## Johnny's Ambassadors Youth THC Prevention



Johnny's Ambassadors is working to save our youth from the harms of today's high potency cannabis products. We educate teens, parents, and communities on how youth THC use (marijuana, dabs, vapes, edibles) impacts adolescent brain development, mental health, and suicidality.



### Johnny's Ambassadors Youth THC Prevention Model



Bring Laura in to speak at a middle or high school or parent/community event for \$5000 plus \$1500 travel expenses. Or virtual webinars are \$1250 and include our GoToWebinar platform.

Begin a monthly video webinar series in your community with facilitated discussion:
JohnnysAmbassadors.org/recorded-webinars free

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Purchase a copy of Laura's book as a gift for each person in attendance: amazon.com/dp/BOBRYZP9SY

Distribute our glossy teen marijuana prevention magazine in the schools, library, and community centers:

JohnnysAmbassadors.org/onesheets free

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Use our research library to educate yourself and your community on the harms of youth THC use JohnnysAmbassadors.org/research free

Use our graphics, toolkits, and quizzes for a comprehensive social media awareness campaign: JohnnysAmbassadors.org/education free

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Assign our online teen marijuana curriculum in schools (with parallel parent track) for those students who get caught using THC at school: JohnnysAmbassadors.org/curriculum free

**Use our teacher resources** in the classroom to educate students about the possible harms of THC. **JohnnysAmbassadors.org/teachers** *free* 

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Use our Powerpoint to become a Certified Johnny's Ambassadors Trainer to teach our content in schools and the community. Free for schools or \$299 for agencies: JohnnysAmbassadors.org/trainers

Discover many ways to join our mission and become an Ambassador: JohnnysAmbassadors.org/join free

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## The Dangerous Truth About Today's Marijuana: Johnny Stack's Life and Death Story



AMBASSADORS

### **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. 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.

### Speaker Bio

For 30 years, Laura Stack was best known in the business world as "The Productivity Pro." Her career as a keynote speaker, bestselling author of eight books, and corporate spokesperson came to a screeching halt after her son's death. Her platform now brings prevention education to drug prevention conferences, community groups, and schools to stop youth marijuana use. Johnny's story has been told in People Magazine, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, PBS, and Dr. Phil. Laura is a powerful speaker who brings Johnny's personal warning and solid research together in her book, *The Dangerous Truth About Today's Marijuana: Johnny Stack's Life and Death Story*. Described as a force of nature with unstoppable drive and unwavering purpose, Laura is determined to get teens to #StopDabbing.

### **Objectives**

 Participate in a Photo Tour of a Colorado Dispensary and See the High-Potency Marijuana Products Used by Today's Youth

for Adults

- Learn About the Endocannabinoid
   System and How THC Interferes with
   Adolescent Brain Development
- 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
- Discover the Connection Between Youth Marijuana Use and Suicidality



## The Dangerous Truth About Today's Marijuana: Johnny Stack's Life and Death Story



**AMBASSADORS** 

### **Program Description**

Laura Stack's 19-year-old son, Johnny, died by suicide on November 20, 2019, after becoming delusional from dabbing high potency THC concentrates. Soon

afterward, Laura started a nonprofit organization, Johnny's Ambassadors, to educate parents and teens about the dangers of youth THC use. Before using THC, Johnny was a computer whiz with a 4.0 GPA and a perfect math score on the SAT. Three days before his death, Johnny told his mother, "Marijuana ruined my mind and my life." Through this non-scary, nonsad, science-based data-driven talk, Stack hopes to help teens understand how using high potency THC products (vapes, dab, edibles) can harm them.

### **Speaker Bio**

Laura Stack is Johnny Stack's mom. After her son died by suicide because of his marijuana addiction and resulting psychosis, she now helps teens understand why today's high-potency THC products can cause problems with brain development, mental illness, and suicidality. Before Johnny died, Laura was a speaker and author for 30 years. Now, Laura sees it as her responsibility to share Johnny's warning with other teens to keep them from following Johnny's path. More than anything, Laura wants to help teens understand the science and potential harms of today's marijuana. She is determined to start a movement to get young people to #StopDabbing.

### **Objectives**

- Meet Johnny Stack Who Was He?
- Define the Terminology: Cannabis, Marijuana, Hemp, Delta-9, Delta-8, THC, CBD

for Teens

- Understand THC Potency "Then" vs. "Now" Marijuana
- Learn how THC is Extracted and how Concentrates are Made in a Lab
- Calculate Dosage to Understand How Much THC is Going Into the Body
- Learn how THC Gives Users the High Feeling by Mimicking Natural Endocannabinoids
- Understand how THC Impacts Adolescent Brain Formation and Function by Binding to CB1 Receptors
- Review the Dirty Dozen Impacts of THC Use on the Teen Brain
- Learn What the FDA Has Approved as "Medicine" for Cannabis-Derived Products
- Uncover the Research Between Teen THC Use and Mental Illness, Psychosis, and Suicidal Thinking
- Understand What Happens When People Dependent on THC Try to Stop
- Practice What do To and Say When Offered THC at a Party
- Consider the Science When Making Decisions for Yourself in the Future

## IN-PERSON, VIRTUAL, AND RECORDED EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS BY LAURA STACK, JOHNNY'S MOM

Laura Stack is Johnny Stack's mom and the Founder & CEO of the nonprofit, Johnny's Ambassadors Youth THC Prevention. In the business world, Laura was known by her professional moniker, <u>The Productivity Pro</u>®. For thirty years, she was a Hall-of-Fame professional speaker, corporate spokesperson for many major brands, and bestselling author of eight previous books on employee productivity.

But then on November 20, 2019, Laura suddenly acquired the undesired wisdom of knowing what it's like to lose one's child. Her 19-year-old son, Johnny, died by suicide after becoming psychotic from dabbing high-potency THC concentrates. He first used marijuana at 14 years old when it became legal in Colorado.



Laura's world took a 180. She filed for and received 501c3 nonprofit status for Johnny's Ambassadors, Inc., with the mission to educate parents, teens, and communities about the dangers of today's high-THC marijuana on adolescent brain development, mental illness, and suicide. She wrote the bestselling book about Johnny's life and death story, *The Dangerous Truth About Today's Marijuana: Johnny Stack's Life and Death Story*. Described as a woman with unstoppable drive and unwavering purpose, Laura hopes to help other teens, parents, and all adults who work with teens by honestly and boldly sharing Johnny's story of his high-potency marijuana addiction, psychosis, and suicide.

The devastating loss of her child gives Laura a powerful voice and a platform for change. Laura sees it as her responsibility to share Johnny's warning to prevent other families from having to go through what she did and save other young lives from the harms of marijuana. Laura now travels around the U.S. with her husband, John, Johnny's dad, speaking 200+ times a year at school assemblies and conferences on preventing youth THC use.



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. Johnny's story has been told in People Magazine, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Epoch Times, the Ingraham Angle, the Untold Story with Martha MacCallum, PBS, and on Dr. Phil.

By sharing Johnny's own warning about his marijuana use, "Marijuana ruined my mind and my life," Laura is determined to start a movement to bring teen THC use into the spotlight and get them to #StopDabbing.

Laura lives with her husband in south Denver, Colorado, and has two surviving adult children, ages 29 and 23.

"Forge ahead despite your pain and give meaning to your loss."

— Laura Stack

## Johnny's Ambassadors Youth THC Prevention Middle and High School Speakers Bureau

These four amazing speakers are available to give THC prevention talks at middle and high school assemblies from 200 to 2,000 students. We typically speak to the entire student body in the gym, or split up the classes in multiple presentations in the auditorium, or travel to several neighboring schools in your district in the same day. Their stories of personal and family THC addiction, mental illness, Cannabis-Induced Psychosis, and recovery will have your students on the edge of their seats and focused on them for the entire hour. Yes, really! They are all certified in Johnny's Ambassadors Youth THC Prevention curriculum and use the same set of content slides with the data and the research, tailoring the stories to their experiences. Read about each speaker at JohnnysAmbassadors.org/bureau and see the outline at johnnysambassadors.org/speaking.



Laura Stack formed the nonprofit Johnny's **Ambassadors Youth THC** Prevention after her 19-year-old son, Johnny, died by suicide after experiencing Cannabis-Induced Psychosis. Laura travels around the U.S. to educate teens, parents, and prevention professionals about the harms of youth THC use (marijuana, vapes, dabs, edibles) and the impact on addiction, adolescent brain development, mental illness, and suicidality. Laura gives 200 talks a year at middle and high schools and prevention conferences.



Grace Davis, a graduate of the University of Northern Colorado, credits Johnny Stack as a pivotal influence in her decision to complete her degree and quit cannabis. Having experienced cannabisinduced psychosis, she believes her cannabis/ THC use contributed to the progression of her bipolar disorder.



Hannah Palmer is a
22-year-old dedicated drugfree advocate focused on
promoting healthy lifestyles
among young people.
With a strong emphasis on
the risks associated with
marijuana use, she aims to
foster a clear understanding
of its effects and the
benefits of living THC-free.



Brandi Welch is 22 years old and a 2019 graduate of both Tulare Union High School and the Arts, Media, and Entertainment (AME) Academy. Brandi is a recovered Marijuana/ THC user with a personal testimony of her own, who





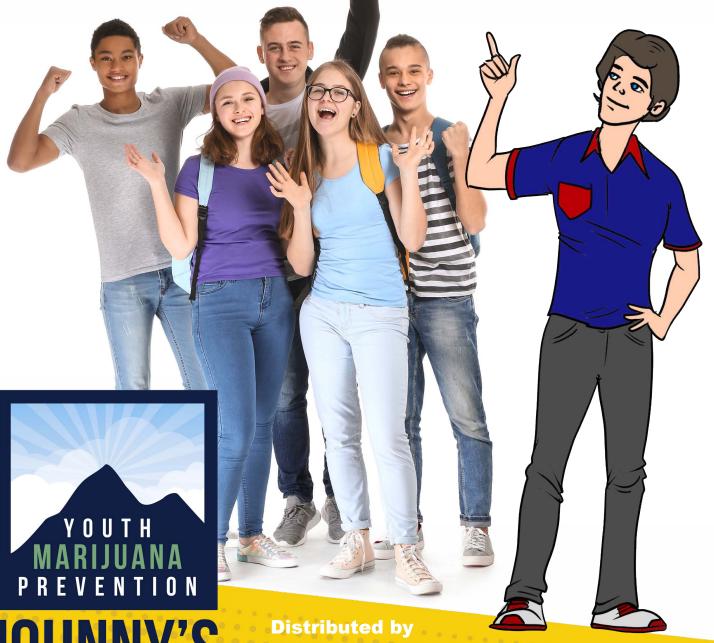
# Preventing Youth Marijuana Use

Saving Our Youth from the Harms of Marijuana



Saving Our Youth from the Harms of Marijuana

## PREVENTING YOUTH MARJUANA USE



JOHNNY'S AMBASSADORS

Johnny's Ambassadors
Youth Marijuana Prevention Nonprofit

Johnnys Ambassadors.org

### TEACH OUR STUDENT MARIJUANA PREVENTION CLASS

If you are a middle or high school teacher and have a substance use prevention module in your lesson plan, you can receive Johnny's Ambassadors Youth Marijuana Prevention content at no charge! Save yourself countless hours of time by using our PowerPoint, instructor manual, handouts, and videos! You do not need to be a "speaker." You will receive all the files you need with the exact script on what to say! You'll also receive a video of Laura Stack presenting the content, so you can practice. Everything is self paced, and you don't have to wait for an in-person class to get certified.



As a Certified Johnny's Ambassadors Trainer in your community, you'll be teaching a one-hour, science-based class on "The Dangerous Truth About Today's Marijuana: The Harms of Youth Marijuana Use." Currently, we offer an adult/parent version (for audiences with no teens present) and a teen/student version.

You can be added to our directory by city and state, in case someone in your area is looking for someone to give a presentation.

The train-the-trainer class was recorded, so you don't have to wait for it to be held again person. You'll simply watch us teach the course until you feel comfortable teaching it on your own.



### What Content is Covered in the Adult/Parent Curriculum?

- The potency of today's "new" marijuana (with actual photos)
- Adolescent brain development
- Impacts of THC use on adolescents
- Risks of mental illness, psychosis, and suicide
- What parents can do to prevent teen use
- How to spot warning signs (Top Ten Teen Toking Tip-off Game)



### What Content is Covered in the Adult/Teen/Student Curriculum?

- "Then" vs. "Now" marijuana
- Why do youth use marijuana?
- Is marijuana medicine?
- Adolescent brain development (with whiteboard 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)

## Use Our Online, Self-Paced THC Prevention Curriculum As a School Suspension Alternative

In recent years, THC levels in marijuana have been rising. This isn't the hippie weed some people remember from the 1960s. It's lab-designed, high-potency, and dangerous for the developing brains of young people. Doctors say new, high-potency marijuana is responsible for a growing number of psychotic episodes among teenage users. Unfortunately many young people believe there's no harm in using marijuana products. They need to be educated about the possible dangers of today's high-THC products for their brains, the development of addiction, and mental illness.



When caught with marijuana at school, teens can take this web-based curriculum as an alternative to suspension. This training is FREE for up to 20 students per month.



This isn't just any ol' boring training! This highly-engaging course uses a colorful, superhero theme with gamification, simulations, music, interactive quizzes, gameshows, hand-drawn whiteboard videos, and peer-to-peer testimonials. The course is built on an innovative, mobile Learning Management System (LMS) and can be taken from any device.

### Our innovative online marijuana prevention course is:

- A self-paced, research-based, evidence-informed, direct-to-teen curriculum
- Created by researchers, doctors, and Ph.D. curriculum designers and approved by our Scientific Advisory Board
- Targeted to middle and early high school students (with a parallel track for parents and concerned adults)
- Designed to educate and prevent marijuana use and raise awareness (this is not an intervention)
- Intended to reduce the gap between the perceived and actual harm of marijuana and lower the use.

This is a single-incident curriculum in the drug prevention space and takes about 60 to 90 minutes total, broken up into eight separate modules. It can be taken multiple times as you wish and started and stopped as desired. Students receive a certificate when finished, which they can forward as proof of completion.

Visit johnnysambassadors.org/curriculum for more details on frameworks and results.
Email Laura@JohnnysAmbassadors.org to request a login.

### Johnny's Ambassadors Recorded Webinars johnnysambassadors.org/recorded-webinars

Please enjoy these on-demand recordings of our previous Johnny's Ambassadors Expert Webinar Series. We are pleased to provide this world-class repository of marijuana education to prevent youth substance abuse, mental illness, and suicide.

### **Understanding THC**









#### **Mental Illness and Psychosis**









### Marijuana and Suicide Prevention









#### **Webinars for Teens**









### Johnny's Ambassadors Youth Marijuana Prevention Graphics to Share johnnysambassadors.org/graphics



Johnny's Warning



Marijuana Facts



Marijuana Trivia



FACT or CRAP



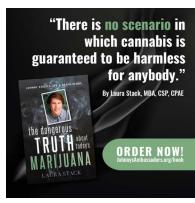
Top Ten Teen Toking Tip-offs



Dirty Dozen



Mental Health



Laura's Book



Marijuana Fact Sheets



Johnny's Cartoons



Social Media Badges

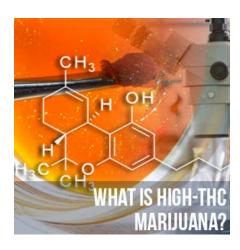


Holiday Graphics for Parents

### Johnny's Ambassadors Research johnnysambassadors.org/research

Johnny's Ambassadors mission is to educate parents and teens about the dangers of today's high-THC marijuana on the developing adolescent mind and get them to #StopDabbing.

What is dabbing? Dabs are marijuana extracts (shatter, wax, budder are some examples) made by pouring a solvent such as butane, ethanol, propane, or carbon dioxide over marijuana, which allows THC to leave the plant material and dissolve into the solvent. This concentrated THC solution is then filtered and placed in a tray. The result of the extraction is sticky oil that typically appears bronze in color. It's not a plant and is highly potent, containing up to 99% THC. Dabs are typically heated on a hot surface and the vapors are inhaled through a dab rig or dab pen.













The Dangerous Truth About Today's Marijuana

JOHNNY STACK'S LIFE & DEATH STORY

the dangerous

LAURA STACK

Johnny Stack's Life & Death Story

By Laura Stack
With Foreword by Kevin Sabet

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

This is the poignant life-and-death story of Johnny Stack, whose young and vibrant life ended by suicide after his descent into addiction to high-potency marijuana and cannabis-induced psychosis. You'll laugh and cry with his mother, Laura Stack, as she retells the story of Johnny's joyful childhood and then takes you through the unthinkable tragedy of his loss. It's every parent's nightmare. But this book is much more than Johnny's story. Today Laura, who is a nationally recognized speaker and best-selling author, leads a national effort of parents, impacted family members, healthcare professionals, teachers, and trusted adults who are concerned about the harmful effects

of marijuana on our children, teenagers, and emerging adults. This book 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 youth mental health. Laura's real-life story is backed by recent scientific-based research on how today's potent THC products lead to mental illnesses such as anxiety, depression, paranoia, psychosis, and sadly, suicidal ideation. This book is her vision to dramatically decrease adolescent marijuana usage, mental illness, and suicide, to allow our youth to live productive, happy lives.

### ORDER NOW! JohnnysAmbassadors.org/book



### PRAISE for The Dangerous Truth About Today's Marijuana

"As an enduring tribute to her son, Laura Stack has pulled together an invaluable analysis of the common misconceptions surrounding marijuana which led to his eventual downfall. Marijuana is a large part of the minefield that all teens must navigate in today's world before they reach adulthood, a sobering reality that parents need to see clearly in order to help their children survive and thrive. This book provides a solid framework to assist in that process while making ample use of references to the best and most relevant scientific literature out there."

Christine L. Miller, PhD, Neuroscientist
 MillerBio, Baltimore, Maryland

"Laura Stack has constructed a beautiful legacy for her son, allowing Johnny's story to help guide the actions and decisions of other teenagers and families. Laura has long had an unmistakable passion and gift for writing; it's no mistake that she has created such a seamless blend of personal narrative and empirical science. If you do your family the favor of reading this book, you'll come away with all the tools and information you'll need to protect your children from the ever-increasing social pressures of marijuana normalization. Your time could not be better spent."

– Aaron Weiner, PhD, ABPP, Licensed Clinical Psychologist
 Board-Certified in Counseling Psychology (ABPP) and Master Addiction Counselor (MAC), Lake Forest, IL

"This is a remarkable book with a powerful message for parents about the devastating and unpredictable negative consequences of marijuana use for some youth. It is also a passionate story of the painful struggles families often have trying to help youth who are addicted to marijuana and other drugs. A wake-up call in the face of widespread denial of the serious adverse consequences many people suffer from marijuana use, this book sends a powerful message to parents about the importance of helping youth grow into adulthood drug-free because of the unique vulnerability of the adolescent brain to the chemical seduction of drug use."

Robert L. DuPont, MD, President, Institute for Behavior and Health, Inc.
 First Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse; Second White House Drug Chief

"Laura and John's brave account of their son's devastating tragedy serves as a warning sign and a critical call to action for all who love and care for young people. Their story illustrates how the foe we face rides on the wheels of capitalism and runs over our children. When regulation and consumer protection are absent, we need ambassadors to arm our children with neurodevelopmental science and empower parents' voices. Thank you, Laura, for sharing your story and for starting Johnny's Ambassadors."

Crystal Collier, PhD, LPC-S, Therapist, Researcher, Educator,
 BrainAbouts Prevention Program Creator & Director, Houston, Texas

"This is a powerful book for everyone; parents, grandparents, and young people should read it. Written from the heart of a mother, Laura Stack, who has transformed her immense pain from losing a son into something extremely valuable for everyone. The message is clear: strong cannabis risks mental well-being and can even lead to fatality, as it sadly did in her son Johnny's case."

 Atakan, MD, Senior Cannabis Researcher King's College, London, UK

"Laura Stack is a new and powerful voice on this important subject. She is knowledgeable, passionate, and sensible—a rare combination in this space. Laura has taken the time to be educated, and she is using what she knows to impact lives. While many will focus on the tragedy of her story, I see her words and actions as a beacon of light, shining to help others find their way through the dark. Laura and her family's true legacy is sharing Johnny's story to keep them from following his path."

– Ben Cort, CEO, the Foundry Author, Weed, Inc., Steamboat Springs, CO



### Johnny's Ambassadors Presentation Fees INCLUDES TRAVEL

Presentation	One talk	Two talks	Three talks
Certified Trainer	\$4,000	\$5,500	\$7,000
Laura Stack	\$6,500	\$8,500	\$10,500
Denver area only	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000
Webinar	\$2,500	\$3,500	\$4,500

Our presenters can give a maximum of three, one-hour talks in a day. All three assemblies must be during the day. They are typically held first period, before lunch, and after lunch.

We always fly in the day before an event. Parent nights are not well attended and incur additional expense for a second overnight (hotel, car, meals, etc.). Laura Stack doesn't offer evening presentations. Evening programs will be charged an additional overnight fee of \$2,500. We recommend parent coffees, lunches, or attendance at the student assembly.

We can "hold" a date for two weeks. Payment of a 50% deposit, a signed agreement, or a Purchase Order will secure a date on our schedule. The final payment is due 30 days prior to the event unless prior arrangements have been made.

#### Links

- Speakers bureau: https://JohnnysAmbassadors.org/bureau
- Pre-program questionnaire: <a href="https://johnnysambassadors.org/preprogram">https://johnnysambassadors.org/preprogram</a>
- Promotional materials: <a href="https://JohnnysAmbassadors.org/mediakit">https://JohnnysAmbassadors.org/mediakit</a>
- AV requests: https://JohnnysAmbassadors.org/AV
- Logistics information: <a href="https://JohnnysAmbassadors.org/logistics">https://JohnnysAmbassadors.org/logistics</a>
- Follow up resources (no charge): https://JohnnysAmbassadors.org/teachers
- Testimonials, outlines, and videos: https://johnnysambassadors.org/speaking