

Primary Responsibility to Drug Free ... But School To Protect All Kids

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Before It Starts.



Parents Have Primary Responsibility To Keep Kids Safe And Drug-Free ... But Schools Are Vital To Protect All Kids.

Alcohol, tobacco and drugs inflict more death, destruction and economic harm on America than all events in modern history, including Vietnam, WWII, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Preventing the problem requires doing what works before the onset of the disease, on average at age 13.

The solution is for parents and schools to work together with community support, even if the solution is unpopular or poorly understood.

Prevention can save lives, cut costs in health, crime, mental illness, education, traffic accidents and deaths, and reduce welfare costs.

Aside from the economic cost, prevention can reduce the death rate and preserve the mental capacity and productivity of our youth. If we care about the future of our great nation, protecting the brains of our youth is no longer an option.

Protect The Kids. Protect The Future

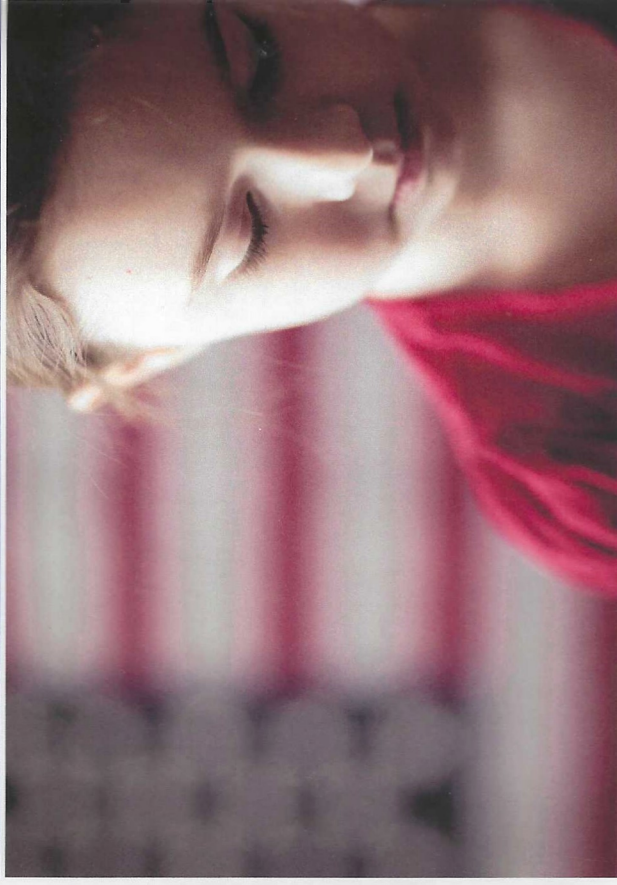
SPOT FOR SCHOOLS OR COMMUNITY COALITIONS
TO ADD THEIR OWN ADDRESS.

TAKE BACK AMERICA CAMPAIGN
P.O. Box 459, Lincoln, CA 95648

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SAFE AND DRUG-FREE COMMUNITY PROGRAM



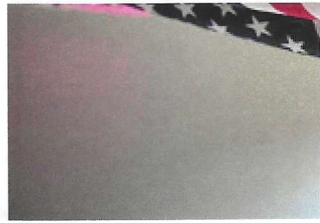
Substance abuse:

- Costs over \$1 trillion a year.
- Causes 80% of crime
- Inflates welfare costs
- Diminishes productivity
- Diminishes academic achievement
- Claims over 600,000 deaths annually
- Causes mental illness
- Inflates public health costs
- Increases traffic deaths



The problem almost always starts during childhood or adolescence (average age 13).

Parents Have Primary Responsibility to Keep Kids Safe and Drug Free ... But School Policy is Vital to Protect All Kids



We all reap the rewards for success, or pay the price for failure, when kids lose or destroy their lives from addiction. Consider:

- Adolescent substance abuse costs the nation \$700 billion/yr just in health costs.
- 1.2 million kids drop out of high school at a lifetime cost of \$392,000 each.
- America has declined to 24th in the world academically.

1.2 MIL kids drop out of high school each year.

80% of prisoners are high school drop outs.

66%

of prisoners are drug addicts; 33% are mentally ill.

80%

of crime is caused by people under the influence.



- 12.6% of drivers (one in eight) are impaired to some degree by marijuana. 30% of injury accidents are drug related.
- More kids (23%) smoke marijuana than cigarettes (19%) and more vape than use conventional smoked products. Marijuana can cause brain damage, birth defects, addiction and cause suicidal depression.
- Over 6.1 million children are being raised by grandparents or in foster homes.
- Roughly 3,900 Americans die monthly just from drug overdose, 129 deaths every day, almost all of whom started using during adolescence.
- The average age of first use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs is 13 yrs old, often long before.

To prevent the disease of addiction and all of the related social and economic problems, we have to ...

Prevent It Before It Starts.

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Drug Prevention That Works

Based on historic evidence, we know that all kids are at-risk: 44% low, 18% high, and 38% at moderate risk (www.casacolombia.com)

Parents are the most important in determining a child's risk factor. But kids will confirm that parents are often in denial that their kids would use drugs or alcohol.

Historically a child used drugs for two years before parents even found out, and too often they found out from law enforcement or the morgue.

The window of detection today is much shorter owing to the potency of marijuana and other drugs. Since the quality and longevity of one's life is often determined during adolescence, when the brain isn't fully mature, preventing the onset of the disease of addiction is the key.

FOUR THINGS in particular have worked best to prevent adolescent substance abuse:

EDUCATION

Presenting facts on marijuana and other drugs cut drug use in half in the 1980's. We need to do it again.

GETTING DRUGS OFF CAMPUS

Getting drugs off campus lowers the propensity to use by 4 to 5 times. Sniff dogs work well. (www.casacolombia.org)

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (SAP)

Student Assistance Programs are very important to fill any voids from home. School counselors or mentors can often communicate better with kids than parents, and are vital in many cases to help adolescents through a challenging period in their lives.

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This is a non-punitive system designed to keep kids in school, get parents actively involved, and improve education by protecting kids from addiction through high school.

VOLUNTARY HAIR TESTING – For parents who want that extra layer of protection and kids who want a reason to say no to peer pressure. Results from drug tests are held confidential between student, parents and school counselor. Rewards, recognition, discounts at retail shops and recommendations for high education help reward these students for their leadership.

SUSPICION BASED TESTING AT SCHOOL – For all kids from K thru 12, if in the sole discretion of the school there is any cause for concern, the school will administer a hair test (urine or saliva test if more appropriate). The results will be confidential between parent and school counselor. If a positive result, the student/parent will pay for the test, and the parents will be expected to take corrective action.

If the problem persists, the school counselors, parents and child will collaborate and determine a course of action, which can include participation in educational programs, community service, loss of driving privileges, suspension from sports programs or extra curricular activities, rehabilitation/treatment, et al, plus enrollment in a random drug testing program from that point forward.

Consequences can be determined by the parents and school. As a starting point, we can suggest the following:

The School Program Director monitors results in both cases, but parents and the student are responsible for compliance. Additional positive tests suggests addiction. Schools and community groups can help identify resources for treatment. Law enforcement is not involved unless drug dealing or crimes are are involved on campus. Records are destroyed on graduation.

Preventing substance abuse can cut costs and leave more resources for what counts, like more schools, teachers and counselors.

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One Simple Solution With No Cost to the Schools

A Few Simple Facts

Expecting children to make healthy choices doesn't work. They need adult protection to get them to the starting line of adulthood drug-free and well educated. Consider the following:

- The human brain is not fully developed until age 25, or later. Until then, marijuana can cause permanent brain damage and loss of up to 8 points of IQ, schizophrenia and paranoia, psychotic breaks, suicidal depression and addiction.
 - One ounce of water-soluble alcohol is hours. Marijuana is fat soluble, and takes itself of 1/2 the THC (psychoactive balance, longer than any other drug.
 - Continued smoking even if only on weekends, causing increased problems of maturation, motivation and ability to
 - Marijuana is a causal factor in testicular in sperm and ova which can lead to future generations.
 - The potency of marijuana has increased in smoked form and 96% as wax or extract factor in 500,000 ER visits.
 - More people are in rehab for addiction combined, plus its a gateway to drugs
 - In some states with "medical marijuana old kids can buy marijuana from num to younger kids. Schools, the best education This program will achieve better attention problems, reduce dropouts and achieve
- Parents, addiction is a horrible disease that family. A snip of hair could prevent it all.

Prevention Is An Investment. Not An Expense.

This Is Protection. Not Punishment.

Take The

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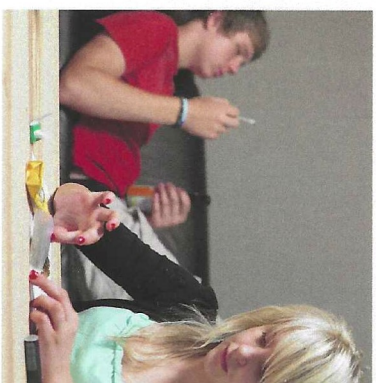
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A Few Simple Facts About Marijuana

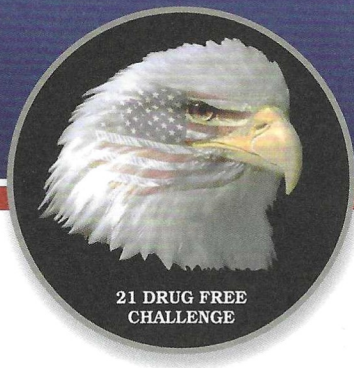
Expecting children to make healthy choices doesn't work. They need adult protection to get them to the starting line of adulthood drug-free and well educated. Consider the following:

- The human brain is not fully developed until age 25, or later. Until then, **marijuana can cause permanent brain damage** and loss of up to 8 points of IQ, schizophrenia and paranoia, psychotic breaks, suicidal depression and addiction.



- One ounce of water-soluble alcohol is excreted from the body in 12 hours. Marijuana is fat soluble, and takes 3-7 days for the body to rid itself of 1/2 the THC (psychoactive ingredient) and 30 days for the balance, longer than any other drug.
- Continued smoking even if only on weekends stacks the THC in the brain, causing increased problems of memory, cognition, motor skills, maturation, motivation and ability to learn.
- **Marijuana is a causal factor in testicular cancer** and causes mutations in sperm and ova which can lead to fetal damage ... even in future generations.
- The potency of marijuana has increased from 1/2 to 2% to as high as 40% in smoked form and 96% as wax or extracts, which is why marijuana is a factor in 500,000 ER visits.
- **More people are in rehab for addiction to marijuana than for all other drugs combined, plus its a gateway to drugs that are killing 129 people daily.**
- In some states with "medical marijuana" laws, like California, 18 year old kids can buy marijuana from numerous dispensaries and distribute to younger kids. Schools, the best education is wasted on an addict. This program will achieve better attendance, less juvenile behavioral problems, reduce dropouts and achieve higher academic success. Parents, addiction is a horrible disease that can ruin a child and an entire family. **A snip of hair could prevent it all. Please don't gamble.**

Take The Pledge



“ If a child reaches age 21 prior to smoking, abusing alcohol or using drugs, they virtually never will. ”

- Joseph Califano, Jr., Chairman/Founder of CASA

THAT SHALL BE THE GOAL
FOR MY CHILD

PLEASE DETACH AND MAIL CARD WITH PAYMENT TO
YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL OR COALITION

The Parent Pledge:

I will do whatever I can to keep my child and others safe and drug-free at least through high school.

I Pledge:

- To enroll my child in a voluntary random drug testing program using hair testing or other means if necessary.
- To agree that the school shall have the right at their sole discretion to hair test or use other methods of drug testing if he/she exhibits any cause for concern.
- To prevent my teen or his/her friends from driving if I know or suspect they have been drinking or using drugs.
- To insure that parties or events held at my home are properly supervised.
- To notify a neighbor or another responsible adult about our absence if I am out of town.
- To see that my child accepts accountability for his/her own actions should they test positive.
- To work with the school to help my child and others stay drug-free through high school.
- I welcome any parent or guardian of a teen attending a party at my home to call and check on party details, times, supervision, and any other concerns.

PARENT'S NAME _____

STUDENT'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

STUDENT'S SCHOOL _____

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR \$65 PD BY CREDIT CARD

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Please check here if you DO NOT want to receive direct mail.

Please check here if you DO NOT want to receive e-mail. E-mail addresses are confidential.