

Dear Editor,

### **Teenage Drug Abuse**

I am writing to express my point of view towards drug addiction of young people nowadays. In such a modern world, drugs are still prevalent among our new generation. You can find lots of news about teenage drug abuse and eventually someone who intakes too much drug and dies. It is certain that the drug addiction has grown as a big cancer in Hong Kong, especially among the youngsters. In order to solve the problem, we have to know why teenagers are addicted to drugs first.

Have you realized that drugs can be accessed easily? It is why the youths now can easily become drug addicts. They can buy the drugs at school, disco, parks and wherever there is a drug dealer. The absurd fancy towards drugs us that the young people considered taking drugs a kind of fashion and trend. They feel being outstanding and unique if they take drugs. In fact, all of these are just ridiculous and ironic. Once the teenagers start taking drugs, both of their physical and mental health will be ruined. Drugs play a role of evil that seems shaking hands to youths. Unfortunately, young people's energy vanished under the side-effects of drugs. They will look much older then they actually are and even some of their body parts will be damaged forever.

It is time for us, the whole society to focus on this worsening problem. It will be much too late if nothing is done to protect our new generation from drugs. Government, schools and parents are accountable for the children and it is believed that the situation can be improved if we stretch our warm hand to them.

As for the government, strict measures can be introduced in order to put an immediate stop to further drug abuse. Checking the disco and night clubs frequently, arranging a greater police force on duty, investigating where the drugs come from and arresting some of the biggest drug retailers in Hong Kong can effectively cut off the connection the youth have with the drugs and they have no chance to buy any drugs. On the other hand, advertisements should be done for promoting the disadvantages of taking drugs. Teenagers can know how astonishing the side-effects are and it can help to decrease the attraction of drugs.

Besides the official measures, school shoulders a responsibility to educate the juvenile too. Most of the times that the teenagers spend on are schools. So why don't the schools offer a life education lesson to their fellow students? Through the lessons, students can possess a good attitude towards life and it is crucial to let them build up this outlook. Talks can also be organized by the schools for students themselves to recognize the truth of drug abuse. This can sweep away all the misunderstanding the juvenile have towards the drugs.

Nevertheless, parents are necessary for guiding the youths. Love, care and warmth are what the teenagers look for. Over focusing on their demerits is a big mistake. Parents should talk to them face-to-face to have a full understanding of their children's situation. Only by understanding what the youths think can the parents help them. Communication indeed gives parents a good path to solve this problem.

Not only the parents that I have mentioned, but also friends, relatives and the whole society can help the youths. Don't turn a blind eye to our children! They are our treasures and they need our help right now! Why are you still hesitating? Let's contribute to help the juveniles!

Yours faithfully,

Chris Wong

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