

The Drugs

Ecstasy - aka X, XTC, Hug Drug

Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)

What it is: It is a stimulant and a hallucinogen, in capsule or pill form and often stamped with an emblem.



Why teens use it: It lowers inhibitions, distorts the senses, and induces euphoria.

What it does: It causes anxiety, paranoia, depression, dehydration, hypertension, and bruxism.

Ecstasy can also cause heat stroke, seizures, and heart and kidney failure. It is a Schedule I controlled substance with no legitimate medical use.

GHB - aka G, Grievous Bodily Harm

Gamma-hydroxybutyrate

What it is: It is a clear, odorless liquid or powder that inhibits the release of dopamine in the brain.



Why teens use it: It is an intoxicant and euphoriant, and can be used to enhance the effects of other drugs.

What it does: It causes drowsiness, amnesia, nausea, and impairs breathing.

GHB is highly unpredictable. It can cause respiratory arrest, induce seizures, and cause pulmonary edema, coma, and death. It is a Schedule I controlled substance with no legitimate medical use.

Ketamine - aka K, Special K

What it is: It is an anesthetic with analgesic and hallucinogenic properties, available in liquid or powder.

Why teens use it: The effects--dreamlike states and hallucinations--are similar to the effects of PCP, its chemical cousin.



What it does: It increases the heart rate, causes depression, and impairs motor functions.

Ketamine can cause amnesia, delirium, and death. It is most commonly used by veterinarians as an animal tranquilizer. It is a Schedule III controlled substance.

LSD - aka Acid, L, Blotter

Lysergic Acid Diethylamide

What it is: It is a hallucinogen in liquid form, typically placed on blotter paper or stored in small squirt bottles.



Why teens use it: It distorts the senses and alters the mental state.

What it does: It causes disorientation, increased blood pressure, psychosis, and nausea.

Long-term use can cause persistent psychosis and flashbacks. LSD is a Schedule I controlled substance with no legitimate medical use.

Mushrooms - aka Shrooms, Magic Mushrooms

What it is: Mushrooms containing psilocybin grow in the wild or can be produced synthetically. They can be smoked or eaten.

Why teens use it: The effects are similar to those produced by LSD and include hallucinations.

What it does: They cause confusion, paranoia, nausea, and vomiting.

Flashbacks and seizures can also occur. Psilocybin is restricted by the FDA and is a Schedule I controlled substance. It is illegal to possess psilocybin mushrooms in any form.



Nitrous Oxide - aka Whippits

What it is: It is an anesthetic commonly referred to as "laughing gas."



Why teens use it: It produces an intense, brief euphoric effect.

What it does: It prevents oxygen from reaching the brain, resulting in disorientation and loss of motor control.

Without proper administration by a physician, it can cause frostbite, asphyxiation, brain damage, and death.

The Scene

"Club drugs" are typically used in three settings: raves, trance parties, and dance clubs.

Raves

Raves are large, underground dance parties. These parties often go all night and are designed to produce and enhance a hallucinogenic experience through music and lighting.



Flyers are most commonly used to advertise raves, but may also be used to promote trance parties and dance clubs. The rave's organizers often use coded information in the flyer to prevent law enforcement from learning the rave's location. Flyers may advertise what seems to be a safe environment:

- No Alcohol
- No Violence
- Candy and Water Provided

This environment may be anything but safe. Candy and water are provided to counteract the effects of some club drugs, including dehydration, overheating, and grinding of the teeth.



Trance Parties

Trance parties are private parties, usually held at someone's home. The crowd is typically elite and wealthy, and often includes young professional males seeking underage girls.

Dance Clubs

Dance clubs are public business establishments for teens and young adults. These clubs often have an open dance floor where minors and adults mingle, with restricted access to bar areas. Clubs have limited business hours and typically close by 1 or 2 a.m.

Candy Kids

Club drug users are also referred to as "candy kids." In addition to wearing flamboyant and colorful clothing, candy kids also use

•**Baby pacifiers** to relieve grinding of the teeth, a side effect of Ecstasy use



•**Suckers/Hard Candy** to relieve grinding of the teeth

•**Costume/Plastic Jewelry** as a visual stimulant and social identifier

•**Painter Masks** smeared with vapor rub to heighten the effects of the drugs

Glow sticks are used at raves as a visual stimulant.



Club drug users often use **deceptive packaging** for their drugs.

•**Pills** are kept in Pez dispensers, Tic Tac boxes, and other candy containers, such as Skittles and Tootsie Rolls.

•**Liquid** is kept in eyedrop bottles, mouthwash bottles, and may even be mixed with a drink in a water or sports drink bottle.

Why Teens Are At Risk

Teens are vulnerable for several reasons:

- These drugs do not have to be smoked, injected, or snorted. It is as easy as popping a pill or taking a drink.
- The rave culture promotes acceptance, which can be very appealing to a teen who doesn't seem to "fit in." Not all ravers or clubbers use drugs, but it's likely that a teen will be exposed to drug use at a rave or club.
- Club drug use is not limited to raves and parties; teens are using these drugs at school and at home.
- Teens give little thought to the dangers and long-term effects because the short-term "high" is very exhilarating and intense.

Warning Signs

Behavior

Look for sudden changes in behavior. Club drug users will experience episodes of acute euphoria while on a drug, followed by severe bouts of depression. Other warning signs include withdrawal from family, sudden changes in friends, and keeping odd hours.

Paraphernalia

Look for numerous items as described in this brochure that may indicate a teen is involved in the rave culture.

Symbols

Look for symbols associated with club drugs or the rave culture.

PLUR: stands for "peace, love, unity, respect," the motto of the rave culture.



Butterfly: a symbol associated with Ecstasy.



Sexual Assault

Some club drugs are also called "date rape drugs" because they have been used to commit sexual assault. Ketamine and GHB are the most commonly used date rape drugs because they



- lower a person's inhibitions
- incapacitate the victim, making it difficult to defend one's self
- cause amnesia, leaving the victim with no memory of the attack
- are odorless and colorless, making them difficult to detect in a drink

However, any substance that distorts reality or impairs judgment can be used to facilitate sexual assault.

It's a Crime!

A person can be charged with rape if sexual intercourse takes place and

- 1) the victim has not consented and the actor knows the victim is unconscious, unaware that the act is occurring, or physically unable to resist; or
- 2) the actor intentionally impaired the power of the victim to appraise or control his or her conduct by administering any substance without the victim's knowledge.

It is a third degree felony to give a person a controlled substance without his or her knowledge.

What to Do in an Emergency

If you suspect someone has been drugged, call 911 immediately or get to a hospital right away. Take a sample of the drink with you if possible.

If you suspect someone has been raped, call the local rape crisis center. The victim should go to the hospital without urinating, showering, brushing teeth, or changing clothes. Some drugs leave the system within 4 hours, so it's important to see a doctor and contact law enforcement immediately

Remember, if a person is sexually assaulted, even after willingly taking drugs, he or she is not at fault.

Resources

For more information on substance abuse, call the Utah Division of Substance Abuse at 801-538-3939 or go to www.hsdsa.state.ut.us

For questions about sexual assault, call the Utah Rape and Sexual Assault 24-hour Crisis and Information Line at 888-421-1100

For information about this brochure, call the Utah Attorney General's Office at 801-538-9600 or 800-AG4-INFO

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CLUB DRUGS



NOTHING TO RAVE ABOUT