

DRUGS AND VIOLENCE: HOW ARE THEY CONNECTED?

As Napoleon once said, "The world suffers a lot. Not because of the violence of bad people, but because of the silence of good people." If an issue is predictable, it is preventable; therefore, citizens in the community need to be more proactive, rather than reactive. One of the largest preventable problems is drug abuse.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

- ▶ According to www.drugwarfacts.org, the FBI estimated that there were 1,572,579 arrests for drug law violation in the US in 2016.
- ▶ 80% of offenders abuse drugs or alcohol, mentions ncadd.org.
- ▶ We found kids are more vulnerable to drugs and alcohol during their high school years (rightstep.com)
- ▶ Drug and alcohol prevention programs are needed in high school, more than junior high. (projectno.com)

Recommendations

- ▶ Youth led D.A.V.E. (Drug Abuse and Violence Education), to be used by both parents and students.
- ▶ Train peer mentors to talk to younger students. For example, have upperclassmen help and get to know/connected with underclassmen.
- ▶ We need more neighborhood watches.
- ▶ More guidance to help prevent drug abuse through involvement.