

CHEMICAL HEALTH TREND CORNER:

So what is Inhalant Abuse or as students commonly refer to it as "Huffing" or "Air Dusting"?

They are Inhalants that produce an effect that is similar to alcohol intoxication. Initial symptoms described by abusers who include:

- Drowsiness
- Lightheadness
- Blacking out (Not remembering what they did)
- Loss of inhibition
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Further use can lead to the following:

- Dizziness
- Hallucinations or delusions
- Belligerence
- Apathy
- Impaired judgment

More serious consequences can include permanent damage to the brain, other organs and even death. Sudden cardiac death from fatal cardiac arrhythmias has been reported in abusers. As you may have seen on the news recently was the death of a student with not prior chemical abuse. Death from huffing can occur upon the first time of use or after prolonged inhalant abuse. Other causes of death related to huffing include asphyxiation, aspiration or suffocation.



Substances **commonly used by inhalant** abusers fall into several categories:

Cleaning Solvents:

Locally, students have been purchasing /stealing a product for cleaning computer keyboards called Air Duster, Dust Off, and Blast for inhaling purposes. All stores in Hutchinson have been called and asked to keep a close eye on these products.

Volatile solvents, such as those found in paint thinner, gasoline, felt-tip markers, nail polish remover, glue, and other household products.

Aerosol sprays, containing propellants and solvents: Examples include spray paint, deodorant, and hair-care products.

Gases, most commonly nitrous oxide (laughing gas)

Preventing Drug Use

It is possible to raise a bulletproof child. With the right planning, you can virtually inoculate your family against substance abuse. This segment will bring you up to speed on the latest issues and techniques from the realm of substance abuse prevention. It doesn't have to be hard or complicated; it just has to be deliberate.

Learn the incredible amount of information you can glean from something as simple as a Hug. [Click here.](#)

Drug Fact Sheets

If you've ever wanted to know a little more about an old or new drug, you've come to the right place. These fact sheets and tutorials will provide you with the background on today's most commonly abused drugs.



Learn how to identify them. Become familiar with their effects. Take a look at the paraphernalia commonly associated with their use. Be the best informed parent on the block. If you give us the time, we'll give you the power to protect your kids.

[Click here.](#)

Detecting Drug Use

Fortunately, many parents lack experience and expertise from the drug world. So we've gone out and compiled it all for you. We'll teach you how to detect drug use by evaluating the subtle signs and examining the small pieces of evidence that are often left behind. You'll learn what to look for in the home, the car, and even in their behavior. The tips you gain here, may make all the difference in your fight to stay ahead of the curve. [Click here.](#)



Diagnosing Drug Use

This section will eliminate any concerns that you have regarding your ability to actually detect intoxication or impairment. Many parents miss the opportunity to intervene in a cycle of substance abuse, only because they don't trust their instincts. We'll help you differentiate between teenage mood swings and teenage drug use. We'll give you the tools and tests you need in order to trust those instincts. The process is far easier than you might think. [Click here.](#)



Responding to Drug Use

Even the best of families can be burdened by substance abuse issues. How you respond to it will determine the extent of the problem and the severity of the consequences that you'll be forced to suffer. Whether you've just found cigarettes in your child's backpack, or come home to find them passed out on the living room floor, we can give you the direction you need to competently address the issue. Do it right. This could be the last chance you have to save your child's life. [Click Here.](#)





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Solve our alcohol problem to solve our crime problem

Dylan Matthews

Mark Kleiman is Professor of Public Policy at the UCLA School of Public Affairs and is currently advising Washington State on marijuana legalization. His article in the latest issue of the journal "Democracy" argues that we can reform the criminal justice system to make sanctions more predictable and less cruel while reducing crime in the process. We spoke on the phone Thursday afternoon; a lightly edited transcript follows.

Dylan Matthews: One point your piece makes very strongly is that the crime problem in the United States isn't mostly about illegal drugs.

Mark Kleiman: Drugs are an important part of the question if you include alcohol as a drug. Take any dimension of the problem you like, except for source country violence. All illegal drugs combined are to



alcohol as the Mediterranean is to the Pacific. We have our whole Navy in the Mediterranean. And that's true both of the drug policy machinery and those who are fighting the drug war, and of the drug reform movement, which, it seems to me,

neglects the problem with the one drug we've legalized. Any sentence about drug policy that doesn't end with "raise alcohol taxes" is an incoherent sentence.

Full interview: [Click here:](#)

Substance Use Among 12th Grade Aged Youths by Dropout Status

A recent National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) report states that 56.8% of youth ages 16-18 who had dropped out of school were current cigarette users.



This number is significantly higher than the 22.4% smoking prevalence among twelfth graders, their counterparts who had remained enrolled in school. The higher smoking rates among dropouts were consistent among genders, and for black and white youths. This report shows that smoking is one of many negative outcomes linked to dropping out of high school, and smoking prevention and cessation efforts are needed for adolescents who are at risk for dropping out or have dropped out of school. [Click here](#) to access the report.

PARENT THE POWER OF PARENTS YOUR CHILD

Parenting & Prevention Newsletter



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It doesn't have to be a potion to be deadly.



buzzed
driving is
drunk
driving
designer & color artist

Don't be the real monster this Halloween