

NON-PUNITIVE RANDOM STUDENT DRUG TESTINGProtect The Kids. Protect The Nation.

By Roger Morgan

Illicit drugs are killing 3,600 Americans monthly just from overdose. The last time the federal government tallied all drug related deaths in 1995, overdose was only 27% of the total. If true today, that equates to 2,750 deaths weekly; one every 4 minutes. 9.4% of the adult population is dependent on alcohol and drugs, which cost the other 90.6% of the population roughly \$468 billion per annum. (CASA – 1995 figures). 6.1 million children are being raised by their grandparents or foster parents. In 2005 local governments alone spent over \$93 billion (2009 CASA study Shoveling Up) on substance abuse, 96% on justice, health, welfare, education, child/family assistance and mental health ... *and only 1.9% on prevention and treatment combined.* This is horrible economic policy, and cause for a taxpayer revolt.

Prevention of the problem of substance abuse requires that action be taken before the problem begins: with kids. Almost all those who die or destroy their lives from addiction start between age 11 and 17, on average at age 13. Schools, with parental support, can help prevent it from happening with the same tool that largely stopped drug use in the military, transportation industry and work place: *non-punitive random drug testing*, primarily using hair testing, which has a 90 day window of detection. Fear of detection by parents is the biggest reason adults and young people don't do drugs. Peer pressure is the biggest reason they do. Random drug testing helps in both cases.

Protecting people and managing tax dollars are two of the most important responsibilities of all elected officials, from the federal government to the school boards. It is time to acknowledge that parents alone cannot protect children from a \$500 billion illicit drug trade, along with the alcohol and tobacco companies, that are focused on their destruction. Protective policies aimed at reducing the demand for alcohol and drugs by children must be implemented, if ever we are to reduce the painful impact on society, the huge death rate and the \$700 billion to \$1trillion annual cost to taxpayers resulting from alcohol, tobacco and drug abuse.

We cannot continue to spend 99% of our resources interdicting supply and mopping up the destruction from drug and alcohol abusers and expect any different result. The simplistic answer to curbing this problem is to *get children to adulthood prior to first significant use, where research has shown they should virtually never have a problem.*

Not only do the lives of our children depend on it, but so also does the future of our country.

Protect the Kids! Protect The Nation!

Take Back America Campaign. www.TBAC.us. (619) 895-6475 Info@TBAC.us

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DRUGS – WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

By Roger Morgan

Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD) are at the heart of almost all social and economic problems. The cost to our country for substance abuse is horrendous, as indicated below:

HUMAN COST - Based on information from CDC, the latest figures indicate approximately 3,600 Americans die each month just from drug overdose. The last time drug related deaths was compiled with overdose deaths was 1995, at which time drug overdose deaths were 27% of the total. If the relationship remains the same today, drugs kill over 142,000 Americans every year; **one every 4 minutes**. American casualties in Afghanistan and Iraq pale in comparison. If this estimate is correct, almost as many Americans die every week than all those who died on the infamous 9/11.

DRUG-INDUCED AND DRUG RELATED DEATHS IN U.S.

Death Rates in Bold are CDC Figures. The balance are projections.

| Year | Drug Induced Deaths | % Of Total | Est Total Deaths | Average Annual Increase in Drug Deaths |
|-------------|---------------------|------------|------------------|--|
| 1995 | 14,218 | 27% | 52,624 | |
| 1996 | 14,843 | 27% | 54,974 | 104% of 1995 figure |
| 1997 | 15,973 | 27% | 59,159 | 108% of 1996 figure |
| 1998 | 16,926 | 27% | 62,689 | 106% of 1997 figure |
| 1999 | 19,102 | 27% | 70,748 | 113% of 1998 figure |
| 2000 | 19,698 | 27% | 72,956 | 103% of 1999 figure |
| 2001 | 21,683 | 27% | 80,307 | 110% of 2000 figure |
| 2002 | 26,040 | 27% | 96,444 | 120% of 2001 figure |
| 2003 | 28,723 | 27% | 106,381 | 110% of 2002 figure |
| 2004 | 30,711 | 27% | 113,744 | 107% of 2003 figure |
| 2005 | 30,397 | 27% | 112,581 | 99% of 2004 figure |
| 2006 | 38,396 | 27% | 142,207 | 126% of 2005 figure |

SOCIAL COST - 9.4% of all Americans over 12 years old are dependent on alcohol and drugs. Unable to hold a job, drug addicts commit 100 crimes per annum on average. They cause over 80% of the crime in America; challenge the capacity of law enforcement; overrun the capacity of our prisons to incarcerate them; fill our welfare rolls; continue to support the \$400 billion drug trade, much of which goes to support terrorism; and they cause unimaginable pain and suffering not only for family members who love them, but for all of the victims of their actions. 6.1 million children are being raised by grandparents or foster parents.

ECONOMIC COST - The cost of illicit drugs alone was estimated at \$293 billion by ONDCP in 2010, increasing at a rate of 5.4% per annum. 99% of that is spent on the painful aftermath that drugs inflict on our society, and only 1% on prevention. This is horrible economic policy.

Those who have died or are addicted have something in common: the vast majority got hooked in high school... 11 to 18 years old according to the experts, average age 13.. **If we want to stop the problem, we have to stop it before it starts, with school age children.**

Non-punitive random student drug testing, the most effective and least costly deterrent for youth (and adults), would cost very little and could literally save hundreds of billions of dollars. It is no longer a choice, but a necessity.

NON-PUNITIVE RANDOM STUDENT DRUG TESTING

.....*Can Help Win The War On Addiction*

By Roger Morgan

Preventing the onset of alcohol, tobacco and other illicit drug (ATOD) use by children and adolescents is no longer an option; it is a necessity. The level of death, destruction and economic cost clearly categorizes this domestic tragedy as bigger than all other forms of terror, as indicated below:

Prevention is the key, and prevention must take place before the problem occurs: with kids. Thereafter it is not prevention, but treatment and/or wreckage to society. For years, science has indicated that if children reach adulthood prior to first significant use of ATOD they should never have a problem of addiction. It is also a fact that almost all adult addicts contracted their disease as adolescents, between 11 and 17 years old. To prevent the horrible problem substance abuse inflicts on society, we must prevent it from starting with kids.

Non-punitive random student drug testing (NPRSDT) is the most effective and least costly way to deter drug use, and to identify problems early, so treatment can begin.

Using on-site urine drug test kits that cost from \$2.50 to \$5 at a ratio of testing 50% of a student body, 1000 kids can be protected for a cost of \$2,500 to \$5000. Actual experience in the 14% of schools in the US who have testing programs indicates the deterrent effect is possible by testing as few as 10% of the students. 50% is recommended, and 100% is even better.

COST OF NATIONWIDE NON-PUNITIVE RANDOM DRUG TESTING

Figures exclude 850,000 home school students (1999) in all grades 9 through 12

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| # of Student 7 – 12 grades in U.S. | 22,461,500 | 22,461,500 | 22,461,500 |
| # of Middle/Junior/High Schools | 58,682 | 58,682 | 58,682 |
| Average Cost – On Site Urine Test | \$2.50 | \$2.50 | \$2.50 |
| Percentage Tested | 10% | 50% | 100% |
| # Kids Tested | 2,246,150 | 11,230,750 | 22,461,500 |
| Total Cost | \$ 5,615,537 | \$28,076,825 | \$56,153,750 |
| Ave cost/School | \$ 95 | \$ 478 | \$ 957 |

An alternative to testing all kids that would work as well as a deterrent, is **a suspicion based hair testing program for any child that shows cause for concern.** If the student tests positive, they pay the cost of approximately \$59, and agree to follow on testing. Hair analysis has a 90 day window of detection, so it is the best deterrent thus far discovered. This is a way to protect ALL kids, with no cost to the schools.

Given the death rate and economic cost, a federal mandate for this proven prevention techniques would appear justified. However, until and if that happens, the burden of protecting kids, and this nation, falls on the courage and wisdom of State and local Governments, and particularly School Boards and Administrators, to protect children in their domain and help them arrive safely at adulthood by implementing non-punitive random drug testing.

The downstream savings from the wreckage to our society in law enforcement, health costs, welfare, education, mental health and child/family assistance would be measured in billions. If the savings were in part channeled back to schools, we would then be investing in our future rather than paying for social destruction.

SCHOOLS – VITAL TO THE SOLUTION!

By Roger Morgan

Schools are vital to the solution, by virtue of the fact they deal with almost all children. Parents are considered number one in terms of the problem of at-risk behavior, followed by school environment. **But schools are number one in terms of the solution**, since problems that originate in the family will not go unsolved without outside intervention. For all practical purposes, schools are the only safety net.

Even if they don't cherish the task, schools are surrogate parents while children are in their domain. They have a responsibility to provide a safe and drug-free environment, and **schools cannot optimize academic achievement when large percentages of students are using alcohol, tobacco and other illicit drugs all of which diminish one's capacity to learn.** The other reality is that since almost all addiction starts with kids 11 to 17 years old, and schools house over 98% of kids in this age range, **schools are effectively the only place where prevention programs can be implemented to protect all kids.**

Parents are hugely important in a child's risk level of substance abuse. But, it is clear in today's society, that parents alone cannot withstand the forces of a \$500 billion illicit drug trade, in addition to alcohol and tobacco industry pressure, focused on inflicting the disease of addiction of children. Without help from the school system particularly, and community in general, 56% of kids will remain at moderate to high risk of substance abuse. We cannot expect a different result if we don't do something different.

Given the state of the American families in general today, with 50% divorce rate, single parenting, two parents working, child abuse, substance abuse, even parents who try but are outclassed by the competition of peers and the drug trade young people, all young people, need the best protection that we adults can all provide. The average child uses drugs for two years before their parents find out. Too often they find out from the school, police, or morgue. Then it is too late. **Protective school policy focused on prevention, with parental support, is the key.**

Schools can do many things to enhance the chances of getting kids to adulthood intact, but the following are of vital importance:

- 1) **Get alcohol, tobacco and other illegal drugs off campus** by use of the best known technologies. Currently, that may include sniff dogs. If drugs are kept, sold or used on campus, kids are four or five times more likely to use them. (CASA)
- 2) Implement **non-punitive random student drug testing (NPRSDT)** for the maximum number of kids possible. The Supreme Court allowed random drug testing for all kids involved in extra-curricular activities, and our suggestion is that every school implement that program, however, many schools are reluctant to do so because of pressure from parents (44% in the low risk category normally find it demeaning), the threat of ACLU lawsuits (however bogus, they cost money to fight) and/or budget constraints.

We propose the following program which **will cost the schools nothing**, get the **maximum deterrent effect for all kids** and be totally defensible against threats from the ACLU.

- A) **Offer a voluntary program for parents and kids using hair analysis.** Hair gives a 90 day window and its impossible to cheat the test. The cost is \$59, which includes \$5 for taking the sample and communicating the results. This is the best deterrent; it gives parents the comfort of added protection; and gives kids a reason to say no to peer pressure.

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B) Ask the school to implement a program based on suspicion. **If a child indicates any cause for concern (i.e. truancy, disciplinary problems, falling grades, friends are concerned), they will call for a hair test.** If it yields a positive result, the parents/child will bear the cost (\$59) and the parents will be called into action, and the child will be automatically enrolled in the voluntary random drug testing program through the remainder of high school. Other conditions, like participation in a treatment program, community service, restriction for participation in sports/extra-curricular activities, etc can be defined. But of great importance, **REDEFINE ZERO TOLERANCE so that it continues to make kids accountable for their own actions but keeps them in school**, instead of flushing them out and setting them further behind through expulsion. Ask (or insist) that the parents to sign The Parent Pledge and stay engaged until their child finishes high school.

C) If a child tests positive more than once, they should be tested quarterly, or more often using urine or saliva tests as required. Hair analysis is the best tool, but can't detect drug use in the last few days, or if a child has no hair, use of all drug testing tools may be necessary. If they have a problem, they should be enrolled in a treatment program. Other consequences, such as withholding driving privileges, doing community service, getting recommendations and withholding scholarships for upper education, and/or own student loans could be tied to continued use. On the flip side, local merchants might give discounts to student leaders who participate in the program, newspapers give recognition, yearly awards banquets, et al.

D) If possible, ask the school to enroll all athletes and those engaged in extra curricular activities in the voluntary random drug testing program. Emphasize the non-punitive aspects of the program, designed to keep kids in the system, not flush them out under "zero tolerance" policies. If a hair test is required when school resumes in the fall, that will help keep them clean throughout the summer.

3) Provide hard hitting factual education from grades 1 through 12 to heighten the perception of harm from tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. Even "*just marijuana*" because of its long staying power, and high THC content, can cause permanent brain damage, birth defects, addiction, cancer causing and very detrimental to short term memory and the learning process. The brain is not fully developed until the mid twenties. Whatever harm occurs during the teenager years from alcohol or drugs will in large part determine the quality of the rest of one's life.

4) Offer **Student/Parent Assistance Programs** that work closely with the students and parents, but fill the void that stems from today's family situation, with 50% divorce rate, two parents working, single parenting, drug using parents, etc.

This program is intended to provide a concise and complete package for schools to enable them to implement a random drug testing program quickly, easily and with no cost to the school, drawing on the experience of other schools in the nation that have working programs. Hair testing has virtually eliminated drug use in some private schools that had a major problem, like De La Salle High School in New Orleans.

SCIENCE – KEY TO THE SOLUTION

By Roger Morgan

The ONDCP (Office of National Drug Control Policy) and Secretary of Education have recognized the potential for *non-punitive drug screening to both deter drug use, and for early intervention* for those kids who need help. The following facts from the nation's best experts supports this position:

- **If child reaches adulthood before first substantial use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs, they should virtually never have a problem.** (Califano) We know this, and so do those who sell illicit drugs. Thus, kids are in the cross hairs by an evil force more dangerous than all other forms of terror combined. As parents, teachers and politicians, *we have an inherent responsibility to protect children.*
- The vast majority of those dependent on alcohol and other drugs *got hooked between ages 11 and 17.*
- **The single biggest reason kids don't do drugs is fear their parents will find out.** Random drug screening is how they will find out, and thus it gives them a valid reason to "just say no" to peer pressure.
- **Young people are much more susceptible to addiction than adults.** Some drugs are so strong that even one week is sufficient for them to become addicted, so early detection and help is a must. While the death rate because of substance abuse is unthinkable, scores more don't die, they just destroy their lives **often times in eighth grade, or before.** Once addicted, there is only a 10% to 15% chance they will ever fully recover. (CASA)
- **According to CASA, 44% of kids are at low risk; 38% moderate risk; and 18% at high risk of substance abuse.** The family is considered number one as the source of the problem, followed by school environment. (CASA – Malignant Neglect Study)
- Given the state of families in America today, with a 49% divorce rate nationally, single parenting, two parents working, parents who use drugs themselves, abusive parents and good, normal parents who just need help, **schools are the safety net and the extended family.** All kids are at risk, but the 56% of kids that are at moderate to high risk need help. If they have a problem stemming from home, and don't get help from the schools, they probably won't get help period, until it is too late.
- **A person coming from a family with a history of addiction is four times as susceptible to becoming addicted him/herself.** These kids are often the ones who need help, as early as age ten or eleven. And they need it fast. If they don't get constant monitoring and early intervention, they basically destroy their lives and become parasites on society. **Then everyone pays the price.** Some drugs are so strong a susceptible child can become addicted in days or a week. (ONDCP)
- **Availability of drugs increases the risk they will be used.** If drugs are kept, used or sold on campus, students are many times more likely to use. (CASA)
- **Perception of harm** from alcohol, tobacco and other drugs is an important factor as to why young people don't use alcohol, tobacco and other illicit drugs. (ONDCP)
- **The drug journey almost always starts with marijuana use, or legal drugs from an unlocked medicine cabinet.** To reduce the use of other drugs, one must first prevent the onset with pot.

If ever we, as a nation, are to make significant strides in reducing illicit drug use, we must stop the problem where it originates ... *with school age children.* Non-punitive drug testing is not the only tool to this multifaceted problem, but research shows it is the most effective and least expensive way to reduce illicit drug use and to intervene early in the lives of those who will otherwise ruin their lives through dependency.

MODEL SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY

.....FOR NON-PUNITIVE RANDOM STUDENT DRUG TESTING

By Roger Morgan

Following is a Model District Policy for Non-Punitive Random Student Drug Testing (NPRSDT). It was adapted from policies of school districts throughout the nation who have active random drug testing programs, and some private schools who have virtually eliminated drug use with hair testing. Rather than re-invent the wheel, schools considering implementation of a non-punitive random student drug testing program can hopefully use this as a basis for implementing their own program, and duly modify it to fit their own circumstances. Please note that there are three significant elements to this model:

- 1) A voluntary program is available to all students using hair testing. .
- 2) Suspicion based testing if there is any cause for concern will effectively cover ALL students.
- 3) Urine and saliva test kits are also available for schools, or for sale by schools to parents.
- 4) There is no cost for the schools.

The intent in providing this program is to provide an easy model for schools to start a program, without re-inventing. The program can be tweaked and modified to as time goes on, or in response to particular needs within a school system. But this program makes it easy to start.

MODEL SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY **FOR NON-PUNITIVE RANDOM STUDENT DRUG TESTING**

Subject: Non-Punitive Random Drug-Testing Is Available to All Students on a voluntary basis; and as protection School Policy Will Stipulate that If There Is Any Cause For Concern, All Kids Will Be Tested.

Because the Board recognizes that illicit drugs impair a young person's ability to retain information and learn, and because students who are under the influence of drugs may endanger themselves and others, the superintendent and/or his or her designee will establish a non-punitive random drug-testing program for all students in grades 6 through 12 (middle, junior, continuation and high school) in order to protect their health and safety and enhance the learning environment for all students. Parents will be required to sign the consent form at the beginning of the each school year and will have the right to determine that their child not be subjected to the random testing during the specific school year, however, participation in athletics or extra curricular activities will and driving/parking on campus require the student's participation.

LEGAL REFERENCES

LEGISLATION

- Vernonia School District 47J vs. Acton, 515 U.S. 646, 115 S Ct. 2386, 132 L. Ed. 2d 564 (1995)
- Board of Education of Independent t School District No. 92 of Pottawatomie County v. Earls, 536 U.S. 822, 122 S. Ct 2559, 153 L. Ed.2d 735 (2002);
- Joye v Hunterdon Central Regional High School, 176 N.J. 568, 826 A.2d 624 (NJ 2003);
- Linke v. Northwestern School Corp., 763 N.E. 2d 972, 162 Ed. Law Rep. 525 (Ind. 2002)
- Trinidad School Dist. No. 1 By and Through Lopez, 963 P.2d 1095, 129 Ed.Law Rep.812 (Colo. 1998)
- York v. Wahkiakum School dist. No. 200, 110 Wash. App. 383, 40 P.3d 1198, 161 Ed. Law Rep. 1023 (Div. 2 2002)
- Drug Testing Law, Technology, and Practice (West Group, Rochester, NY) Chapter 8

PROCEDURES

NON-PUNITIVE RANDOM DRUG-TESTING OF STUDENTS_

Students who test positive under the policy and this accompanying procedure will be treated according to the terms of this procedure. Students who are determined to be involved in criminal activities related to drugs will be disciplined in the same manner as any other student, according to the law and local school district policy.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

1. To create and maintain a healthy, safe, drug-free environment for all students.
2. To provide early detection and treatment of students exposed to illegal drugs use.
3. To encourage any student with a dependence on, or addiction to, tobacco, alcohol or other illicit drugs to seek help in overcoming the problem.

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4. To reduce the likelihood of incidents of accidental personal injury and/or damage to students of property.
5. To minimize the likelihood that school property will be used for illicit drug activities.
6. To protect the reputation of the school system and its students.
7. To help young people arrive at adulthood prior to first significant use of alcohol, tobacco and illicit drugs, where research has shown they should never have a problem of addiction.
8. To optimize the level of academic achievement by eliminating activities which diminish a child's ability to absorb and retain information.

NON-PUNITIVE NATURE OF POLICY

No student shall be penalized academically for testing positive for use of illegal drugs or alcohol, nor shall any student be denied any benefits or services other than potentially the district sponsored athletic and/or other extra-curricular activities as outlined above. The results of drug tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student's academic records. Information regarding the results of drug tests shall be kept confidential between the superintendent, the principal or their designee, the student assistance program representative, the student's custodial parent or legal guardian, and the student. In the event that a student appears in front of the School District Board of Directors for an appeals hearing of any nature, information pertaining to non-punitive random drug testing of the student shall be made available to School Board Representatives.

In particular, test results will not be disclosed to law enforcement or juvenile authorities absent a valid and binding subpoena or other legal process issued by a court of competent jurisdiction. In the event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student's custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified in writing as soon as reasonably possible, but in no event more than seventy-two (72) hours after such subpoena is received. Verbal notification may be given, followed by written notification.

NOTIFICATION

1. Voluntary Program - Parents/guardians of all students will be notified of this procedure prior to the beginning of the drug testing program. Participation in the voluntary program will cost \$59 per child with the proviso that he/she will be tested at random at least one time during a school year. All costs will be paid by parents, or the child. If a child tests positive, follow on tests will be performed.
2. Suspicion Based Testing - Written notification of the voluntary program, and the sole prerogative of the school to test any child that shows cause for concern, will be included with orientation/registration materials that are provided to all students and their parents/guardians at the beginning of the school year. If a child tests positive, the parents will sign a Parent Pledge, and corrective action will be taken to protect the child, including enrollment in treatment if required.

CONSENT FORM

1. All students and their parents/guardians will be asked to sign consent forms to participate in the voluntary Non-Punitive Random Student Drug Testing Program as a requirement for participation in athletics and extra curricular activities and driving or parking on school property. Even if they refuse, all students will be subjected to a suspicion based test using

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- hair analysis, which in essence covers all students.
2. Parental consent forms will grant the school the unfettered right to drug test any student who show cause for concern, and will include an acknowledgement that all illegal and legal drugs will be subject to identification.

Students and parents will sign a consent form (attached) on which they acknowledge they understand the intent of the program; the school's responsibility to protect the health and safety of all students; the potential limitations on the child's participation in athletics and extra-curricular activities by not participating in the non-punitive voluntary random student drug testing program; and that all students are subject to drug testing based on suspicion.

EDUCATION

1. A program of drug education for students and their parents/guardians will be established at each school to present a clear "no use" of any illicit drug message, or misuse of any legal medication.
2. At the beginning of the school year, educational material on the harms of marijuana and other drugs on the developing body and brain will be included in the Orientation package.

PARENT MEETINGS

1. Schools will schedule at least one meeting for students and their parents/guardians early in the school year to present and explain the student drug testing program and to answer questions. Principals will designate the appropriate people to conduct the presentations.
2. Parents/guardians will be notified of the meetings in letters as described in No. 2 of the Notification Section (above).
3. If a child tests positive, the parents will sign a Parent's Pledge and also complete a course of the true facts about marijuana and other drugs.

TESTING PROCEDURES

1. The Take Back America Campaign (TBAC) office will pay \$5 to a designated school employee, or a volunteer or local collation to collect hair samples and send them to the lab. TBAC will communicate the test result back to the parents and/or designated school person. The parent and/or child will pay \$59 if the test is positive. If negative, TBAC will cover the cost.
2. If hair testing is not feasible for any reason, alternate means of testing will be done by trained personnel using on-site drug test kits, either urine or saliva. Parents and guardians and students will be advised of the result. In the case of a positive test, the parents/guardians and students may request a confirmation test by a qualified laboratory at their own expense, unless the laboratory finds the result should have been negative, in which case TBAC will pay.
3. Tests will be performed in a secure and private area, established by each school with the advice and counsel of qualified experts.
4. On-site test kits range in cost from \$1.75 for a device to detect 5 drugs; \$5 for 10

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drugs; \$11.00 per device for an on-site Oral test using saliva to detect 6 drugs.
*(Redwood Biotech,
P.O. Box 14327, Santa Rosa, Ca 95402. Phone 800 255-21589 Ext 34402*

5. The school will make on-site test kits available to parents for home use for an increased fee to cover handling costs and to sustain the program at school..
6. Testing will consist of obtaining samples to be screened for, but not limited to, any of the following substances:

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| - Alcohol | - Tobacco |
| - Marijuana | - LSD |
| - Amphetamines | - Phencyclidine (PCP) |
| - Cocaine | - Steroids |
| - Ecstasy | - Heroin |
| | - Other controlled substance |
7. Unless testing occurs in the course of a drug counseling/rehabilitation program or based on any cause for concern , or as a requirement of an appeal for re-instatement, students will be identified for testing through a random, computer-driven process.
8. The principal's designee will be informed of the students to be tested by the testing program representative.
9. All test-related information will be kept confidential, except principals/designees will be notified by the testing facility of positive test results, after the facility has notified affected students and their parents/guardians. Principals/designees will notify those employees who need to know.
10. Students taking drugs prescribed by their physicians must notify principals/designees prior to testing and provide written documentation upon request.

CONSEQUENCES

Consequences can be determined locally by parents and school personnel. The following are offered as suggestions, to provide a starting point.

1. Students who refuse to be tested will be considered to have tested positive for each instance of refusal and will not be granted the option of appeal.
2. In the event of a FIRST positive test, students will be:
 - Ineligible to drive/park on campus for a period of 90 school days, but permitted to continue with athletics and/or extra curricular activities subject to interim on-site drug testing..
 - Required, with at least one parent/guardian, to participate in, and complete, an identified drug counseling and/or educational program.
 - Required to be re-tested on a regular, non-random basis while participating in athletics for the remainder of the school year, and be enrolled in the voluntary non-punitive random drug testing program through high school.
3. In the event of a SECOND positive test, students will be:
 - Ineligible to participate in athletic competition or extra-curricular activities, including

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driving or parking on school premises, for a period of 180 calendar days, but permitted to practice.

- Required, with at least one parent/guardian, to participate in, and complete, an identified drug-counseling program at the student's expense.
 - Required to be re-tested and receive a negative result before release from the counseling program and to be re-tested on a regular, non-random basis while participating in athletics or extra curricular activities, including driving or parking on school premises, for a period of one calendar year.
 - Required to test negative on drug tests prior to participating in sports again.
4. In the event of a **THIRD** positive test, or any positive tests thereafter, students will be:
- Ineligible to participate in athletic competition or extra curricular activities or driving/parking on campus for the balance of the school year.
 - Required, with at least one parent/guardian, to participate in, and complete, an identified drug counseling program at the student's expense.
 - Required, to be re-tested and receive a negative result before released from the counseling program and to be re-tested on a regular, non-random basis while participating in athletics for the remainder of their enrollment in high school.
 - Required, in the event of an interruption between seasons of athletic competition or other extra curricular activities, to re-test with negative results before participating again.

APPEALS

1. Appeals of positive drug tests may be initiated by students and their parents/guardians and students will remain eligible during the appeal process until and if a qualified laboratory confirms the positive result.
2. Students will be permitted to include any relevant information at the time of submitting their appeals, such as prescription drugs being taken which could affect the test.
3. Appeals must be submitted in writing to principals/designees within 48 hours of notification of positive drug-tests, using District "Appeal of Drug-Test" forms obtained at school sites. (See Exhibit B)
4. Confirmation tests will then be conducted at an alternate laboratory.
5. If test results of the second portion of the original urine sample are positive, the appeal will be denied.
6. If test results of the laboratory test are negative, students will remain eligible to participate in athletics and extra curricular activities and the District will bear the cost of the confirmation test. If the lab test confirms the initial result, the student/parents will pay for the test.

INTERVENTION

1. Coaches, teachers, counselors, administrators, and/or other students, who suspect illegal drug use by students, should immediately notify their principals or Program Director.
2. Program Directors will take a hair sample, or conduct a urine or saliva test, and advise guardians or parents of the outcome.

NON-PUNITIVE RANDOM DRUG-TESTING OF STUDENTS

APPEAL FORM

School Board policy reads that “appeals of positive drug tests” may be initiated by student athletes and/or their parents/guardians as follows:

- Students will remain eligible during appeal and laboratory confirmation of test results.
- Students will be permitted to submit any relevant information at the time of requesting appeals.
- Appeals must be submitted in writing to principals/designees within 48 hours of notification of positive drug test results.
- Confirmation tests will be conducted at an alternative laboratory on a second portion of the original urine sample.
- If test results of the second portion of the original urine sample are negative, the student will remain eligible to participate in athletics and extra curricular activities and the District will pay the cost of the confirmation test. If positive, the student and/or parents will pay the cost of the confirmation test which will be approximately \$50, and subject to change.”

We appeal the positive test results of the student identified below. In addition, we authorize the confirming laboratory to disclose the results of the testing to us and to the school Principal/designee.

| | | | |
|----------------|------|----------|-------|
| Street Address | City | Zip Code | Phone |
|----------------|------|----------|-------|

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|------|
| Parent/Guardian Name (Print) | Parent/Guardian Signature | Date |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|------|

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|------|
| Student Name (Print) | Student Signature | Date |
|----------------------|-------------------|------|

Print in the space below any comments/information you have regarding the appeal. You may attach additional items.

21 DRUG-FREE CHALLENGE

**“OPT OUT” AGREEMENT REMOVING STUDENT FROM VOLUNTARY
NON-PUNITIVE RANDOM STUDENT DRUG TESTING PROGRAM**

THIS OPTION MUST BE SIGNED AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH SCHOOL YEAR

We elect to “opt out” of the voluntary random student drug testing program, but acknowledge our understanding of the following:

- The disease of addiction to alcohol, tobacco and drugs can be acquired easily and quickly by a child or adolescent. If there is a history of addiction in the family, the chances of a child having a genetic predisposition to addiction is 4 to 6 times greater.
- Children are much more susceptible to harm and addiction than adults because their brains and vital organs are not fully developed until the late teens or early twenties.
- Research shows if a child reaches age 21 prior to first significant use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs they should virtually never have a problem with ATOD; and that almost all addiction originates with children between 11 and 17 years old, on average at age 13.
- The school has a “no use” policy for ATOD by students, and we agree to comply with this policy.
- The school program of random student drug testing is:
 - 1) Non-punitive, intended to deter use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD), and detect problems early in children so they can get treatment before addiction reaches a level that addiction makes treatment difficult, expensive, and too often ineffective;
 - 2) The results are confidential between designated school personnel and the parents; the records are sealed and destroyed upon graduation, and have no impact on a child’s ability to seek higher education or scholarships;
 - 3) The intent of the program is to keep kids in the school system until they arrive safely to adulthood free of dependency on ATOD, not suspend or expel them as with “zero tolerance” programs.
- The school recognizes that the majority of students do not use ATOD, but that random drug testing is the best deterrent to keep the majority of students healthy and in a safe learning environment.
- Schools function as surrogate parents while children are in their domain, and as such, have a responsibility to protect the health and safety of all students and preserve a good learning environment.
- The school reserves the right to do “suspicion-based testing” for ATOD, and in the event of a “positive” test result will communicate the results to the parent a the parents/student cost will be \$59.. The school will have the right to order additional alcohol and drug testing as required by school district policy to protect the student and other students who may be affected by his or her behavior.
- We are fully informed of any Student Assistance Programs offered at school, and should the need arise, these resources are still available to us.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|-------|
| Street Address | City | Zip Code | Phone |
| Parent/Guardian Name (Print) | Parent/Guardian (Signature) | | Date |
| Student Name (Print) | Student Signature | | Date |

WHAT DO YOU TELL THE PARENTS

ABOUT RANDOM DRUG TESTING FOR STUDENTS

By Roger Morgan

Don't Gamble! Your child only has one shot at life. Make it a good one.

In spite of your parenting skills and good relationship with your child, there is a very active, evil and incredibly well financed illicit drug trade focused on destroying your child. The alcohol, tobacco and illicit drug trades know that if a child reaches adulthood prior to first significant use of alcohol, tobacco and illicit drugs, they should virtually never have a problem. So they do everything possible to hook them early. Almost all of the estimated 700,000 who die annually due to ATOD and the 22 million Americans who are dependent on drugs and alcohol, have something in common. *They incurred the disease of addiction between 11 and 17 years old.*

What many adults and young people fail to understand is that *physiologically, children are much more susceptible to harm and addiction than adults*, since the brain and vital organs are not fully developed until the mid twenties, or later. For that reason, it is incumbent on all adults to do whatever it takes to safeguard their health and safety, and to educate young people on the harm that they can inflict on themselves by using drugs.

Schools and parents are fortunate today to have a prevention tool that was not available until relatively recently, hair tests, combined with urine and saliva testing. Random drug testing has been used very effectively in the work place, military and schools. Concurrently, many parents just keep a test kit on top of the refrigerator, as a constant reminder that if for any reason a child gives cause for suspicion, the child will give a sample to allay their parents' fears. That, combined with suspicion based testing at school, is the best protection a child can get.

Random drug testing reduced drug use in the work place, transportation industry, private schools, public schools and military from 67% to 90%. In 2002 the US Supreme Court allowed its use for all athletes and those engaged in extra curricular activities. Private schools can make it a criteria for admission.

The results of the drug tests are confidential, shared only with parents and those who in the school system who need to know. Law enforcement is kept out of the process, and the records are sealed on graduation so they have no impact on a child's future. Unlike zero tolerance policies where a kid is expelled and taken out of the system, the endeavor here is to keep them in the system until they arrive at adulthood intact, well educated and prepared for a productive, wholesome adulthood.

The specific intent of non-punitive random student drug testing is: 1) *To prevent drug use;* and 2) *To identify problems early, so a child can get help.* The single biggest reason kids don't use drugs is fear their parents will find out. Random drug testing implants enough fear that most kids don't use. If they know they are going to be tested and they use anyway, then chances are they have a problem and need help. Some drugs are so strong, like crystal meth, crack cocaine and heroin, that a kid can become addicted in a matter of days. So the window of opportunity to get help is very short; often too short.

Other advantages of non-punitive random drug testing by schools is that it takes the onus off teachers and parent to play drug cop, and teaches children to be responsible for their own actions. It gives kids a reason to just say no to peer pressure. 54% of kids and 70% of parents surveyed like the idea of random drug testing.

WHAT DO YOU TELL THE Kids

ABOUT DRUGS AND DRUG TESTING FOR STUDENTS

By Roger Morgan

Don't Gamble! You're only going to live once.

Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs kill and destroy people, particularly young people. Physiologically, the vital organs and brain are not fully developed until the mid twenties, or later. Until the brain is fully developed, young people are much more susceptible to harm and addiction than an adult.

Research has shown that if you get to adulthood before first significant use of tobacco, alcohol or other illicit drugs, you should virtually never have a problem of dependency. If you can accept one good piece of advice for life, it would be to always have the chips in your corner, so you are in control. If you have seen an addict or two, or lost a friend, no doubt you have seen through their misery that drugs and/or alcohol control them.

Look at it another way. Let's just look at your total expected life cycle, keeping in mind that people today can live longer. How long, and particularly how well you live, will depend in large part to how well you maintain your body and brain, particularly in the formative years while you are building a foundation. Some old people joke, "...if I knew I'd live this long I would have taken better care of myself." The problem is, it is often not a joke.

Adolescents are already pretty close to the safe zone about 21. If you get that far without abusing alcohol, or using tobacco and other drugs, in all probability *the quality of your life*, which could be another 80 years, will be enhanced considerably. A long life without quality, incapacitated with a stroke, heart attacks, brain damage, mental illness, hardening of the arteries, liver or lung damage could mean you are just trapped in a body that doesn't function. At that point, sitting in a wheel chair with an oxygen bottle and tubes in your nose, you may wish you were dead.

Approximately 3600 Americans die each month because of drug overdose. But that appears to be an accident. Just a casualty of war. Dead people can't buy drugs. The real mission of the alcohol, tobacco and illicit drug trades are to simply to get you hooked early, so you will be a captive market for their insidious products until death does you in ... which will usually be at an early age. Approximately 142,000 people die annually due to drugs alone, and almost one of ten people over 12 years old are dependent on alcohol and drugs. Almost all of them have something in common. ***They started with tobacco, alcohol and drugs between 11 and 17 years old, at an average age of 13.***

A lot of young people don't see the harm in drugs. They see adults drink, smoke ... even use illegal drugs. But, as mentioned earlier, ***your brain is much more susceptible to harm and addiction.*** Further, if you have any history of addiction in your family, or mental illness, your chances of becoming addicted are four times greater than someone who doesn't. Observe those in your family or that you know who have died because of alcohol or other drugs, then ask yourself if you want to be like them.

Think hard also about smoking tobacco and marijuana. Neither is harmless. They adversely affect short-term memory, concentration, attention span, motivation, problem solving and clearly interferes with your ability to learn. Pot also retards the maturation process and leads to mental illness. Almost all users of hard drugs started with a little puff of marijuana. Over 60% of those in treatment for addiction are there because of marijuana. You need to maintain your competitive edge in life. While some people smoke marijuana religiously and still manage to function, the vast majority function at a fraction of their true potential as a human being. Decide carefully which side of the fence you want to be on.

The simple wisdom is just wait until you are in the safe zone. After age 21 you can legally consume alcohol if you wish. But, by then you will have all the cards in your corner, and be in control of the quality and probably the longevity of your life. You will be glad you did.

No Cost TO SCHOOLS. THEY ACTUALLY MAKE MONEY!

It costs \$7,000 to \$12,000 a year to educate a child. If they drop out of school, according to UC Santa Barbara, it will cost society \$386,000 over their life time in social costs. If they become addicted, it will inflict unmentionable pain, suffering and cost on them and every member of their family. If they survive their young life at all, addiction will destroy the quality and shorten the longevity of their life. The travesty is that it all generally happens in or about 8th grade, when their bodies and brains are most vulnerable.

We are all stakeholders in the outcome of a child's upbringing. Its obviously more close and personal for the parents and family, but soon the child will either become a productive member of society, or a public burden until their death. So we all have a vested interest in the outcome.

19.5% of the California budget is related to substance abuse, about \$19.8 billion (in 2005). That figure doubles when factoring in lost productivity. The state has a 24.2% of high school dropout rate, which costs \$46.2 billion alone (\$386,000), and there is no question that alcohol and drugs contribute to the problem. 80% of prison inmates are high school drop outs, which contributes to the \$8 billion prison overcrowding problem. The true cost of substance abuse in California is probably between \$50 and \$100 billion.

Hair analysis, as stated earlier, is the best form of drug detection. It has a 90 day window and it is hard to cheat the test. Many private schools have made hair analysis a criteria for admission. Some schools that previously had a serious drug problem have eliminated the problem altogether. The cost of our 21 Drug Free Challenge is about \$59 per test ...the least expensive life insurance policy one can buy.

The structure of our program enables us to pay the school, or a volunteer, \$5 per each sample of hair. With a voluntary program, based on experience in Coronado, 44% of the middle and high school kids signed up on a volunteer basis. If a school system had 5,000 middle and high school students, as an example, and 44% of the kids signed up for the volunteer program, that would equate to 2,200 students. At \$5 each for just taking the hair sample, that equates to \$11,000. The parents pay for the tests, so no cost to schools. The school can actually make money on the program.

If the school conducts suspicious based tests which reveal a positive result, the parents pay the cost. If the test is negative, then the school (or TBAC) absorbs the cost.

The school also can stock and sell urine and saliva test for home use. The urine tests for 5 drugs retail for roughly \$29 at a pharmacy. We can provide them to a school for about \$3-\$8 for urine and about 8-\$11 for saliva. In turn the school can offer them to parents for a donation of \$10-\$12 for urine test kits, and maybe \$15 for saliva, just in case there is any cause for concern at home. The difference can help support the program at school as well. If the school provided parents with 2,000 kits, the net proceeds would amount to \$16,000.

Based on this hypothetical example, this school district with 5,000 kids would take in gross proceeds of \$27,000, with precious little in expense for a program that will enhance academic achievement, improve physical and mental health and save lives.

This Is An Investment. Not an Expense.

PRICES FOR ON-SITE DRUG KITS

TBAC can supply drug-testing kits to provide to parents and arrange for hair testing.

Item: **Price List:**

HAIR ANALYSIS **\$59.00 per test**

URINE DIPS:

Alternatives are available for from 1 to 12 drugs. See website (www.TBAC.us).

THC/COC/OPI/M-AMP/PCP **\$3.60 per unit**
COC/AMP/M-AMP/THC/MTD/MDMA/OPI(300)/OXY/PPX/PCP/BAR/BZO **\$6.50 per unit**

URINE REDICUPS:

THC/COC/OPI/M-AMP/PCP **\$5.30 per unit**
COC/AMP/M-AMP/THC/MTD/MDMA/OPI(300)/OXY/PPX/PCP/BAR/BZO **\$9.00 per unit**

SALIVA ON-SITE ORAL

AMPTHC/COC/OPI/M-AMP/PCP **\$8.75 per unit**

ALCO-SCREEN

Saliva test strip detects alcohol at .02%, .08% and .30% SAC **\$1.90 per unit**

SMOKE CASSETTE

One step urine test to detect nicotine **\$1.50 per unit**

Collection devices are packaged 25 devices per box.

Confirmation testing can be done for a price of \$19. MRO services are available for \$10 per positive tests.

A school could carry urine and oral drug test kits for use when and where necessary, and to sell to parents, while offering hair analysis for parents willing to cover the cost. Alcohol test strips are also a good idea. Many parents like to have the tools at home. The combination of suspicion based random drug testing at school using hair analysis, and suspicion based drug testing at home, provides the best protection a young person can have.

CONFRONTING THE OPPOSITION TO NPRSDT

By Roger Morgan

- **Schools Job Is To Teach** – The best education is of no value to an addict, or a young person who ODs. Aside from just saving lives, drug testing improves academic achievement, reduces juvenile delinquency and violence, improves attendance and reduces the high school drop out rate. Drug and alcohol use are major barriers to education. Parents are considered the most important in determining at-risk factors, but schools are the safety net to protect all kids. 56% of kids are considered at moderate to high risk of substance abuse, largely because of the situation at home. Schools are the only practical safety net.
- **Schools Don't Have Staff Or Money To Perform Tests** - We will pay \$5 per child for taking and mailing the hair sample either to a school person, a volunteer or a local community coalition. Further, we can provide urine and saliva test kits a very low prices, which a school can in turn provide to parents for a donation 3 to 5 times higher. The difference can more than cover the cost of the program. There is no cost to the school. Just benefits.
- **Parents Say Drug testing can undermine trust between parents and kids.** It is just the opposite. A school program, voluntary or suspicion based, takes the onus completely off the parent's back and makes the kids accountable for their own actions. If they aren't using, there should be no problem.
- **My Child Would Never Use Drugs Or Alcohol.** All kids are at risk, and parents are the last to find out. On average a child uses drugs for two years before they find out, and too often its from the police, or morgue. We have great respect for good parents, but 56% of kids are at moderate to high risk because they don't have the same good fortune. Hair testing doesn't hurt anyone, it gives kids a reason to say no to peer pressure, and it can help the kid next door. Over six million kids are being raised by grandparents or in foster homes. They/we need your help for a better nation.
- **Random drug testing does not deter drug use.** That is patently false. In almost all cases where a valid program has been implemented it has deterred drug use. The figures range from 67% to 90% reduction in the work place, military, transportation and many schools, and almost 100% in private schools that have used hair testing.
- **Drug testing is expensive.** It is an investment, not an expense. Compared to the pain, anguish, suffering and economic cost of a young life, it is the cheapest life insurance one can buy. \$59 for hair testing for a 90 day window of detection, or \$5 to \$15 for a urine or saliva test is nothing. The cost of education alone ranges from about \$7,000 to \$12,000 a year. And ... parents or kid pays the cost.
- **Drug testing is legally risky.** The legal issues regarding privacy rights was clarified by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2002. What could be even riskier today is for a school board and administration not to safeguard students from drugs by implementing the best known prevention tools, as proven by science. Almost all those dependent on tobacco, alcohol and other drugs got hooked as teenagers, average age 13.
- **Drug testing can result in false positives, leading to the punishment of innocent students.** Baloney! Hair testing is extremely accurate. Other tests can be verified by a lab. Plus, the intent here is not to punish students, but to keep them in the system, drug-free. Better safe than sorry.
- **Drug testing may lead to unintended consequences, such as students using drugs that are more dangerous but less detectable by a drug test, and learning the wrong lessons about their constitutional rights.** There are now drug tests even for designer drugs, so we can cover the waterfront. As to civil rights, there are reasons why one can't smoke until age 18, consume alcohol until 21 or use illicit drugs at all. The intent is to preserve them long enough that they can enough their civil rights.

RANDOM STUDENT DRUG TESTING IS EFFECTIVE

Critics say there is a lack of empirical evidence that random student drug testing works. We would like to have more data, but there is consistent evidence to show that it works, just as it has in the military, transportation work place and elsewhere where it reduced drug use by 67% to 90%, and private schools with 100% success.

There is overwhelming evidence to show that our collective failure to stem the level of death, destruction and economic cost to the nation without using this tool is at the heart of the nation's problem of substance abuse. A non-punitive random student drug testing program is the best way to ensure the health and safety of young people, and its use as a prevention tool may no longer be an option, but more of a necessity.

Legal challenges by the ACLU slowed the momentum, and caused some schools to suspend programs that were showing considerable success. The 2002 Supreme Court rulings cleared the use of RSDT for athletes and those engaged in extra curricular activities, and now many schools are getting on board. Schools who have properly administered programs have almost unanimously achieved success. Following are some examples that support that contention:

De La Salle High School, New Orleans A Catholic school, had been nicknamed "De La Drugs" by some in the community, before Yvonne Gelpi, the Principal and Head Mistress, took action around 1998 and implemented a non-punitive random student drug testing policy using hair analysis, which gives a 90 day detection window. Kids testing positive were referred to parents, and to this day there are practically no repeat offenses. Private schools have the luxury of mandating NPRSDT as a criteria for admission. One need look no further than this one school to conclude that non-punitive random drug testing can eliminate drug use by young people. It worked there. It can work everywhere.

2005 Research by Dr. Joseph McKinney of 65 Indiana High Schools that were using random student drug testing before 2000 when ACLU legal challenges caused the cessation of the programs. After the 2002 Supreme Court Decisions, Dr. McKinney surveyed the schools and reported the following. A more complete disclosure is available at www.studentdrugtesting.org.

- 98% of the Principals said they would re-implement a RSDT program.
- 91% of the Principals said they believed RSDT helped students reject peer pressure to use drugs.
- In 2005, 95% tested athletes, 78% Extra Curricular activities, 51% both, and 71% included drivers.
- Formal written surveys of students indicated 58% said drug use had decreased, 0% increased, and 42% remained the same.
- Regarding what impact RSDT had on student participation:
 - Athletics - 0% decrease, 46% increase and 54% remained the same.
 - Extra Curricular Activities – 0% decrease, 45% increase and 55% remained the same.
- 100% of principals said there was no negative impact in the classroom.
- 80% of high schools with RSDT programs in 2002/03 and 79% in 2003/04 scored higher than the State average on the State mandated graduation test (grades 10-12)
- 71% to 75% of high schools had graduation rates higher than the average.
- In 2003/04, 80% of high schools with RSDT programs had 10th graders passing both graduation exam standards higher than the state average.
- The consequences of a first positive drug test for students – 100% were referred to parents; 63% were given follow up tests; 43% were referred to drug education; 85% lost playing time; 79% loss participation in extra-curricular activities.

The conclusions reached by Dr. McKinney's research indicated:

- 1) The intent was not to "catch and punish";
- 2) RSDT is effective in reducing temptation;
- 3) Formal written surveys provided hard evidence that RSDT programs are effective as a deterrent to prevent drug use;
- 4) Per student drug testing costs are reasonable, and ;
- 5) RSDT programs do not cause reductions in student participation in sports and extra curricular activities.

The Department of Education has contracted with SEI Services to work with schools through the nation (www.sdti.ed.gov) to acquaint them with non-punitive random drug testing.

21 DRUG-FREE CHALLENGE

The Institute For Behavior and Health (Dr. Robert Dupont) surveyed 7 public and 2 private schools that had RSDT programs for 2001/02 school years. Check www.protectionnotpunishment.com for new information. In general, schools reported improved behavior; increased productivity; significant reductions in behavioral problems, noticeable reduction in student arrests and student referrals. The only opposition to RSDT came from students and the media. When RSDT programs were suspended due to legal challenges, drug use increased.

The SATURN Study, Oregon. 1999-2000 pilot study of two public high schools, Wahtonka H.S. which had an RSDT program for student athletes and Warrenton H.S. who did not have a program. Wahtonka had 5.3% of student athletes said they were using illegal drugs as compared to 19.4% of Warrenton students, less than 1/3rd the usage. In a 2000/01 study of 13 schools, preliminary findings showed: 1) No decrease in sports activity, in fact there was an 11% increase; 2) testing 50% of students was adequate to deter drug use; 3) Heavier alcohol users decreased their alcohol use due to RSDT; 4) Drug testing appears to deter frequent drug users rather than “experimenters”. The full report is at www.studentdrugtesting.org.

Hunterdon Central Regional High School, New Jersey. Had a RSDT program for student athletes from 1997 to 2000, then suspended for two years due to legal challenges, and re-implemented program in late 2002. They experienced an overall decrease during 1997 to 2000, then drug use skyrocketed when the program was cancelled (316% for 9th graders to 209% for seniors), then a decrease again when program was re-instituted. They experienced a reduction in 20 of 28 categories of drug use by testing only 10% of the student athletes. Details are available at www.studentdrugtesting.org.

San Clemente High School, California. They have a voluntary program, which has grown every year to now include over 50% of student population. According the Principal, a student survey showed over 50% of the students in the program had used the excuse of RSDT to reject peer pressure to use drugs.

Oceanside Unified School District, California. Implemented a RSDT program for athletes in 1997 at the request of students and then dropped the program in 2002 due to budget constraints. Drug use declined when the program was in effect, and increased again when they stopped for a year. During years when they had a program, they got no complaints, but when they stopped, according to Tim Ware who oversees the program, the parents complained.

There is enough evidence to suggest that every school district in the nation should at least try non-punitive random student drug testing, because it is the most effective and least costly way to ensure the health, safety and learning environment of young people.

SUMMARY

Hair Testingmakes money for the schools; improves academic achievement; reduces High School Drop Outs; reduces juvenile delinquency problems; keeps kids in school as opposed to “zero tolerance” programs that flush them out; gets parents involved; makes kids accountable for their own actions; and keeps law enforcement uninvolved except when crime is involved. Records are sealed on graduation. Public health and safety is enhanced, with less cost to the public sector. ***It can get America back on track and save lives!***

How Much Is Even One Life Worth?

21 DRUG-FREE CHALLENGE