



Social Networking and Drug Use

A new survey, commissioned by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, found that U.S. teens who use social networking sites and watch “suggestive” TV shows are more likely to use drugs and alcohol than teens with little exposure to similar media. The survey included more than 1,000 youth ages 12-17. Seventy percent reported using social networking sites on a typical day. One-third said that they watch teen shows like “Jersey Shore” and “Gossip Girl.” Regular viewers of those and similar programs were twice as likely to use tobacco or alcohol. Social network users were five times more likely to report using tobacco and three times more likely to report using alcohol. Michael Gilbert of University of South California’s Center for the Digital Future, says that while it may be that these teens are just more likely to report using, what they see on the internet and TV does have an impact. According to the survey, half of teens who use social networking sites have seen pictures of kids drunk, passed out or using drugs. “If they see that, in fact, others are smoking dope, it makes it seem to be a rite of passage.” Read more at <http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2011/08/24/teen-drinking-smoking-higher-among-facebook-users-survey?PageNr=1>.

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News & Updates

We hope you all had a fun and safe Labor Day weekend! The weather here in West Michigan cooled down over the holiday weekend, as if reminding us that summer really is over. We hope that you had a great summer and that your new school year is off to a fantastic start!

From the Training Team

Heyo PRIDEsters! As the school year begins and the assignments start to pile up, I want to remind you how important it is to stay on top of things! Don’t put work off until the last minute, and always have a positive attitude when it comes to expanding your education. Consider every project an opportunity to better your future. And when you’re not busy with school, make sure you’re doing your PRIDE homework! Stay up to date with drug facts, and encourage your team to build their drug education knowledge. Here are a few things you can look up to get started:

- Purple Drank
- GHB
- Neuroenhancement/Adderal

I wish you all the best this school year. Remember, the year is can only be as great as you make it!

-Jesse Fox

Did You Know?

- The United States and New Zealand are the only countries in which direct-to-consumer advertising of prescription drugs is legal.
- When the FDA published its proposed regulations requiring the listing of caloric information for chain restaurants, retail food establishments and vending machines, two categories were not mentioned: movie theaters and alcoholic beverages.
- A study in the British Medical Journal found that youth who use marijuana weekly have double the risk of depression later in life.

Conference Facts

20. Olympic gold medalist Kerri Strug (gymnastics, '96) was a guest at PRIDE2007 in Charleston, West Virginia.

21. Everyone knows that Trainers work hard at conference, but they also do a lot of behind-the-scenes work before conference even begins. Trainers design shirts, a program guide page and Challenge awards. They also write scripts for General Sessions and Gala, plan the Challenge and Talent Show line-ups, judge poetry and websites and much more!