

# Drugs in Schools, What Parents Need to be Aware of!

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August Watch Talk Wednesday  
presentation by Conroe Independent  
School District (CISD) Police

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# Marijuana

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- How much do you know.....  
**really?**



# What is it?

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- The most common illicit drug used today
- A plant that produces a chemical known as (Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol) THC for short

# Slang terms

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- Old School- Pot, Herb, Grass, Weed, Mary Jane and The Reefer
- New School- Aunt Mary, Skunk, Boom, Gangster, KIF, Ace, Funk, Charge, Dew, Torch and over a hundred others.....

# So how is it used?

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- Most Commonly smoked (effects begin almost immediately lasting from 1 to 3 hours) Significantly higher THC intake
- Eat (effects appearing 30 minutes after use and can last up to 4 hours)
- Drink (effects similar to eating)

# Short term effects

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- Impaired Short term memory- making it hard to learn and retain information
- Slow Reaction time and impaired driving skills
- Altered Judgment and decision making- possibly leading to high risk sexual behavior

# Short term effect cont.

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- Increased heart rate increasing the risk of heart attack
- Altered mental state- Euphoria, Disoriented perception

# Do I need to worry?

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- Average Age of first time marijuana user - 14
- 10.9% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders, 23.9% of 10<sup>th</sup> graders and 32.4% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders had abused Marijuana within the past year
- Almost 50% of teens try Marijuana before graduation.
- (statistics from 2008)



# So What Should I look for?

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- Behavior/Mood changes
- Change in friends
- Attendance issues
- Paraphernalia (rolling papers, eye drops, empty baggies etc)
- Seeds, stems, trace marijuana

# What does it look like?

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- This is a marijuana bud
- Typically found in 1 to 3 inch lengths but can grow much larger
- Very unique odor



# Is it hard to get?

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- **!!!!NO!!!!**
- Many teens advise it is more easily acquired than alcohol or cigarettes.
- Most teens can tell you on any given day who has marijuana and who sells

# What can I do?

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- Get Educated!
- Talk to your kids
- Understand that its not like when we grew up anymore.

# Consequences

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- Paraphernalia- Class C misdemeanor – up to \$500 fine and or community service
- Possession – Class B misdemeanor 2oz or less
- Possession on school grounds- Enhanced to Class A misdemeanor 2oz or less

# Available resources

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- Campus Officers/ Administrators/ Counselors
- [www.drugabuse.gov](http://www.drugabuse.gov) (National Institute on Drug Abuse)
- Support Groups

# Questions?

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- Additional key points provided during the presentation:
  - Control prescription drugs in your home
  - New Texas laws about “Bath Salts” and “Synthetic Marijuana” start September 1, 2011
  - Additional Resource: [www.streetdrugs.org](http://www.streetdrugs.org)

# Contact Us

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