

TALK SHOW HOST

Aim: This is a lively and fun activity where the group can participate in role play of a live talk show. There is potential for the group to get loud and excited, so good group management is needed. This is a fun exercise but aims to highlight some of the upsetting and damaging effects drugs and alcohol use can have on families and friends.

Resources: Large space for group work, chairs, props for acting (optional)

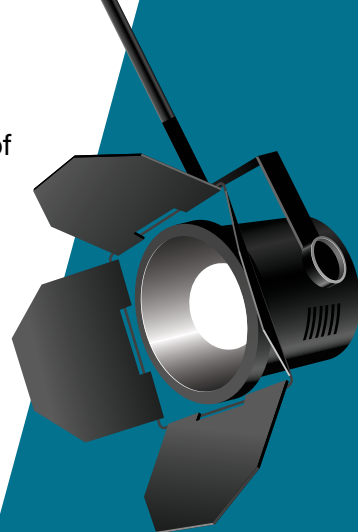
Ground rules:

- The member of staff acts as one of the floor managers for the show. If he/she raises a hand in the air everyone must quieten down and follow instruction. This can also be used in a positive way, to signal to the audience to clap, boo, cheer, etc.
- No offensive language should be used and the group should discuss what words are acceptable to say in role.
- No acts of violence or pretending to be violent, e.g. throwing chairs etc like we see on some chat shows.

Instructions for facilitators

Explain that, as a group, you will all be planning and participating in a daytime talk show (you may want to give some examples of current talk shows). Ask the group to think of appropriate subjects based around drugs and alcohol, or you may want to use some of the suggested headings on the right. The group must then plan who will be the main guests on the show, who will be the presenter, who will take other roles on the floor team, e.g. psychologist/back stage interviewer, and who will be the audience (who are encouraged to ask questions, heckle and get involved).

The session needs to be carefully managed but should highlight some of the potential effects that using drugs and alcohol has on family members and friends. This is an exercise more suited to a group that is well established, and where you have a good idea of the young people's backgrounds, as you want to avoid picking a subject which may upset someone in the group or which is particularly related to their home life.



GROUP ACTIVITY

Suggested themes

My son/daughter dropped out of school because s/he's busy getting high

I drank so much I can't remember what I did

All his/her money is spent on cocaine/alcohol

I spent the weekend on a bender and went straight to college on Monday

You can't live in this house any more!

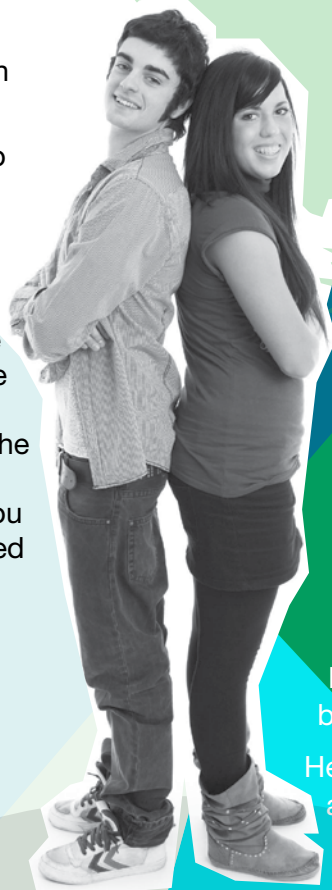
Drug gangs threatened your 8 yr old sister!

He/she doesn't care about old friends any more, it's all about this new gang

His/her drunk antics ended up on Facebook

My friends dumped me because of my drinking

He/she has a couple of drinks and drives home



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