

Introduction

Graduation from middle school to high school is a critical point for most teens and where the risk of alcohol and drug abuse rises dramatically. Many studies show that 14-year-olds are four times more likely to be offered prescription drugs and three times more likely to be offered Ecstasy or marijuana than 13-year-olds. The older teens are also far more likely to encounter alcohol and drugs at parties even when parents are supervising. Raves, nightclubs, bars, dances and parties are places young people go for fun and good times. But today's "fun places" often carry an added dimension of danger. The use of Ecstasy, Roofies, Georgia Home Boy and Special K are all street names for club drugs that teenager's are using at raves and parties to get high. Prescription pills have also become popular among teens because they are easy to get and represent a more socially acceptable way of getting high than taking street drugs. Some teens, are self-medicating undiagnosed depression or anxiety, while others are using stimulants to try to get an edge on tests and studying.

Learning Objectives

After completing the program students will have a better understanding of teenage drug use and the types of drugs teens use at parties to get high. Students will discuss the dangerous use of party drugs and why they can be detrimental to a teen's health and future.

Discussion Topics/Questions

- 1) What is Ecstasy?
- 2) What are club drugs?
- 3) What is a synthetic drug?
- 4) Crystal Meth
- 5) GHB & other 'date rape drugs'
- 6) Prescription drugs
- 7) Why are prescription pills just as dangerous as illegal drugs?
- 8) Where are teen abusers of prescription drugs sharing "recipes" for getting high?
- 9) Do some teens self-medicate undiagnosed depression or anxiety with prescription drugs?

Presenting The Program:

To prepare a lesson plan for each program, please review the suggested outline below.

1) Before Students View the Program:

If appropriate, assign a brief essay on the student's view of the subject. Have available as many recommended books as possible to help generate class interest and participation. Discuss as a group what each student's advice would be on the subject to other teens. Preview each program and become familiar with the concepts presented. Opinions will vary and no answer should be considered wrong.

2) Students View The Program:

The first class viewing of the program should be uninterrupted.

3) After the First Viewing:

Students should be prompted to discuss the views of the teens featured in the program. The students may be asked whom they agreed with most and who they disagreed with most.

4) Second Viewing:

The second viewing will enforce and help the children remember the subjects that they have just discussed. Students may point out which featured teens opinion they agreed or disagreed with. This viewing may be interrupted as needed to facilitate discussion. Teacher or students may prompt the pausing of the program. The concept of solutions regarding the issues brought up by the students and the featured teens is important to this discussion.

5) Post Activities and Discussion:

If appropriate - second brief essay may be assigned to compare the difference in the students opinion before and after the viewing and discussion. Discussion questions may be used to stimulate interest in solutions, reinforce concepts and evaluate student comprehension.

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The Real Life Teens Series

Party Drugs

Teacher's Guide

Q389DVD

This Program is designed for a general High School audience, grades 8 - 12.