

“The Dangerous Truth About Today’s Marijuana: Johnny Stack’s Life and Death Story”

Program Description

Laura Stack’s 19-year-old son, Johnny, died by suicide on November 20, 2019, after becoming psychotic from dabbing high-THC marijuana concentrates. Soon afterward, Laura started a 501c3, Johnny’s Ambassadors, to educate parents, teens, and communities about the dangers of today’s high-THC marijuana on adolescent brain development, mental illness, and suicide. In this session, Laura will share the story of Johnny’s marijuana addiction from a parent’s point of view, a poignant chronicle of the shocking descent from innocence to eventual suicide. 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. With moving candor, Laura traces the first warning signs, their attempts at rehabilitation, and his eventual demise. Three days before his death, Johnny issued his own warning about marijuana usage. Through this tragic tale, Stack hopes to help parents talk to their children about the dangers of using marijuana. Laura’s real-life story is backed by recent scientific research on how today’s THC products can harm our youth. This presentation is a clarion call for parents across America to educate themselves about the risks of today’s high-THC marijuana products and to better understand the potentially devastating effects on their children.

Objectives

- Learn About the High-Potency Marijuana Products Used by Today’s Youth
- Discover How THC Interacts with the Adolescent Brain to Change Its Formation
- See the Results of Legalizing Medical Marijuana for 18-Year-Old’s in Colorado
- Understand How Adolescent Marijuana Use Can Lead to Mental Illness and Psychosis
- Understand the Connection Between Youth Marijuana Use and Suicidality

Speaker Bio

Laura Stack, MBA, CSP, CPAE is the Founder & CEO of Johnny’s Ambassadors, Inc. Prior to the death of her son, Laura was a 30-year award-winning professional speaker, spokesperson, and author with eight bestselling productivity books. Described as a woman with unstoppable drive and unwavering purpose, Laura hopes to help save other young lives by honestly and boldly sharing Johnny’s story of his high-potency marijuana addiction, psychosis, and suicide. She wrote the blockbuster book about Johnny’s life and death, *The Dangerous Truth About Today’s Marijuana: Johnny Stack’s Life and Death Story*. Laura’s presentations now focus on marijuana education, awareness, and prevention at schools, community events, and drug prevention conferences to raise awareness of THC use, mental illness, and suicide. Laura is the recipient of the Drug-Free America Foundation’s Moxie Award for protecting youth from substances, the Leadership in Advocacy Award from the National Speakers Association, and the American Association of Suicidology’s Loss Survivor of the Year Award. She is determined to start a movement to bring teen marijuana use, mental illness, and suicide into the spotlight and get teens to #StopDabbing.