

Discussing Marijuana & Other Drugs With Your Kids

- Talk with your children. Ask what they've heard about marijuana. LISTEN. Avoid getting upset or angry.
- Offer facts about the dangers of using marijuana.
- Ask your child or teen to give you examples of the effects of marijuana to gauge their understanding.
- Set a <u>family policy</u>
- Provide resistance or "walk away" communication strategies for your kids. For example: "I care about my body too much to use drugs" or "I have to get home now to watch my sister"
- If you've used marijuana, be honest about your reasons and discuss the negative consequences that resulted from use. Here's help in answering the question, "Did you do drugs?"
- Visit DrugFreeAz.org's Video Learning Center for Parents and Parent Tools page for more useful information.

Is Your Child Using Drugs?

If you suspect your child is using marijuana or other drugs, they likely are.

Open discussions with your child and get them help from a pediatrician or treatment professional right away. The sooner you intervene, the better. Marijuana is addictive.

Attend our award winning Parent Workshops!

Designed for parents who want to be proactive in preventing their children's drug use, we cover topics from opening communication to responsibility and discipline and from building courage to drugs, sexuality and violence. Sign-up today!

Other Resources:

- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA): http://www.drugabuse.gov/drugs-abuse/marijuana
- Marijuana Harmless? Think Again: http://www.marijuanaharmlessthinkagain.org

For more information, please call (602) 264-5700 or e-mail partner@drugfreeaz.org

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