

SUBSTANCE ABUSE:

IT ROBS YOU OF YOUR LIFE

To all human beings, substance abuse is an insidious, invisible thief and killer. It robs you of your money, your family, and even your life.

The term substance abuse means the use of one or more various mood altering chemicals in a way and to the extent that such use causes problems. The chemical may be alcohol (by far the most widely abused substance), prescription drugs, street drugs, or as is becoming more prevalent, a combination of these.

Problems that result from the use of these chemicals often include difficulties in relationships with family, friends, and coworkers, as well as legal, health, financial and professional problems. To put it simply, if the use of mood-altering chemicals causes a problem in any area of a person's life, it is a problem

THE FACTS OF ADDICTION

Alcoholism and other drug addictions are a grave problem in this country. The following statistics from Columbus, Ohio Area Council on Alcoholism support this statement:

1. 60 to 70 percent of all criminal court cases are directly related to substance abuse.
2. More than half of all arrests for serious crimes involved in persons under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
3. 60 percent of all domestic crimes involve substance abuse.
4. 30 percent of all hospital admissions are related to the primary disease of alcoholism. This includes not only people who are "under the influence" or overdosed at the time of admission., but also admissions because of the complications arising from substance abuse, such as heart disease, liver disease, pancreatitis, and others.
5. In the US there are 28 million people who have been, or now are, being raised in a family that has an alcoholic member.
6. Two-thirds of the adult U.S. population drinks alcohol. Of that portion, 10 percent are, or will become, alcoholics (recent statistics claim and even higher rate – one in seven).

TEENS + DRUGS/ALCOHOL =

