

## TAKE A STAND!

- ✓ Organize drug-free activities (dances, movies, community service projects, walk-a-thons or marathons, etc.) to raise money for charities.
- ✓ Use plays, songs, and raps to show younger children the consequences of drug abuse.
- ✓ Organize an anti-drug rally.
- ✓ Tell the police, teacher, or parent about drug dealers in your school and community. Many areas have phone numbers to let people report these crimes anonymously.
- ✓ If your school doesn't have an alcohol or other drug abuse prevention program, start one.
- ✓ Check recreation centers, youth clubs, libraries, or schools to see if they offer after-school activities — tutoring, sports, study time, craft classes. What about a community improvement project that young people can design and carry out?

## FOR INFORMATION

National Clearinghouse for Alcohol  
and Drug Information (NCADI)  
PO Box 2345  
Rockville, MD 20847-2345  
800-SAY-NO-TO • 301-468-2600

800-COCAINE  
Answers emergency questions about  
cocaine use.

800-662-HELP  
This toll-free, 24-hour hotline can tell  
you how and where to get help for  
alcohol and other drug problems.



Crime Prevention Tips from  
**National Crime Prevention Council**  
1700 K Street, NW, Second Floor  
Washington, DC 20006-3817

and

**EL CAMINO POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING UNIT**  
*"Dedicated to Safety and Service"*  
(310) 660-3100  
Emergency  
911



The National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign, sponsored by the Crime Prevention Coalition of America, is substantially funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.



Distribution made possible in part by a grant from  
**ADT Security Services, Inc.**  
A **tyco** INTERNATIONAL LTD. COMPANY

## DON'T LOSE A FRIEND TO DRUGS



Has a friend become moody, short-tempered, and hostile? Does he seem "spaced out"? Is she suddenly failing courses and hanging out with kids you don't trust?

Stop and think about it. Your friend may have an alcohol or other drug problem.

Here are some additional signs of drug or alcohol abuse:

- ✓ Increased interest in alcohol or other drugs; talking about them, talking about buying them.
- ✓ Owning drug paraphernalia such as pipes, hypodermic needles, or rolling papers.
- ✓ Having large amounts of cash or always being low on cash.
- ✓ Drastic increase or decrease in weight.
- ✓ Slurred or incoherent speech.
- ✓ Withdrawal from others, frequent lying, depression, paranoia.
- ✓ Dropping out of school activities.

If your friend acts this way, it is not a guarantee that he or she has an alcohol or other drug problem. You need to compare behavior now to behavior in the past. But it's better to say something and be wrong than to say nothing, and find out later that you were right to be worried.

## HOW TO TALK TO A FRIEND WHO'S IN TROUBLE

- ✓ Plan ahead what you want to say and how you want to say it.
- ✓ Pick a quiet and private time to talk.
- ✓ Don't try to talk about the problem when your friend is drunk or high.
- ✓ Use a calm voice and don't get into an argument.

**TALK!  
TALK!  
TALK!**

- ✓ Let your friend know that you care.
- ✓ Ask if there is anything you can do to help. Find out about local hotlines and drug abuse counseling and offer to go with him or her.

- ✓ Don't expect your friend to like what you're saying. But stick with it — the more people who express concern, the better the chances of your friend getting help.
- ✓ Remember — it's not your job to get people to stop using drugs. Only they can decide to stop.
- ✓ Look for help. Talk about the situation with someone who knows about drug abuse and helping abusers.

## TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR LIFE AND DECIDE NOT TO USE DRUGS

- ✓ Skip parties where you know there will be alcohol or other drugs.
- ✓ Hang out with friends who don't need alcohol or other drugs to have fun.
- ✓ Get involved in drug-free activities. Ask your friends to join.
- ✓ Remind friends that buying or possessing illegal drugs is against the law. Penalties for drug-related offenses are harsh, and can include loss of benefits like student loans.
- ✓ Remind friends that using intravenous drugs places them at risk of getting AIDS.