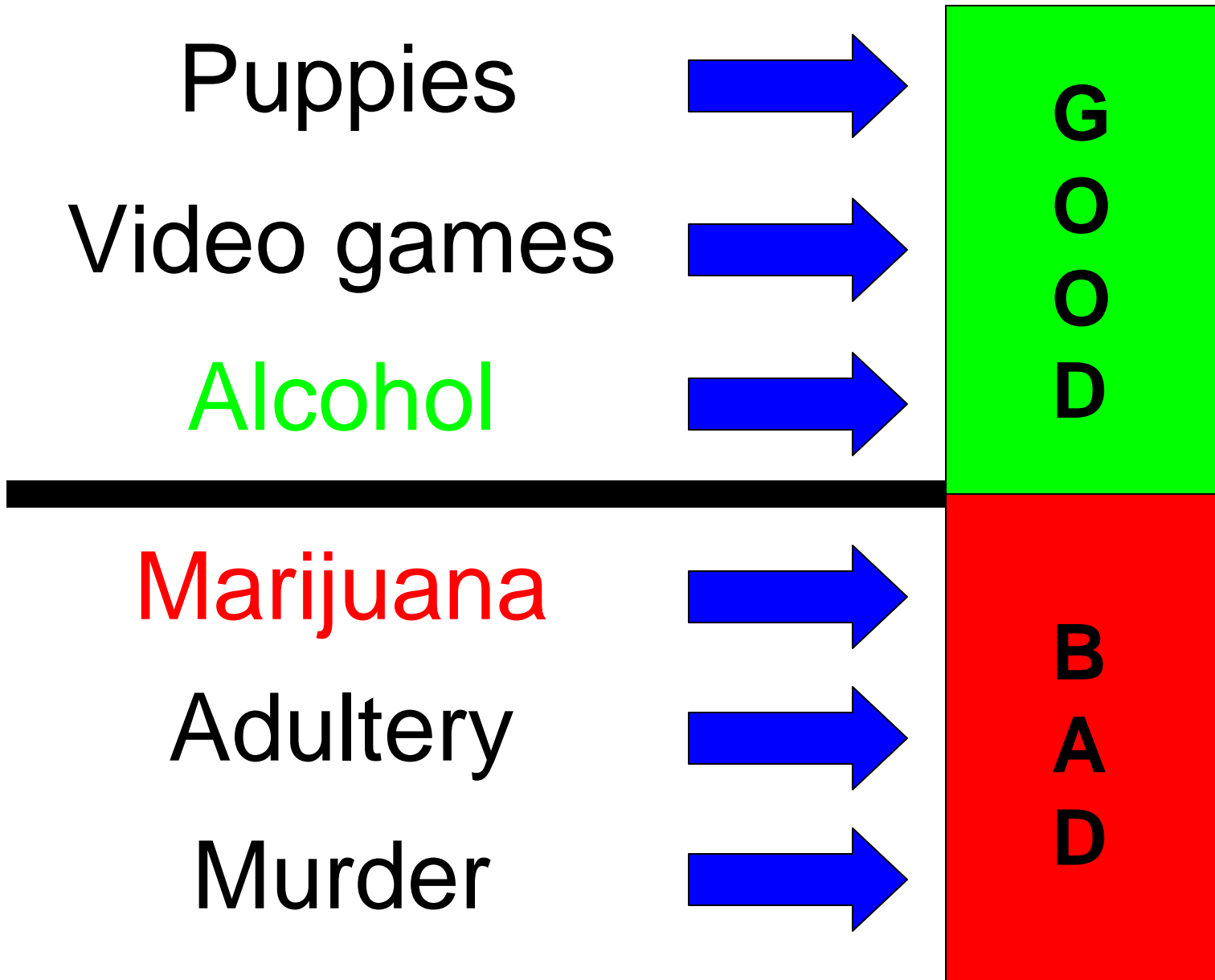
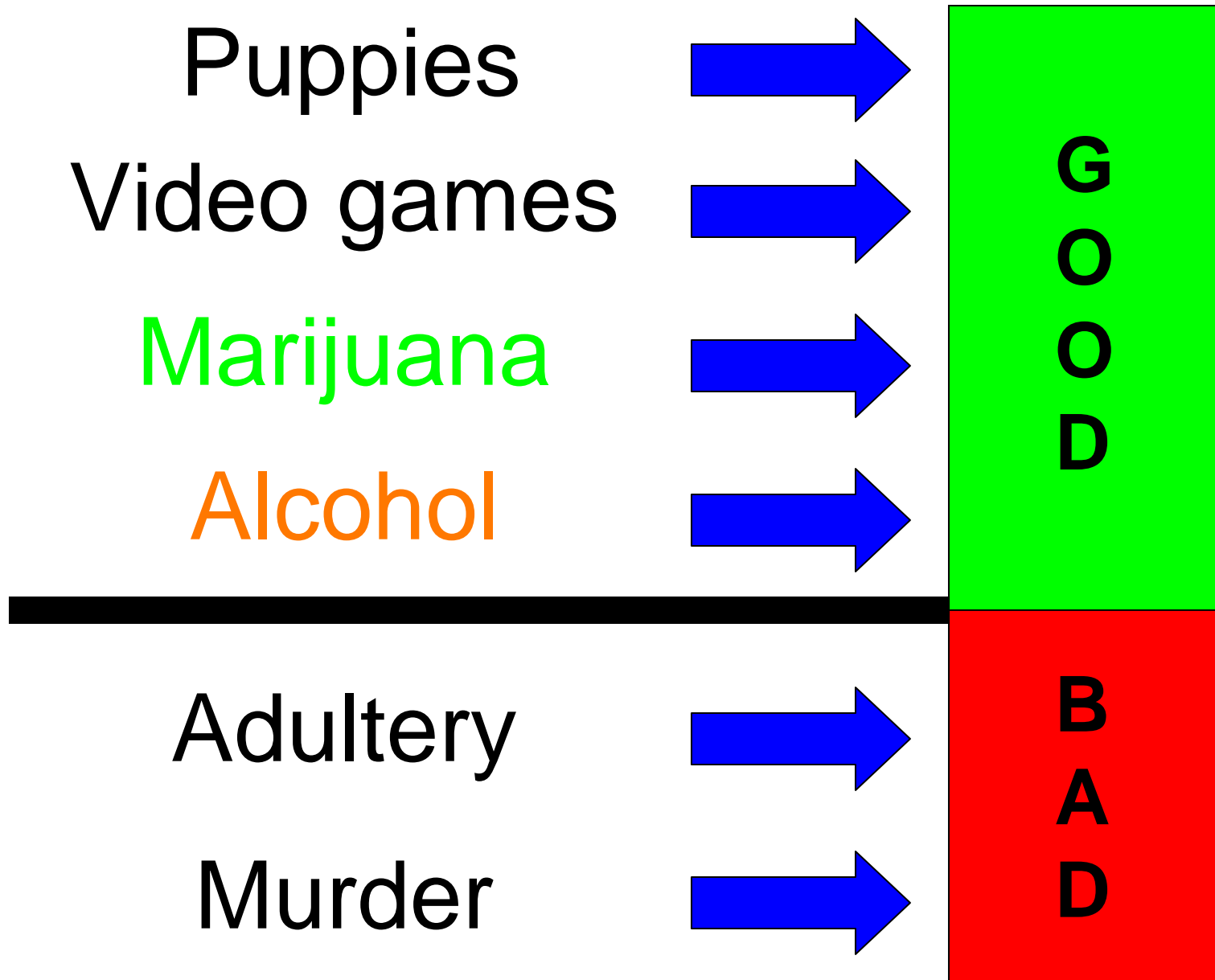


Marijuana in the dark ages (misinformation)



Marijuana in the age of enlightenment



Support for taxing and regulating marijuana based on reaction to the statement, “Marijuana is safer than alcohol”

	Support	Oppose
Strongly agree (19%)	<i>82%</i>	18%
Somewhat agree (20%)	<i>70%</i>	30%
Somewhat disagree (20%)	<i>33%</i>	67%
Strongly disagree (30%)	<i>14%</i>	86%
Not sure (11%)	54%	46%

Support for taxing and regulating marijuana based on agreement with various marijuana-related statements

	Support
Marijuana is safer than alcohol (40%)	76%
Regulations will reduce teen use (41%)*	75%
Money to state, not drug dealers (<u>63%</u>)	68%
Police focus on violent crime (<u>72%</u>)	61%
Prohibition doesn't work (<u>65%</u>)	60%

Our opponents trying to respond to the “safer” message...

Talking Point #1 -- The pro-legalization supporters will say:

“Marijuana is safer than alcohol, yet it’s illegal.”

The truth:

- If we applied that standard, alcohol would be illegal and crack-cocaine would be legal, since alcohol use trumps all other drugs with respect to its contribution to violent crime.**
- Alcohol, unlike marijuana or any other illegal drug, has a long, widespread history of use in Western culture, dating back to the Old Testament and Ancient Rome.**
- Yes, marijuana has been used for a while, but not in a broad, widespread manner like alcohol.**