

To whomever it concerns,

My name is Kathy Magliaro. I am 56 yrs old. I have been married for 36 years, and I am the mother to 2 adult children.

I want to share my story regarding Kratom. In 2005 I had two young children ages 5, and 7. I had a thriving house cleaning and home organizing business. I absolutely loved my job. And my husband, and I were very social, we loved seeing live music, sometimes bringing the kids, we loved hanging out with family and friends, at home or camping. It was a full life. Then in the spring of 2005, my world changed. I had indescribable facial pain, that in 2007 was diagnosed as Trigeminal neuralgia. If you do a Google search, you will find it is journaled in Neurology medical literature, as being the worst pain known in medicine, and it also has the moniker of

the suicide disease. This is not an exaggeration. My journey of pain management began, I wanted to keep working, and living the good life that I had with my family. But as the years progressed, one prescription tried after another, often compiled into a cocktail of prescriptions, then having 2 brain surgeries to try to get this pain to a level that I could function fully again, it all failed me. Soon I became bedridden spending every day all day in a pitch black bedroom. My husband, no longer had his wife present even in the home, my children no longer had their mom present. These attacks became daily, sometimes having uncontrollable severe facial and neck muscle spasms alongside the pain itself. I began to lose all hope of ever living life again, since I was simply existing at this point. I was losing hope of ever finding anything that would work. I

was the perfect patient, doing everything recommended. But I was battling those thoughts of suicide daily, all day.

Reoccurring thoughts that I have tried absolutely everything known, and nothing helped, so I had no choice except to end it by ending my life. I didn't want to leave my family though. So I fought daily. And I prayed non stop. Then in 2019 after my Dr's told me there was no longer any medication to possibly try, we tried it all, they said they could no longer do anything to help me. Are you aware that every year 2,000 lives of chronic pain patients lives are lost to suicide . 2,000 every single year. I didn't want to become 2,000 and 1. In 2019 I found this leaf called Kratom, and I tried it. From the 1st time it helped my pain. I was very suspicious, as each day went on it continued helping me, for the 1st year I was afraid to get my hopes up, I

was waiting for it to stop. As of today I am back living a full happy life once again.

And I am for the first time thinking about working again. I never thought I would ever be able to even think about that. I no longer had those horrible thoughts of hopelessness and ending my life. I was so grateful I clung on, and stayed.

Now this leaf is constantly under threat of being banned.

Over 20 million people consume Kratom in this country. Remember a large majority are chronic pain patients with stories just like mine. Going from a shell existing, to now fully functioning in life. Thanks to this leaf.

That statistic of 2,000 lives ended a year, what will that be next year if this leaf becomes inaccessible to those people? It most assuredly is going to rise. If the millions of patients experiencing

debilitating pain who are being dropped by the medical community left and right...cannot access this leaf anymore.

We are not talking about 100,500, or even 5,000 lives. It is millions. You will be responsible for removing the thing that is relieving pain for them, and allowing them to participate fully in life once again.

Do you even realize that is the end result if you ban this ?

Millions of lives will be severely impacted, thrown back into inexplicable levels of pain, and having nothing available.

Because also realize if something was helping we would have never looked to this leaf. It was because nothing was helping that we looked to alternative treatment.

Please follow the science. Leading world experts are speaking out about their many years of research. 15 plus years, showing this leaf is of no harm. The FDA itself

made a statement that they tried increasing doses, and found no dose to cause any negative side effects. Much less cause injury. So you have the FDA itself, plus many world leading scientific Doctors of research telling you it is not harmful. They have testified before the World Health Organization, and also before Congress. Yet you are saying basically that you will not listen. Why are you not listening? Please don't ban this leaf. Please follow educated leaders and their many years of research, and consider sound regulations. Thank you for your time,  
Kathy Magliaro

