"The Dangerous Truth About Today's Marijuana: Johnny Stack's Life and Death Story" – Teen Version

Description

Laura Stack's 19-year-old son, Johnny, died by suicide on November 20, 2019, after becoming delusional from dabbing high-THC marijuana concentrates. Soon afterward, Laura started a nonprofit organization, Johnny's Ambassadors, to educate parents and teens about the dangers youth marijuana use. Before marijuana, Johnny was a computer whiz with a 4.0 GPA and a perfect math score on the SAT. After marijuana, he stole his family dog from the home and threatened to kill it without payment from his mother. Three days before his death, Johnny issued his own warning about his marijuana usage. Through this tragic tale, Stack hopes to help teens understand how marijuana can harm them.

Objectives

- Who's Johnny?
- "Then" vs. "Now" marijuana
- Why do youth use marijuana?
- Is marijuana medicine?
- Adolescent brain development (with videos)
- Impacts of THC use on adolescents (cartoon series)
- Risks of mental illness, psychosis, and suicide
- How the marijuana industry markets to youth (with media examples)
- Fact Versus Fiction: play the marijuana FACT or CRAP gameshow
- You are your brain's BFF: take care of it
- Recognizing risky situations and learning refusal skills

Speaker Bio

Laura Stack is Johnny Stack's mom. She provides education about the dangers of today's high-THC marijuana on adolescent brain development, mental illness, and suicide. Prior to her advocacy work, Laura was a 30-year award-winning professional speaker, spokesperson, and author with eight bestselling productivity books. Laura sees it as her responsibility to share Johnny's warning to prevent other teens from following Johnny's path to suicide. By sharing Johnny's own warning about marijuana, Laura helps teens understand the potential harms of today's marijuana. She is determined to start a movement to bring teen marijuana use, mental illness, and suicide into the spotlight and get young people to #StopDabbing.