

## **Program Description**

### **The Truth about Drugs**

#### **Introduction:**

*The Truth About Drugs* was developed by the Foundation for a Drug-Free World. The program contains practical tools to educate young people about substance abuse. It provides effective fact-based drug education aimed at reaching young people before they start experimenting with drugs.

#### **Background:**

The Foundation for a Drug-Free World is a non-profit public benefit corporation that empowers youth and adults with factual information about drugs so they can make informed decisions and live drug-free.

No one, especially a young person, likes to be lectured about what he or she can or cannot do. This educational program provides the facts that enable youth to choose not to take drugs in the first place. Also, the campaign consists of activities that youth can participate in which promote drug-free living. These activities are simple, effective, and can involve people of all ages.

Through a worldwide network of volunteers, 50 million drug prevention booklets have been distributed, tens of thousands of drug awareness events have been held in some 180 countries, and the award winning public service announcements have been aired on more than 500 television stations. These materials and activities have helped people around the world learn about the destructive side effects of drugs and, thereby, make the decision for themselves to not use them.

#### **Purpose:**

The main purpose of this program is to reach youth with effective fact-based drug information before they start on drugs.

#### **Target Audience:**

The program is aimed at 11-year-olds and above in a classroom, group instruction, or community learning setting.

#### **Description of Activities:**

The program consists of a documentary (1 hour 42 minutes) entitled *The Truth About Drugs: Real People- Real Stories*. The documentary is supplemented by 13 drug information booklet that describes how drugs work and their mental and physical effects. The program also includes award winning public service announcements. *The*

*Truth About Drugs* education package contains practical tools to aid the person delivering the program, including lesson plans, assignments, and classroom activities that capture and retain young people's attention and foster participation in the program.

A typical lesson may include: homework review from the previous session, an introduction to the current lesson, viewing and discussing a PSA, class discussion, in-class assignment, and assigning homework.

**Budget:**

The educational package to deliver this program can be ordered from the Foundation for a Drug-Free World. There are also downloadable resources available on the website free of charge. There are no mandatory costs associated with this program

**Evaluation:**

Drawing on government reports and official studies, the Foundation for a Drug-Free World's educational materials are research based and specifically oriented to young people.

**Indicators:**

A pre-program and post-program student questionnaire is provided for assessment. Students should fill out the pre-program questionnaire before starting any discussion, activity program and before playing the documentary or PSA's in the curriculum. There is also an educator and student post-program survey. All evaluation tools are sent to the Foundation for a Drug-Free World.

**Requirements to Support Staff:**

Staff would require enough time to view the DVD, read the educational booklets, prep for each lesson, and to deliver the program. Staff may also require travel depending on what location the program is being delivered.

**Timeline/Action Plan:**

- Step 1 Watch the DVD – Creating a Drug-Free World
- Step 2 Read the drug education booklets
- Step 3 Order *The Truth About Drugs* Education Package at no cost ([www.drugreeworld.org](http://www.drugreeworld.org)). This includes an Educator's Guide with lesson plans, a DVD with *The Truth About Drugs* documentary and 16 public service announcements, booklets and posters.
- Step 4 Implement *The Truth About Drugs* program in school, youth organizations or the community

Step 5 Document your event with photos and videos in order to show others what has been done and gain support for more activities.

Step 6 Review with the class the various activities they can do as covered in the Additional Projects and Activities as outlined in the Educator's Guide. They can visit [drugfreeworld.org](http://drugfreeworld.org) for more information and to get help in starting various activities.

### Program Structure

Lesson 1	Why is Drug Education Necessary (55 min.)
Lesson 2	Our Drug Culture (55 min.)
Lesson 3	Why Do People Take Drugs (55 min.)
Lesson 4	How Do Drugs Work and How Do They Affect the Mind? (55 min)
Lesson 5	The Truth about Marijuana (55 min.)
Lesson 6	The Truth about Alcohol (55 min.)
Lesson 7	The Truth about Ecstasy (55 min.)
Lesson 8	The Truth about Cocaine (55 min.)
Lesson 9	The Truth about Crack Cocaine (55 min.)
Lesson 10	The Truth about Crystal Meth. And Methamphetamine (55 min.)
Lesson 11	The Truth about Inhalants (55 min.)
Lesson 12	The Truth about Heroin (55 min.)
Lesson 13	The Truth about LSD (55 min.)
Lesson 14	The Truth about Prescription Drugs
Lesson 15	The Truth about Painkillers
Lesson 16	The Final Word
Lesson 17	Putting the Use about Drugs to Use (165 min)
Lesson 18	End of Program Class and Graduation (70 min.)