LinkedIn Post #1:

Small businesses can compete in the cannabis market, but it's not easy.

Here's how.

While states are legalizing the cannabis industry, our federal government is hand-delivering it to big corporations.

Not cool.

The marijuana industry is stymied by outdated regulations that prevent growth at every step.

How do they do this?

With federal anti-money laundering laws preventing small businesses from getting off the ground by restricting federal loans.

If, by a miracle, a small business receives a loan, they are suffocated by taxes.

All because of a law passed in 1982: Section 280E of the Internal Revenue Code.

This old law prevents sellers of controlled substances from taking standard business deductions. Now, 40 years later, after cannabis has widely been legalized, this law still stands.

The results? A tax rate of 80-90%. Yes, you read that right – 90% of profits gone.

For businesses to succeed in the space, they need a hell of a lot of money. To get started AND to survive. Operating in the short term won't cut it. In this industry, success is defined by the long haulers.

Sure, eventually the tides will turn. The government will reform their cannabis regulations. And there will be – finally – real profits to be made.

But, can businesses survive until change is made?

Small businesses can't. Corporations can - and will. So, when the time comes for fair play, there will be so few players left that corporations will win and win big.

As is true with most industries that make money, the government is ensuring the cannabis business benefits those already in power.

Is there a solution?

YES.

DeFi can level the playing field. Cryptocurrency can help small businesses in the cannabis industry secure deposits, business loans, and payment processes.

In other words, it's a way to cut the archaic red tape wrapped around the industry's throat.

Legally.

Staack, our crypto and cannabis start-up, works through the DeFi space to support small businesses ready to make waves in the cannabis game. And our goal - let small businesses, not corporations alone, survive and thrive in the cannabis industry.

Cannabis is a $125 million industry. Staack is determined to ensure profits end up in the hands of the people fairly.

Together, we can rise above the system and play to win.

LinkedIn Post #2

Hot take: all felonies are not created equal.

America likes to villainize the vulnerable and empower the powerful. Not very Robin Hood, if you ask me.

The vulnerable – someone selling a 20-dollar bag of weed — earns jail time and a lifetime stamp as a convicted felon. FELON!

Most of these arrests? People of color. 94% of them. And after they're labeled a felon, it's impossible to find a job, get accepted into college, or rent an apartment.

The catch? Cannabis is legal in 22 states.

The powerful – so-called "white collar criminals" committing major crimes like tax fraud and embezzlement, are felons too, but they get a second chance. Because although most of these crimes are perpetrated by the corporate elite, these felons have safety nets: corporate support and wealth.

We have seen this empowerment of the powerful at the expense of the vulnerable time and time again. A person goes to jail for marijuana possession, and the jail owners make a profit.

Now, it's time to turn the tables.

Money must be funneled away from the wealthiest and into the communities that need it most. Flint and Jacksonville deserve clean water; Jeff Bezos doesn't need another private jet.

The people of color who have been marginalized and criminalized time and time again by society deserve opportunities and security. They deserve the same second chance our system affords the wealthy.

"All men are created equal."

Now is the time for corporations to be held responsible for creating the most significant wealth gap in history.

It's time to turn the system inside out.

It's time to let the people prosper.

It's time to learn more about Staack.

Follow us here.

LinkedIn Post #3

Here's why the cannabis industry is really failing:

Monopoly may be a fun game, but it's a poison to businesses.

Monopolies are the real danger in a cannabis industry whose players risk their reputations, and whose central product, marijuana, has been smeared with misinformation for over a century.

Local municipalities can't build a resilient, thriving cannabis market anywhere, from Canada to California.

Why?

Because cannabis being federally illegal—a Schedule I controlled substance—benefits the few, not the many.

Over 100 billion dollars of cannabis continued to be sold illegally in 2021, at prices that undercut legal businesses.

Section 280E of the Internal Revenue Code prevents any company that traffics in Schedule I or II substances from claiming normal tax deductions. It was introduced in 1982. It is woefully out of date.

Without deductions, we're left with an 80-90% tax rate on legitimate businesspeople. This, quite simply, destroys the possibility of (legal) small businesses. Let alone the costs of staying in compliance with hardcore regulations.

The field is left ripe to be taken over by larger, corporate entities—or stuck forever as a black market.

Staack knows cannabis can be done better—legally.

We're pioneering blockchain technology for cannabis retailers to pay taxes and regulatory fees, lobbying for federal drug policy reform, and using tech to make the War on Drugs a thing of the past.

Follow us for more updates!

LinkedIn Post #4

Another hot take: intelligent government regulation can save cannabis.

Intelligence. It's the magic balm that can save any situation.

And in the case of cannabis taxation and regulation, it's safe to say there isn't too much of it.

Staack believes data is the raw material intelligence uses to make good decisions.

Businesses hide their data to avoid paying taxes. Regulators hide their data to avoid showing the public where their tax dollars go. This is like a bad game of hide and seek.

We believe the dollars flowing out of a community to the government should be deployed to improve that community.

And we believe that once we see the data that proves both businesses and governments are keeping up their sides of the bargain, the cannabis agency will earn subsidies, boom, and prosper nationwide.

Here's the good news. Staack has the tech to make data transparency work.

We want to put everything cannabis, including taxes and local, state, and federal funding, on the payment rail.

The blockchain protects both vendors and customers by maintaining a transaction history and audit trail. Legal markets beat black markets because they allow you to store equity openly and build generational wealth.

By digitizing cash-flow data for total transparency, we believe we can incentivize the U.S. government to end the War on Drugs, and its horrific effects on our communities.

This isn't sci-fi.

The FedNow system, which endows "businesses and consumers with the ability to send and receive instant payments efficiently and securely," regardless of size or location, is rolling out in 2023. Possibly, so are U.S. central bank-backed digital currencies.

Staack is certain this new digital world can end up either a lot like the old one, or a lot more just. We're pushing for the second of those choices.

Join us.

LinkedIn Post #5

You need to understand just how unfair the U.S. economic landscape is.

Because when corporate equities and mutual funds control the majority of all the wealth made in the world in the last 50 years, that affects you—right now.

It's not just about your 401K getting invested in fossil fuels and private prisons behind your back. It's about almost a TRILLION dollars being reinvested into the same companies on the S&P 500 that generated it.

That wealth is going to one place, and it's not taxes.

In fact, at least 55 of the largest corporations in America paid no federal corporate income taxes on their 2020 profits, according to the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. Whirlpool, FedEx, Nike, Hewlett Packard, and Salesforce are all on that list.

Think about that.

That level of consolidation is more than just a fairness problem. It's plutocracy.

We need an economic paradigm that values resilience and regeneration over efficiency, extraction, and consolidation.

We need DeFi.

At Staack, we believe huge problems can be brought down to size by on-the-ground, practical measures. We can't just say it's always going to be the way it was. We need change.

Follow us and learn more about our project to use blockchain and payment rail technologies to add seats to the table. You can't afford not to.