

Officer Smith was driving his police car through a high crime area. He eventually pulled into a convenience store to get a cup of coffee. When he pulled into the parking lot four teenagers were walking out of the store. One of the teenagers looked at the police car and then turned to his friends to say something to them. An instant later the teenagers started to walk away quicker, but none of the teenagers were running. Being suspicious, Officer Smith parked his car, exited the vehicle and then yelled at the teenagers "hold up a minute." Three of the teenagers immediately took off running, but one stayed behind sipping a Slurpee. Officer Smith asked the remaining teenager "where did your buddies run off to?" "Away I guess, I guess I will go see where" said the teenager as he started to walk off. Officer Smith then said "you are not going anywhere" and then asked the teenager "you carrying drugs?" The teenager replied "no way" and then asked "can I go?" Officer Smith then said "no...stand against the wall so I can search you for weapons, I don't want you hurting me or anyone else." The teenager said "this is messed up", placed his Slurpee on the ground and stood against the wall. Officer Smith patted the teenager down and felt something in his pocket that felt like it could be marijuana. Officer Smith reached into the teenager's pocket and as he suspected, found a small bag containing marijuana.

Analyze the following scenario completely and explain, using case law, if the actions of Officer Smith were justified.