

BREAKING NEWS:

New Survey: Parents Who Support Marijuana Legalization Expect Strict Regulation of Its Availability to Kids

A Majority of Parents Say Legal Age for Marijuana Use Should be 21, Smoking Pot in Public Places Should be Prohibited

A new, nationally representative survey released today by The Partnership at Drugfree.org confirms that parents who support legalization of marijuana expect strict regulation of the substance's availability to kids and teens.



While 40 percent of adults say they are in favor of legalizing marijuana for recreational purposes, a majority of them oppose any form of legal marijuana for use among kids and teens. They believe that, like alcohol, it should only be legal for adults over the age of 21.

The online study also found that despite

"Talk. They Hear You,"

"Talk. They Hear You," a new national public service announcement campaign that empowers parents to talk to children

shifting attitudes in support of marijuana legalization, the risks of marijuana – especially to young people – is a relevant topic that is of concern to parents and caregivers.



Promoting Parent Involvement in Teen Driving

Thank you to Dan Southwick from Driver & Vehicle Services for sharing this!

With deaths on the rise, parent involvement is key to keep teens safe. What's an effective tool for reducing teen crash risk? Parents. Moms and dads play a critical role in helping teens survive their most dangerous driving years. This theme is explored in a new report released today by the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA), *Promoting Parent Involvement in Teen Driving: An In-Depth Look at the Importance and the Initiatives*. The report was developed with a grant from State Farm®.

Read more:

<http://www.ghsa.org/html/publications/teens/sfteens13.html>

as young as nine years old about the dangers of underage drinking was recently launched by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). [Read more](#)

Study Finds Early Alcohol Use Increases Alcohol Abuse Later in Life

The earlier the age at which youth take their first alcoholic drink, the greater the risk of developing alcohol problems, *Medical News Today* reported.

A new study shows that individuals who have their first drink during puberty subsequently have higher drinking levels than do individuals with a post-pubertal drinking onset.

"Most teenagers have their first alcoholic drink during puberty, however, most research on the risks of early-onset alcohol use up to now has not focused on the pubertal stage during which the first alcoholic drink is consumed," said Miriam Schneider

Studies revealed that those individuals that initiated alcohol consumption during puberty tended to drink more and also more frequently than those starting after puberty, Schneider wrote in the study.

[Read more](#)

Minnesota Bullying Prevention Legislation Now On Hold



Proposed legislation designed to address bullying in Minnesota schools will not become law in 2013. Senate

discussion of the Safe and Supportive Minnesota Schools Act was halted on the

final day of the legislative session May 20. The proposed law, which earlier passed 72-57 in the Minnesota House, would have established clear definitions of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation, and included funding for a school climate center to help schools develop bullying prevention policies. The bill is expected to be reintroduced in 2014.

[More](#)

New Study: Does Better Recess Equal a Better School Day?



Randomized controlled trial of popular recess program shows widespread benefits, including less bullying,

more physical activity, and more time for teaching according to a new study from Mathematica Policy Research and the John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities at Stanford University.

The randomized controlled trial, done in low-income elementary schools in 22 U.S. cities, found that the program reduced bullying, enhanced feelings of safety at school, increased vigorous physical activity during recess, and provided more time for classroom teaching.

The research suggests that what happens at recess can affect a school's learning environment in important ways, and that improving recess and play may enable schools to address a number of pressing issues at the same time. Read

More: [growing body of evidence](#)

No Link Seen Between Child ADHD Stimulant Use and Later Drug Abuse

By Alan Schwarz

An analysis published Wednesday by the American Medical Association said children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder who take stimulant medication do not have a lower risk over all for later substance abuse, contradicting the longstanding and influential message that such medicines tend to deter those with the disorder from abusing other substances.

The paper, written by three researchers at the University of California, Los Angeles, examined data from 15 previous studies on the subject and determined that, on average, medications like Adderall and Ritalin had no effect one way or the other on whether children abused alcohol, marijuana, nicotine or cocaine later in life.

Full article:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/30/health/no-impact-found-for-stimulants-on-later-drug-abuse.html>

School Climate Matters

It really, really does.

That's the conclusion of a massive new review of research by experts at the National School Climate Center and Fordham University, both in New York City.

Distilling more than 200 studies and literature reviews, they concluded that "sustained positive school climate is associated with positive child and youth development, effective risk-prevention and health-promotion efforts, student learning and academic achievement, increased student graduation rates, and teacher retention."

A sample of what they found in the body of research they reviewed:



- School climate affects middle school students' self-esteem and lessens the negative effects of self-criticism.

More: [massive new review of research](#)

Online resources for Parents Developed with Partnership at Drugfree.org:

- [Time to Act!](#) is an online resource consisting of science-based guidance when parents know or suspect their children are drinking or taking drugs.
- [Time to Get Help!](#) is a multi-faceted resource for parents with a teen or young adult struggling with an alcohol or drug problem.

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<http://mcleodmeada.org/>

Having a drinking party at your house?



CONSIDER US INVITED.



A new social host ordinance in McLeod County makes it a crime to knowingly provide a place where underage drinking occurs.

The consequences:
up to 90 days in jail and up to a \$1,000 fine
Teens who host parties can also be charged under social host.

For more information on social host ordinance, visit www.mcleodmeada.org
Find us on facebook at MEADA of McLeod County

Brought to you by McLeod MEADA, Zero Adult Provider Committee
"Funded in part by ONDCP/SAMHSA SP12409-10"

