STRUGGLING WITH DRUG USE OR ABUSE?
VISIT WWW.EASYREAD.DRUGABUSE.GOV OR CALL 1.800.662.HELP

GET HELP IF YOU NEED IT. ENCOURAGE YOUR FRIENDS TO GET HELP TOO!

BIOLGY’S ROLE

- Dopamine is a chemical in the brain that helps to make you feel happy.
- Teens have more dopamine receptors than adults so the brain’s reward center reacts more strongly.
- Sensitivity to rewards can be positive by encouraging you to take on new challenges.
- It can also lead to dangerous decisions... such as drug and alcohol use.

BRAIN SCANS OF REGULAR DRUG USERS SHOW A SMALLER PREFRONTAL CORTEX. THIS IMPACTS THE DECISION-MAKING ABILITIES IN A DEVELOPING TEENAGE BRAIN.

DRUG USE CAN RESULT IN

POOR GRADES | MEMORY LOSS | SOCIAL PROBLEMS

1/3 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS USE ALCOHOL

ADDITION: IS A DISEASE OF THE BRAIN. IT DOESN’T DEPEND ON...

- Income
- Job
- Age
- Race
- Color

MISUSE OF SUBSTANCES LIKE ALCOHOL & DRUGS IS A GROWING PROBLEM IN THE US.

TEENS & YOUNG ADULTS ARE MOST AT RISK

OF ALL NEW DRUG USERS ARE UNDER THE AGE OF 18

23% USE MARIJUANA

22% USE SOME FORM OF TOBACCO COMBINED

https://www.cdc.gov/media/pressrel/2010/rl00603.htm
https://www.teens.drugabuse.gov • http://headsup.scholastic.com

Sponsor’s Logos: Penn State Health - Children’s Hospital, Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals, Giant foods