

JOINT FORCES

Thinking

Purpose:

To raise awareness of the risks and laws related to drug and alcohol issues that students may face.

Equipment Included in Kit:

- Scenario cards
- Laminated Scenarios and Speaker's Notes (for police officer reference).

Teacher to Provide: 1 table

Staffing:

Municipal Police Service **OR** Ontario Provincial Police **OR** Police Officer assigned to school.

*If there is more than one police force in your area, you may consider inviting a representative from each. It may be helpful to send the scenarios and speaker's notes to the police officers in advance of the session. Optional: Police officer may choose to bring Drug Display.

Student Homework: none.

Brief Description:

There is a set of pre-determined scenarios which reflect real-life situations in which students may find themselves. Police officers provide responses and answers to the questions that reflect current law and practice. This will help to correct inaccuracies in students' knowledge about drugs and the law.

Activity 1:

Police officer randomly distributes scenarios amongst the students. Students are asked to read the scenarios out loud.

Activity 2:

Police officers can present the questions below to encourage discussion about the students' perceptions of drug use in their school.

Questions:

1. Do you think there is a serious drug problem at school? Why or why not?
2. How would a drug problem affect a school and its community? Who would be affected?
3. Who is responsible for solving the problem? Explain what their role might be.
4. What role could you play in helping eliminate a drug problem at school?
5. How could students, administrators, other school staff, parents, and community members work together to address a problem?





Scenarios and Speaker's Notes

Scenario 1

A student has drugs in his/her locker at school, and the principal finds out about it. What can and can't the principal do?

- The locker is considered property of the school, not student. Principal can cut off lock and search locker. Not an issue of privacy.
- If drugs are found, under Safe Schools Act, police MUST be contacted.

Scenario 2

Three 15 year olds are stopped by the police. One gets caught with cigarettes, one with alcohol, and the other with drugs. What would happen to each of them?

- Cigarettes – Nothing; it is not an offence for persons less than 19 years old to possess cigarettes.
- Alcohol – Charged, alcohol seized
- Drugs – Arrested and charged, drugs seized.

Scenario 3

A teen has his parents' car for the evening. He knows it's stupid to drink and drive, because he doesn't want to lose his license, but sees nothing wrong with he and his friends having a few joints. In fact, he feels he drives better after some weed. What would happen if he was stopped by police?

- Police have the right to demand a driver perform a field sobriety test if there is any evidence of drug use.
- The test involves 3 tasks: an Eye Test, the Walk and Turn Test and the One Leg Stand (can be demonstrated to students if the officer is trained).
- If the driver fails the test he is arrested, the vehicle is searched and the driver is taken to the police station for further tests and a urine or blood sample.
- Penalties for drug impaired driving are the same as for alcohol impaired driving. Driving requires attention, judgment, perception, decision-making, physical reaction and the ability to coordinate these skills.

Scenario 4

What drug(s) are currently causing the most problems in our community?

- As of 2017, it would be alcohol, cannabis, and opioids (oxycontin, Tylenol #3, Fentanyl).
- Police to describe some of the problems in communities.
- Deaths related to young people misusing these medications.
- Drugs usually come from home of friends or family.
- It is illegal to possess a legal medication if it is not your prescription.

Scenario 5

A few kids decided to have a couple of drinks before the dance at school. It ended up being more than a couple. Now they're at the dance, and it's obvious they've been drinking. What can happen?

- Suspension or other sanctions for breaching the school's Code of Conduct.
- Could be arrested for public intoxication and jailed.

Scenario 6

Your parents are away so you decide to have a small party in the back yard. Someone posts the party on-line and kids you don't know have shown up and people are drinking. Your friend is punched in the face and the house is being destroyed. What can you do? What can the police do? Who will be held responsible? What will happen to the people who are at the party?

- Call the police for help (or they may already have been called by neighbours).
- The police can enter the house to investigate—for assault, drinking and the potential for a dangerous situation. The police can arrest and charge under the LLA (Liquor License Act)-drinking; the Criminal Code (CC)-assault/mischief; Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA)-drugs.
- Most likely, the host of the party (ultimately the parents if the host was a minor) would be held at least partially liable.
- Depends what they have done and how they behave (arrest, investigative detention, parents called, etc.).



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SCENARIO 4

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SCENARIO 5

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SCENARIO 6

Your parents are away so you decide to have a small party in the backyard. Someone posts the party on-line and kids you don't know have shown up and people are drinking. Your friend is punched in the face and the house is being destroyed.

What can you do? What can the police do?

Who will be held responsible? What will happen to the people who are at the party?

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