



Why Do Kids Do Drugs?

- Students hear about being high and are curious about drug effects.
- Student drug abusers are almost drug crusaders. They want to turn on their friends and others for various reasons. It becomes the “in thing to do.” Some students believe it is the way to become popular, to get in a clique, to really be where the action is. They feel that “everyone’ else is doing it.”
- A friend is most likely to be the first person to ask your child to try beer, cigarettes or other drugs.
- Parents can never expect their children to be drug and alcohol free unless they are too.
- A desire for affection, identity; low self-esteem; feeling of being “a nobody from nowhere” and being left out of everything that is important to them. Fitting in with friends becomes very important.
- A lack of excitement, zest, thrills, fun and challenge in a dull, routine life. Feel that “there’s nothing to do.”
- The need to escape from seemingly insurmountable or painful problems at home, in school, in the community.
- The feeling of rebellion against authority, affluence and permissiveness, absence of standards and ethics.
- Research shows that the top two reasons for drug use among adolescents are:
 1. A significant other person (parent, uncle, babysitter) in the youth’s life uses drugs.
 2. Peer pressure.

Bottom line, kids often try drugs due to curiosity, rebellion and boredom!