



# Idaho Drug Free Youth

## Skits Book



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Skits



Title: **A Team Player**

Group Size: 4 actors/actresses needed

Materials: Football, small mirror, powdered substance, a few loose pages of paper

Setting: Carl, the school's star running back, is at his locker. He is nervous because there is a big game tomorrow. Larry and John are standing with their backs to the audience. They are talking quietly. Jim, the quarterback enters stage left.

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Carl: (Tossing Jim a football as he enters) What's up Jim?

Jim: Are you ready to humiliate them? (Slaps his hand)

Carl: I'll do my best

Jim: See you at practice (Walks off stage right)

(Carl turns to go to class and bumps into Larry and John who have crossed to downstage center)

Larry: What's up Carl? You ready for the big game tomorrow?

Carl: I don't know man. I'm a little nervous. I haven't had a good practice all week and I haven't scored in three games. Plus, the coach is on my back about my grades.

John: (Walking away, unconcerned) That's too bad man.

Larry: (Pulling John downstage right) John, come here for a minute.

John: Hey, what're ya doin'? We gotta get to lunch!

Larry: I was thinking man, since Carl seems real down and he's pretty cool why don't we give him some of our "blow"?

John: No way man! I paid a lot of money for that stuff.

Larry: Calm down, I'll give him some of mine.

John: (Grabbing Larry's shirt) You know I don't want a lot of people knowing about this!

Larry: Relax! Nobody's gonna find out anything. (Turns back to Carl)  
Listen man, if you're so down we got something to pick you up.

Carl: Yeah? What?

Larry: Coke man.

Carl: What?

Larry: Don't act stupid. Cocaine, Slick... "Blow"

Carl: What? Are you guys crazy? That stuff's dangerous.

John: See, we offer it to him and he acts like a wussie about it.

Carl: Why don't you shut up! I just don't know if I want to do it. That's all.

Larry: There's nothing to be afraid of. Don't listen to that crap your health teacher fills you up with.

Carl: I don't know man.

John: Hey listen, if you change your mind you know where to find us.

Larry: All right, we're outta here.

Carl: Later

(John and Larry start to go off stage left and Carl starts to go off stage right. After a few steps, they all freeze. Beat. Carl then moves and establishes a boy's room. John and Larry turn and enter. The freeze denotes passage of time and a scene change.)

Carl: (Combing his hair in the mirror) What are you guys doing? I thought you both had a class this period.

John: We do, but we needed a little break.

Larry: Now's our chance man. We're about to cruise through the rest of the day. Go watch the door.

(Carl moves to the door as John takes out a vial of coke and a small mirror. After cutting up a few lines, Larry and John turn their backs to the audience and snort a couple. Then Larry turns to the audience and speaks to John.)

Larry: How is it man?

John: It's wild man! (Passes some to Carl)

Carl: Hold up dude. I don't think I'm going to do it.

John: Hey, if you don't want our help, then get out of here and forget that you ever saw us!!

Carl: You guys are messed up in the head. I thought you were my friends, but you're nothing but a couple of druggies.

John: Who are you calling druggies? (John lunges at Carl. Larry stops him)  
You just better watch your back!

Carl: Yeah, whatever.

(Larry and John exit stage left. Carl takes a few steps and freezes as before. Carl turns as Jim enters stage right)

Carl: Jim, did you get copies of the new plays Coach handed out?

Jim: Yeah, they're right here. Hey Carl, look (Points over the audience)  
There's a police car outside. I wonder what's going on?

Carl: I don't know, but I have a pretty good idea. Come on, let's get out of here.  
(They walk off as the lights fade to black)

Title: **People Who Join**

Group Size: 9 actors/actresses -- 1 narrator and 8 others

Materials: Microphone (optional)

Setting: Narrator begins speaking

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Narrator: Many students join Idaho Drug Free Youth. Some join for the right reasons and some for the wrong reasons. Let's look at some of the students that may join and the reasons they join.

First there is Obedient Oliver:

He joined because mom, dad, or some teacher told him he should and he "always does what he is told." In this case, he did the right thing. However, he has given the decision little of his own thought; therefore, he is not fully committed to the idea, and plans to do little for the alcohol and drug problem in his school. He is not going to show any enthusiasm toward the program and will do only what is expected. His motto:

Oliver: Never do more than you have to

Narrator: Next comes Perfect Paula:

She joined because she feels she is better than those who drink and use drugs. She is willing to be seen and is willing to hear about alcohol and drug abuse but is very judgmental about others. Since she never made a mistake about alcohol or other drugs, she expects that all students should be able to resist the temptation to use. Her motto:

Paula: Be like me

Narrator: Then comes Hypocritical Harry:

He sees everyone's faults but not his own. He is always ready to stick it to someone for their weaknesses. He spends his time talking about others. We can't expect him to help work, because it is easier for him to be critical of others than it is to work. He may "use" some but would not want anyone, especially adults, to find out. To adults he looks like "Mr. Clean" but to the other students who know, he gives the group a bad name. His motto:

Harry: The less everyone knows, the better

Narrator: Here comes Shirking Samantha:

She wants to be part of the movement but won't spend any time or energy to promote the program. She never takes a job or a leadership role. She wouldn't confront using friends and certainly would never tell on anyone else. Her motto:

Samantha: Do your own thing as long as it hurts no one but the user

Narrator: Then there is Burnout Bobby:  
He has used so often that he can't think clearly about it. He is so deluded by drugs that he thinks no one knows about his use. He thinks he can do all things better when he is high. Why not join Drug Free Youth? He feels that this might be a neat group to hide his use. He may think that joining this group will make the whole program look bad. To feel better about his own use, he uses the motto:

Bobby: Everyone is doing it

Narrator: Then there is Why Not Willie:  
Without giving the idea much thought, he will join because a friend joined or it looks like everyone is joining. He says, "Why not join in - it will look good on my resume." He just goes with the crowd - if they are straight, he will be too. If they get high, then he will. After all, the Drug Free Youth sign-up is only his name on a piece of paper. It doesn't matter if he keeps the commitment. His motto:

Willie: Go with the flow

Narrator: Next comes Popular Patricia:  
She is out to impress those adults around her. She wants to be popular with straight kids as well as her group of using friends. She wants to look good to both groups and win their support. She may run for Student Council or Class President. If she is active in Drug Free Youth and has a few drinks with the other group, she can have the best of everything. After all, partying is part of growing up and a way of showing who you are. Isn't it? Her motto:

Patricia: You can't beat them, so you might as well join them

Narrator: Most of you are Typical Tina or Tom:  
You have decided it is best to join with others who have made the choice to not use any mind-altering chemicals.

You realize you have lots to learn about life and you know that chemicals interfere with that learning. You know the damage drugs can do to you and you grow to maturity: physically, socially, emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually. You know that any use is illegal. Therefore, you agree to abstain for at least this school year as you seek to get your "highs" from life.

You care enough about your friends that you don't want to stand by and watch them destroy themselves without trying to do something about it. You are willing to care for them and to encourage them to seek help.

You also realize that use of drugs or alcohol hurts persons other than the user. You know the negative influence of a use can lead many others into trouble. Therefore, you choose to be a positive role model. You are taking the right stand in the issue of alcohol and other drugs.

You want to be all you can be -- drug free -- as you strive to reach your goals and potential. You realize that one way you can become involved in the war on drugs right now is to choose not to use and to use your influence to encourage your friends to join you in not using.

Your motto: I care about myself. To a friend I'll lend a hand. That's why I'm committed to Drug Free Youth

You are willing to let your light shine for a drug-free America.  
Congratulations on your wise choice to be one of the Drug Free Youth.

Title: **Maturity**

Group Size: 4 to 7 actors/actresses per scene, 1 narrator and 3 to 6 others

Materials: See each scene

Setting: Varies by scene

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Title: Scene I

Group Size: 4 actors/actresses - 1 narrator standing to the side and observing scene

Materials: Fake cigarette and beer can

Setting: To teens (A & B) in casual dress with a cigarette or joint being smoked in secret. Two teens dressed as adults (1 & 2) with fake beer in hand  
The two students are talking while they are engaged in lighting up a joint and smoking it on a street corner when suddenly two adults come upon them and startle them. The teens attempt to hide what they are doing but the adults see them and comment on it. Both groups freeze after talking

Teen A: I sure am tired of hearing all this stuff about drugs, aren't you?

Teen B: Yeah, if those Columbians would quit growing so much of it we wouldn't have any drug problems. No dope, no problem. (Laughs)

Adult 1: Darn kids and drugs, it's sickening isn't it?

Adult 2: It sure is. They just don't know what they're doing to themselves.  
(Everyone freezes in their positions)

Narrator: Kids blame adults, adults blame kids, and we all blame the drug cartels in Columbia. The truth is: even if we were able to stop all the imported drugs into America we would still have the nation's number one killer produced daily in the US - alcohol. Accept the reality that you can change your attitude, not the world... so do it!

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Title: Scene II

Group Size: 3 actors/actresses - 1 narrator standing to the side observing the scene

Materials: Table, cafeteria type tray

Setting: 2 teens in counter revolutionary clothing (wild, torn jackets and jeans, shades) and 1 teen in average clean-cut attire  
2 teens (A & B) at lunch room table in wild dress, eating lunch. Clean cut teen (C) sits down at another table (or at opposite end) and they pause to look him over.

Teen A: Hey, check out the prep. I'll bet your mama dresses you every morning.

Teen B: Yeah, if you wanna run with the best, dress like the rest (A & B give each other "high five" handshake)

Teen C: Get real, this is the 90's not the 60's. If you run with the best, you dress for success. (Picks up tray and leaves)  
(Everyone freezes in their positions)

Narrator: Adapt to the age in which you live. Don't live in the past or future, but in the now! Trying to live like everyone else is a put down on your own uniqueness. You are special.

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Title: Scene III

Group Size: 3 actors/actresses - 1 narrator standing to the side observing the scene

Materials: None

Setting: 3 teens (A, B, & C) standing in a circle talking  
Teen A suggests that they try stealing some cigarettes and beer from a local package store. Teen B agrees, but teen C is hesitant

Teen A: Hey, let's do something different. I bet we can get by the cashier at the curb market with no problem.

Teen B: Yeah, she can't see all three of us at the same time. I'll get a 4 pack of coolers, you get the cigarettes, and you keep her busy talking. It'll be a breeze. Are you in? (Pointing to teen C)

Teen C: Uh, yeah... I guess so. (Cautiously) You guys sure we won't get caught?

Teen A: Hey man, getting caught is for children. Besides, I've done it before and just think of the good times awaiting. (They walk off together)  
(Everyone freezes in their positions)

Narrator: Is this guy for real? Be yourself, not what somebody else expects you to be. Stealing is punishable by law - and he's not a lawyer.

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Title: Scene IV  
Group Size: 6 actors/actresses - 1 narrator standing to the side observing the scene  
Materials: Podium with chairs facing it  
Setting: Student A leads a senior class meeting on a choice of bands for the senior dance. Several bands are mentioned and a heated discussion takes place among the students.

Student A: The floor is open for nominations of bands for the senior dance.

Student B: How about E-Z, they play a lot of really great songs of their own and we can get them easily because they went to this school.

Student C: No way! Nobody wants to hear those guys. Besides, we want some music to get down on - you know - party with - some soul music and rap.

Student D: I think X-Static would do the job perfectly. Man, those gals really know how to rock-n-roll.

Student E: I like a good mix of country and soft rock cause I like to slow dance.

Student F: Get with it man! Nobody is gonna vote for country when they can rock. (Emphatically) I say we go with X-Static!

Student A: Hold it, hold it! It seems like everybody wants it their way to suit their own personal taste. I've got an idea. What if we have a battle of the bands and invite them all to play at different times? That way we get a little of everything and we can charge a greater admission to pay for the bands - kind of a concert and a dance.

(Everyone freezes in their positions)

Narrator: We must all develop the capacity to live with other people by learning to give and take. We all have the right to be heard but should be flexible in what we will accept so that all concerned feel a part of the solution - not a source of the problem.

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Title: Scene V  
Group Size: 2 actors/actresses - 1 narrator standing to the side observing the scene  
Materials: Books  
Setting: 2 students walking to class with books  
2 students are discussing the upcoming music concert. One has purchased tickets, the other doesn't have a job and can't afford to go.

Student A: Have you got your tickets to the \_\_\_\_\_(pick a band) concert yet? I hear it's gonna be a sell out.

Student B: Ooh, I want to go so bad, but I'm broke and besides my folks don't like me going out alone.

Student A: I tell you what... I'll buy your ticket and ask your folks if you can go with me. But the next outing is on you, okay?

Student B: I don't know if I'll be able to pay you back that soon. I'm not working yet.

Student A: It's okay. I said the next outing. I didn't say concert. Besides, we're friends forever. Right?

(Everyone freezes in their positions)

Narrator: Friendship goes beyond what we do with other people, to what we can do for other people. Sharing and helping others makes friendship meaningful and mutual.

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Title: Scene VI

Group Size: 5 actors/actresses - 1 narrator standing to the side observing the scene

Materials: Bench or 4 chairs

Setting: 4 students sitting on a bench  
4 students are waiting for a bus, see a shiny new automobile pass by and engage in discussion as to how they can acquire one. The car parks and the driver hurries out.

Student A: Hey check out the new “Z” - Totally awesome!

Student B: Too cool, and in just the right color. Wheels and everything.

Student C: I’ve got to have one man. I’d be so tough, too hard to handle.

Student D: Quit dreaming dude. That’s 30 grand you’re talking about. Where are you gonna get that kind of money... (Jokingly) Publisher’s Clearing House?  
(Everyone laughs)

Student C: Yeah, you just check out this action. (He leaves and heads toward the car)  
Hey, look the keys are in the ignition. Let’s go for a ride. I’ll get my wheels sooner than I thought! (He signals and the others run toward the vehicle)  
(Everyone freezes in their positions)

Narrator: Most of us dream of driving an exotic, expensive, sports car, but when our dreams force us into making quick decisions, often our realities are terrifying. Accepting a challenge toward personal gratification usually brings unhappiness to us and others. Easy come, easy go - the question is where you wind up going - jail or juvie.

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Title: Scene VII

Group Size: 3 actors/actresses - 1 narrator standing to the side observing the scene

Materials: None

Setting: 2 students (1 & 2) and 1 adult (teacher)  
2 students are discussing last night’s ball game and how well one of them played. The teacher comments

Student 1: Great game last night. You blew them off the court - 26 points, 10 assists, and that dunk was chilling.

Student 2: Watch me next week against Northeast High. You ain’t seen nothing yet.

Teacher: Great game on the court last night. However, I’d like to see you excel equally in class. I believe you can, I’d like to help.

Student 1: Ah, who needs grades when you can play like my man. He's going pro... I bet you! He'll be drafted right out of school.

Teacher: No doubt he's got the potential to get there, but staying there is the other 98%. I'd like to be sure he stays, but he can't play forever. What does he do after ball?

Student 2: Thanks, maybe you're right.  
(Everyone freezes in their places)

Narrator: Sometimes just saying "thank you" is all that's needed to be said. Those who want the best for us will usually give more when we're humble than when we're egotistical. Use their wisdom to help set your goals.

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Title: Scene VIII

Group Size: 2 actors/actresses - 1 narrator standing to the side observing the scene

Materials: Boom-box with rap music

Setting: 2 teens standing with boom-box playing a popular rap tune  
The two students are listening to the music, trying to rap with the music and imitate the rap artists

Teen 1: This new tape by "D-Boyz" is deaf jam... They sure can rap.

Teen 2: And it's real! Man, I wonder where they get their ideas from.

Teen 1: Life- man, they get their stuff from life. Turn it up and listen (They listen)

Teen 2: But how do they do it? I mean, put it all together?

Teen 1: Man you've gotta have agents, live in a big city, and get discovered first. Fat chance of that happening. No way we will ever be heard.  
(Everyone freezes in their positions)

Narrator: Rap music, like many other forms, was born out of individuals needing to express themselves. If these guys were as busy rapping into a blank tape as they are listening to a pre-recorded one perhaps their personal expressions would someday be heard. Use things so they serve you instead of you being enslaved by them. Boom boxes play but they also record. What's your rap?

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Title: Scene IX

Group Size: 3 actors/actresses - 1 narrator standing to the side observing the scene

Materials: None

Setting: 3 students wearing the new wave hair styles they've cut themselves and talking about the new wave cuts agree to wear them to school despite the school dress code

Student A: How do you like my lines? (Referring to diagonal patterns cut into his hair)

Student B: Hey - mine point to my initials inside a heart

Student C: Bet you two will get rave reviews tomorrow. I might wind up cutting heads for the whole school before long.

Student A: Think we'll get some flack from teachers and stuff.

Student B: So what? It's our hair and what difference does it make? There's no law against haircuts. I'm an individual!

(Everyone freezes in their places)

Narrator: There are many ways of getting attention. The question is: once we get the attention, what do we do with it and where does it get us? Fads come and go quickly... so do those who get suspended. Better to be known by who you are rather than what you are.

Title: **The Party Animals**

Group Size: 4 actors/actresses - 1 narrator and 3 others

Materials: Halloween scar make-up, casket or sheet

Setting: Begins with narrator standing alone mid-stage

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Narrator: All of us here are proud to live a drug free life because drug free is the way to be. So just remember and take it in stride. In the war against drugs, Drug Free Youth is on your side.

On the TV we see SPUDS McKenzie as a party animal. I want you to meet some real party animals and see some results of the party lifestyle.

Student 1: (Enters with a large scar made from Halloween make-up on face. Says with a flippant attitude)

Sure, I like to party and when it is over I have to drive myself home. I did total my wheels but I am lucky cause I was only cut on one side of my face and I still have a “good” side. (Turns to show his “good side) It will not happen to me again.

Student 2: (Entering) I used to party a lot but it has cost me several good friends and now I have lost the trust of my parents. My scars don’t show. They are all on the inside.

Student 3: (Enters with pronounced limp) Yeah! Partying was fun but the accident left me with permanent knee damage. I guess I can kiss my athletic scholarship good-bye.

(Dim lights and move casket onto stage. If no casket, have a student come in and lie down in front of the others with a sheet over their entire body to depict a dead person. Turn spotlight onto casket or dead person)

Narrator: Some folks are not that lucky

Title: **The Decision On Sex**

Group Size: 4 actors/actresses - 1 girl, 1 boyfriend, pro and con

Materials: Chair to set middle stage

Setting: A teenage girl considering whether or not to have sex with her boyfriend

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Girl: (Enters stage and sits in chair)

Pro and Con: (Enter stage and kneel at either side of girl, slightly behind the chair)

Girl: I just don't know what to do. I've been seeing Larry for over a year now. And he wants me to go a little farther than I'm really ready for. One side of me wants to, but the other just doesn't know. I wish I knew what to do.  
(Puts head in her hands)

Pro: You'll lose him if you don't do it.

Con: He won't respect you anymore.

Pro: All your friends are doing it.

Con: You might get pregnant.

Pro: If you cared about him, you'd do it!

Con: You might get VD or AIDS!

Pro: You'd be a REAL woman then.

Con: You'd be in big trouble if your parents found out.

Pro: You would be deepening your relationship with him.

Con: You might get a bad reputation.

Girl: I have to decide for myself. You know, until I'm 100% sure of my feelings "No" will be my answer. I can't put the relationship back together if I say yes and it is a wrong choice.

Boy: (Enters stage) Hi! Your mom let me in. Listen are you ready to go?  
(Extends hand to girl)

Girl: Yes (Pause) and no.

Title: **A Pretty Good Time**

Group Size: 4 actors/actresses - 2 girls, 2 boys

Materials: None

Setting: Melissa and Jean are talking on the right side of the stage. Melissa is a quiet girl and Jean is her best friend. Mark and Bob are talking on the left side of the stage. Mark has a reputation as a lady's man around school. The girls freeze when the boys talk and vice versa. The boys are frozen as the girls begin the scene.

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Melissa: I can't believe what happened!

Jean: When?

Melissa: Last night...

Jean: Didn't you go out?

Melissa: Yeah, with Mark... He's in our biology class.

Jean: Whew... He's hot!

Melissa: Well, he got a little overheated last night.

Jean: What do you mean?

Melissa: He picked me up around 7:30. We were going to get something to eat and catch a movie. The food wasn't bad, but I can't say much for the restaurant. (Freezes in conversation)

Bob: (Unfreezing) So, who was the lucky girl last night?

Mark: Melissa

Bob: Melissa? You've got to be kidding!

Mark: What's wrong with her?

Bob: Nothing. I just didn't think she was your type... So how was the movie?

Mark: Let's just say we never made it to the movie. (Freezes in conversation)

Jean: (Unfreezing) What movie did you see?

Melissa: Well... We didn't quite make it to the movie.

Jean: What do you mean you didn't quite make it to the movie? (Freezes)

Bob: (Unfreezing) So what happened? Did she dump you?

Mark: (Smugly) No.

Bob: You hit it off right from the start?

Mark: Don't I always?

Bob: Where did you go if you didn't go to the movies?

Mark: Well, we started off at this really romantic restaurant. The food was all right, but it was the atmosphere that really counted.

Bob: Mark and his magic charm won out again.

Mark: I can't take all the credit. She was quite charming herself. (Freezes)

Melissa: (Unfreezing) When we left the restaurant, the movie he wanted to see had already started. So, I suggested we go somewhere and talk and he said the beach. I've gone to the beach on other dates; I didn't think that it was a big deal. We hung out for a while and talked...

Jean: Then what happened? (Freezes)

Bob: (Unfreezing) I don't know Mark. Melissa seems kind of quiet.

Mark: That's the way they all seem until they get to know me.

Bob: Sounds like she got to know you pretty well last night!

Mark: Yeah, I guess the restaurant put her in a good mood. As a matter of fact, she got pretty friendly after dinner when we drove down to the beach. (Freezes)

Melissa: (Unfreezing) At first it was really nice. We went for a walk on the beach and talked. He even held my hand. We sat down on the sand and watched the waves...

Jean: Well...

Melissa: He kissed me. Then he kissed me again... Then, he started to get real rough. I tried to push him off, but he was too strong...

Jean: Oh my god! Are you all right? Are you sure you're okay?

Melissa: I don't know... I guess so. But I'm scared. Why did this happen to me? What did I do?

Jean: You didn't do anything Melissa! It wasn't your fault! You were raped!

Melissa: I don't know... I did go to the beach with him alone.

Jean: Yeah, maybe that was a mistake. But that does not justify what he did! What are you going to do about it?

Melissa: Do about it! What can I do about it? I just won't go out with him any more; or any other guy for that matter!

Jean: You could tell the police.

Melissa: Oh sure, so everybody knows! Are you crazy? And you better not tell anything to anybody either. Okay? (Storms off)

Jean: (Following her) Melissa!

Bob: (Unfreezing) So, are you gonna take her out again?

Mark: Sure. I think she had a pretty good time last night.  
(They walk off as the lights fade out)

Title: **It's Been A Real Long Time**

Group Size: 5 actors/actresses

Materials: None

Setting: Five actors are standing in a line. Their lines should effectively overlap to give the impression that only one actor is indeed speaking

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1: It's been a real long time since I've seen my mother...  
1 and 2: I mean, yeah,  
2: sure, I see her before I go to bed  
2 and 3: and she's there when  
3: I wake up, but those are the only times I  
3 and 4: see  
4: my mom. Mostly,  
4 and 5: She's either  
5: out with some guy  
5 and 1: getting all "coked-up"  
1: or getting so drunk  
1 and 2: that she'd come home  
2: and throw the keys across the room;  
2 and 3: always hitting something new.  
3: The worse thing about it is that she'd never  
3 and 4: remember  
4: what happened the day before.  
4 and 5: I'd be sleeping and  
5: she's storm in and start hitting me.  
5 and 1: Not one of those slaps  
1: you get for making a wise-crack comment.  
1 and 2: It's the kind  
2: you get across the face with a leather strap  
2 and 3: when you don't get the milk home on time.  
3: Sometimes she would just throw all my books at me and say:  
4: "Get out of the house and don't screw up in school!"  
1, 2, and 5: And don't bother coming home  
1: cause if you do  
1 and 2: you will regret  
1, 2, and 3: ever being  
All: BORN!  
3: The next morning she'd be sober  
4: and things would be back to normal.  
5: Normal!  
1: Whatever that is.  
2: Yeah  
4: Yeah  
3: Yeah  
1: It's been a really long time since I've seen my mother

Title: **Jennifer**

Group Size: 1 actor/actress

Materials: None

Setting: A male or female standing alone on stage, visibly upset.

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Jennifer was beautiful, intelligent and always fun to be with. I thought we had the perfect friendship. We shared everything, and we were always open and caring.

Jennifer's mother died three months ago and she was crushed. I mean she was totally depressed. She walked around with this empty stare all the time. She became moody. She was happy one second and crying the next. All of her friends were worried about her. Jennifer told everyone, even me, to just leave her alone cause she'd be all right.

Last month I began to notice other changes in her. She just didn't care how she looked. Her clothes were wrinkled, her hair wasn't combed, and she wasn't wearing any make-up. Jennifer was always tired and was falling asleep in her classes. Her average dropped from an "A" to a "D" and she didn't care.

Jennifer wasn't eating either.

This last week had been the hardest since her mom died. First, she found out she was two months pregnant. She knew the only person she'd ever been with was Mike, a high school drop-out. It had happened the night she got drunk trying to forget her mother's death. Jennifer knew she couldn't bring herself to have an abortion, and the thought of having a baby scared her to death. Then came the family emergency. Her father had to go to California to help with her aunt who was in the hospital with cancer.

I guess Jennifer felt alone. I tried to call her all week but I didn't get an answer. I was really worried about her and went over to her house two or three times, but that didn't help either. I thought she knew I was always here; always willing to help. I guess I was wrong.

Yesterday, Jennifer's father came home. He found Jennifer hanging in the bathroom. She had committed suicide. She left a real short note.

Once there was a girl named Jennifer. She was beautiful, intelligent and fun to be with. She was my friend and I will miss her.

Title: **A Lot of Reasons Why I Don't Drink**

Group Size: 2 actors/actresses

Materials: None

Setting: 2 people talking

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A: How come you don't drink anymore?

B: Any more than who?

A: I mean any longer. How come you don't drink anything these days?

B: Drink? I drink... Milk, water, pop, fruit juice, ice cream shakes...

A: I mean drink, you know... booze.

B: Oh booze. No, I don't drink booze anymore. You're right. I couldn't trust it. It turned on me... Became my enemy.

A: Maybe you got a bad batch

B: No, the sauce is the same. I changed. I have the illness of alcoholism. Alcoholism doesn't come in bottles, it comes in people.

A: Sounds pretty confusing

B: You think you're confused! You should have seen me. I drank for happiness and became unhappy. I drank for joy and became miserable. I drank to be outgoing and became self-centered. I drank for sociability and became argumentative and lonely. I drank for sophistication and became crude and obnoxious. I drank for friendship and made enemies. I drank to soften sorrow and wallowed in self-pity. I drank for sleep and awakened without rest. I drank for strength and felt weak. I drank to prove my masculinity and it sapped my potency. I drank medicinally and got sick. I drank because I thought my job called for it and I lost my job. I drank for relaxation and got the shakes. I drank for confidence and became uncertain. I drank for courage and became afraid. I drank for assurance and became doubtful. I drank for stimulate thought and blacked out. I drank to make conversation and it tied my tongue. I drank for warmth and lost my cool. I drank for coolness and lost my warmth. I drank to feel heavenly and came to know hell. I drank to forget and became haunted. I drank for freedom and became a slave. I drank for power and became powerless. I drank to erase problems and saw them multiply. I drank to cope with life and invited death. I drank because I had the right and everything turned out wrong.

A: Gosh, that must have taken a bunch of booze to get you in that shape!

B: Just one. The first one. For me, one's too many and a thousand's not enough.

A: So that's why you don't drink anymore?

B: Yes, I made it a rule. I'm sober and making my own choices for life and fun.

Title: **Turn Around**

Group Size: 13 actors/actresses - At least 2 girls and 2 boys

Materials: The song “Total Eclipse of the Heart” by Bonnie Tyler from album Total Eclipse of the Heart. 7 t-shirts or signs that read Tobacco, Alcohol, Pot, Speed, Meth, Cocaine, and Heroin on front and back. Party drug props such as beer cans and joints

Setting: Entire play is done without ever talking. Drugs are lined up center-back of stage. On left side of stage is daughter, sibling, mother and dad. On the right side of the stage are the friends and boyfriend.

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Daughter appears to be getting ready. She plays with her hair as Mom and Sibling look on and “help” her. Dad is standing somewhat apart watching. Boyfriend crosses from right side of the stage to the left and “knocks”. Dad answers the door with daughter standing expectantly behind him. Dad and boyfriend shake hands and appear to talk. Daughter smiles, hugs Mom and Sibling and steps in front of Dad. Dad points to his watch and shakes finger at Boyfriend and Daughter. They nod together and walk to right side of stage. As they’re walking away Dad “closes” the door.

Boyfriend and Daughter arrive at the party at the right side of the stage. They dance with the Friends. Beer cans and joints are passed around. After a while the Daughter starts to stagger about as if she’s very drunk. Boyfriend does not appear drunk and seems somewhat disgusted with Daughter’s actions. Meanwhile (stage left) Dad is pointing to his watch and looking questioningly at Mom. She is shrugging her shoulders and shaking her head. Sibling is watching, looking confused and frightened.

Boyfriend looks at watch and tries to drag Daughter toward left side of stage. She resists, and then finally gives up. She waves good-bye to friends, and staggers toward left side of stage with Boyfriend supporting her. They arrive at the door. It is apparent they are trying to be quiet. She drops her keys and as they are trying to pick them up Dad opens the door. He is obviously very angry. He points to his watch and Daughter and glares at Boyfriend. Boyfriend looks like he is about to speak, but Dad makes chopping motion with his hand and points to stage-right. Boyfriend shrugs and walks back to party scene with friends.

Dad pulls daughter “inside”. She is staggering and appears to be giggling. He glares at her and appears to be yelling. Mom is trying to calm Dad, but is not doing any good. He points to his watch and angrily pantomimes drinking. Daughter shrugs. Sibling is watching on looking very scared. Dad raises hand to strike Daughter and Mom catches his arm before he is able to actually hit her. Daughter staggers out the door. She falls center stage and looks back at stage left, but Dad, Mom, and Sibling have all turned their backs on her and have frozen.

Daughter gets up and walks toward stage right toward Friends and Boyfriend. However, they also have their backs turned to her. (Music starts here)

Daughter wanders in center stage for a short time looking at her family and then back to her friend who all still have their backs to her. She walks over to the line of drugs. She walks up and down the line looking at them thoughtfully and a bit scared. She taps tobacco on the shoulder and Tobacco turns around as the music says “turn around.” They look at each other for a little while and then at the next phrase of “turn around” they embrace and dance slowly for a short time. (This is more effective if it is done slowly.)

After Daughter has danced with Tobacco it resumes its place in line now facing forward. Then Daughter slowly works her way down the line of drugs repeating the same actions she took with Tobacco. However, as she progresses they dance faster and she begins to lose control. After the drugs resume their place in line they link hands with the previous drugs and begin to form a horse-shoe shape around the Daughter and the drug she is currently dancing with. When the Daughter has danced with the last drug the drugs form a circle around her all holding hands.

They walk around her in a circle. At first she seems very happy. She spins in circles smiling as though all her problems are gone. Then she begins to look outside the circle of drugs. She tries (passively) to get out of the circle by pulling at hands. However, she cannot get out. (There is a change in the music and it gets louder and darker.) At this point the drugs begin to swing their hands violently and walk faster. Daughter looks very worried now. She runs from one side of the circle to the other trying to get out.

Boyfriend crosses from stage right and tries to reach into the circle to help her. However, they cannot grab hands. The drugs knock their arms out of each others’ reach. Boyfriend runs to stage right and gets friends. Together they all try to get Daughter out, but nobody can get her out of the circle. She looks terrified and as though she’ll cry. Boyfriend runs to stage left and gets Dad, Mom and Sibling. They all run back to the circle and keep trying to get her out. Dad is finally able to grab her hand and yanks her out of the circle of drugs. (Break in between Tobacco and Acid). Dad and Daughter hug. Drugs return to line in back of stage facing forward. Daughter hugs Mom, Boyfriend, Sibling and Friends.

Dad points to the line of drugs facing forward and pushes the daughter towards them. She shakes her head and tries to walk the other way. However, the Dad firmly pushes her towards the drugs and she slowly walks back over to them looking scared, but determined. As she approaches Acid the drug steps forward to give her a hug. She grabs Acid by the shoulders and forces it to turn around. Acid is now facing away from the audience. As she moves down the line doing this it gets harder and harder for her to turn the drugs back around. When she gets to Tobacco she hugs the drug again and dances with it. Then Dad steps in and breaks them apart. Tobacco goes back to standing in line facing forward. Daughter grabs its shoulders and turns Tobacco around, but it turns around again to face front. She again turns it around only to have it turn around and face front on its own. Finally, the Dad and Daughter together turn Tobacco around and it remains facing away from the audience. Dad and Daughter hug. Mom, Sibling, Friends and Boyfriend join in a big group hug. Drugs take off their drug t-shirts and join the group hug until music ends.

Title: **The Real Alcoholic**

Group Size: 7 actors/actresses - 1 narrator and 6 others

Materials: 6 chairs set up across the stage, microphone (optional)

Setting: Narrator is standing at the end of the line of chairs on the left side of the stage.

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Narrator: The topic for today is alcoholism. I'd like to present the different types of alcoholics. One type is the problem drinker.

1: (Interrupting) Wait one minute! I am NOT an alcoholic. I have so many problems... I got expelled from school, my parents kicked me out of the house, I don't have any money and we're out of Miracle Whip. Yeah, I drink to forget about my problems, but I'm not an alcoholic.

Narrator: You are becoming a problem to my presentation. Please have a seat. The next type of alcoholic is the celebrator.

2: Now wait one minute, I am not an alcoholic. I only drink to celebrate. There are so many things to celebrate... Today is \_\_\_\_, I got an A on a test, my cat had kittens. I only drink to celebrate.

Narrator: Please give me something to celebrate and sit down.

2: Well, okay, but I'm not an alcoholic.

Narrator: The next type of alcoholic that I'd like to introduce is the 3 martini lunch businessman.

3: Wait one minute sir. I am certainly not an alcoholic. I just drink to make my clients feel more at ease. If I don't drink with them, they won't buy my products.

Narrator: Well, if you keep interrupting your clients like you've been interrupting me, they won't do business with you anyway. Please take a seat. Next, we have the partier alcoholics whose lives are one big party.

(Characters 4 and 5 enter stage, holding onto one another and giggling)

4: Hold on buddy, we aren't alcoholics. We drink to have fun. (Giggling to 5) Remember when we were at that party and you went over to talk to those cute guys and you threw up in their laps?!?

5: (Giggling) Oh yeah, and remember that time we were so smashed... We passed out and woke up...

4 and 5: (together) at the bus station!

5: Yeah, what a riot.

Narrator: What charming ladies. Please sit down.

4 and 5: (Giggling) Okay, but we're not alcoholics.

Narrator: Now the final type of alcoholic, which is probably the most obvious, is the skidrow bum, the wino.

6: (Enters stage staggering) Oh now, I resent that. I'm not an alcoholic. I drink to have something to do.

Narrator: Please have a seat.

6: Uh, okay! (Trips and falls, gets up and sits in chair)

Narrator: Would the real alcoholic please stand up?

(All characters begin pointing at each other and shaking their heads when they notice someone pointing at them. Finally, all characters solemnly look at one another, pause, then supporting one another they all stand together)

Narrator: This demonstrates a common characteristic of alcoholism -- denial.

Title: **Reese Took Drugs**

Group Size: 3 actors/actresses - 1 director, A (Reese, Mom), B (Sibling, Operator, Driver)

Materials: Chair for director, cue board, mixing bowl, spoon, apron, phone, tissues, toy

Setting: Director takes center stage. His/her chair is already in place on one side of the stage. Persons A and B are already on stage.

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Director: Ok folks, let's try this again. "Reese Took Drugs" take 51  
(Claps cue board or arms and takes a seat in chair off to side of the stage)

A: (Enters holding his stomach. Shows no emotion and acts indifferently)  
Ohhhh.... Uhhh.... Ah.... Geee....

B: (Sibling skips in, sees Reese and skips over)  
Hey Reese! What's the matter? (Plays with toy)

A: Uh... I took drugs at school today.

B: You took drugs? Oh, well I guess I should go tell mom (not concerned)

A: No, don't tell. (B is already skipping away calling for Mom. A shrugs, exits, and quickly re-enters dressed as mom with apron, mixing bowl, and spoon.)

B: (Re-enters) Mom, mom....

A: Yes dear, what's wrong

B: Reese took drugs at school today

A: Oh, well go up to your room and I'll call an ambulance

B: (Shrugs) Okay. (Skips to side of stage and exits. A then picks up phone and begins dialing)

A: Ring, ring, ring

B: (B enters and puts pinky and thumb to ear as if holding a phone)  
This is the operator. How may I help you?

A: Yes, my son took drugs at school today.

B: Yes, uh-hmmm.

A: Well, could I please have an ambulance?

B: Oh very well. I'll send an ambulance over. (A hangs up and both exit. A takes off mom costume and re-enters as Reese, holding his stomach and moaning. He still acts indifferent. He falls to the stage and doesn't move. Once A is on stage B enters as the ambulance driver)  
Woo, Woo, Woo, Woo (Turning finger above head to indicate ambulance light. Gets out, walks over to A) Kids these days... (Shakes head, picks up A's feet and begins to drag him around to the ambulance)

Director: (Stands up and shouts) Cut! Cut! Something's wrong here, something's missing. This boy has just taken drugs! I think there would be a little more feeling here. Maybe some anger! Ok, let's try this again and this time show me some anger! "Reese Took Drugs" take 52! (Claps board/arm and returns to seat)

A: (Enters as Reese, holding his stomach, stomps his feet and snarls out his moans) Ohh.... Uhh... Ah....

B: (Skips in and sees Reese) Hey Reese, what's the matter?

A: (Yelling angrily) I took some drugs at school today!

B: You did what?!? (Throws toy at Reese)

A: I took drugs! Now leave me alone!

B: Fine, I'm telling mom! (Stomps off across the stage.)

A: No! Don't you go tattling!

B: Mom! Hey Mom! (Yells angrily and stomps around the stage. After calling for Mom, A stomps off, turns back, and dresses as Mom)

A: (As Mom) Yes, dear. What's wrong?

B: (Stomps over to her and yells angrily) Reese took drugs at school today and he feels sick!

A: (Angrily) He did what?

B: Reese took drugs at school today!

A: (Stutters angrily) I... Uh... Go to your room!  
(B stomps off angrily and changes to the operator)

A: Ring, ring, ring...

B: This is the operator, how may I help you?

A: My son took drugs at school today!

B: Drugs? Your son took drugs?

A: Yes, now will you get me an ambulance?

B: What kind of a mother are you?

A: (Frustrated) The ambulance please!

B: Fine! I'll send an ambulance.

(Both hang up and stomp off stage. A changes and re-enters at Reese holding his stomach, stomping his feet, and moaning angrily. Reese stomps around for a little then collapses onto the floor. B enters as the ambulance driver.)

B: Woo, Woo, Woo... (Turning finger above head to indicate ambulance light. Gets out, stomps over to A) Kids these days!! (Shakes his head, picks up A's feet and begins to drag him toward the ambulance)

Director: (Stands up and shouts) Cut! Cut! Something's still wrong here. I mean, sure you'd be angry -- this boy just took drugs. But don't you think you'd feel something more? Wouldn't this be upsetting to you? Wouldn't you be hurt? Let's do it again. Now get some feeling into this. Show me some sadness. I want to see tears! "Reese Took Drugs" Take 53!

A: (Enters as Reese holding stomach. Is whimpering out his moans) Oh... Uh... Ah...

B: (Enters and says innocently) Hey Reese, what's the matter?

A: (Crying) I took drugs at school today. (Sniff)

B: D-d-d-drugs? (Starts to cry slightly)

A: Y-y-yes. (B wails and hugs toy tightly while A wipes his eyes)

B: I... I... I... I better go tell Mom.

A: No, don't tell...

B: (Turns to head off-stage and wails) Mom! M-o-o-o-om!

A: Yes dear, what's wrong? (B runs to mom, crying. Mom puts arm around him and tries to calm him down)

B: Reese t-o-o-k d-d-d-r-u-u-g-s at school today! A-a-a-h!

A: Oh no! My baby! Honey go on up to your room and I'll call the ambulance. Ring, ring, ring

B: This is the operator, How may I help you?

A: (Cries) My son, my baby! He took drugs at school today!

B: D-d-drugs? (Cries) Oh honey!

A: Could you get me an ambulance, please?

B: Of course. I'll send one right over. (Both hang up and shuffle offstage. A re-enters as Reese holding his stomach and moaning sadly. He falls onto the floor and stops moving. B enters as the ambulance driver)

B: Woo, Woo, Woo (Turning finger above head to indicate ambulance lights. Gets out, goes over to A) Kids these days! Shakes head sadly, picks up A's feet and begins to drag him toward the ambulance)

Director: (Stands and shouts) Cut! Cut! (B drops A's feet) Something's still wrong here. We're on take 53 and it's still not right! We've done it with anger, sadness, and with 50 other emotions. We even tried being indifferent! But it's no good! There are just too many emotions involved with drugs. The best thing to do is not to take drugs in the first place and make your choices drug free.

(All nod their heads in agreement and exit)

Title: **Image Control**

Group Size: 4 actors/actresses – Con 1, Con 2, Vicky, and Savior

Materials: None

Setting: Con 1 & Con 2 enter, laughing and talking loudly

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Con 1: Hey, check out that loser. I'll bet you get dressed in the dark!

Con 2: Yeah, if you want to run with the best, dress like the rest.

Con 1: In the world of image control, appearance is everything.

Con 2: If your hair is not perfect, don't leave the house.

Con 1: If it's not firm and pumped

Con 2: Get it sucked and tucked.

Con 1: If you don't dress well, don't dress at all.

Con 2: Well, that all depends on if you have the right body.

Con 1: And what kind of body is that?

Con 1 & 2: Whatever we say it is.

Con 1: For women, bony and tall, we will call all the rage today, but petite and voluptuous may be tomorrow's whim.

Con 2: And as for men, slim and sleek one day, but pump those pecks the next.

Con 1: Short hair, long hair.

Con 2: Stand, sit, kneel.

Con 1: Obey our commands

Con 2: Or we'll make you feel inadequate.

(Vicky enters from side door)

Con 1: YOU THERE! Stop in the name of good taste! Allow me to introduce myself. I'm Petty authority Jones, image control, fashion division. All right little lady, what seems to be the trouble?

Vicky: Everything seems to be fine to me.

Con 2: Don't try to be cute with me, what's wrong with this picture? (gestures to body)

Vicky: This? Oh, well, I thought I would start a diet soon.

Con 1: Soon? Puleeze. How about right this instant! You need to lose at least a good hundred pounds to meet our new skeletal standard!

Vicky: But, I'm...

Con 2: Don't you understand that if you don't follow our image code, you are shirking your civic duty? As a citizen of this community you are bound to spend every single second of your day aspiring to the appropriate look in order to win our approval and feel good about yourself.

Vicky: I guess so...

Con 1: Guessing isn't good enough, missy. What we need here is some responsibility. I'm afraid I'm going to have to slap you with a citation for breaking the image code.

(Savior enters, stopping Con 1)

Savior: Stop! This is outrageous. You are just right the way you are. Don't judge yourself by other people's standards, especially those false ideals established by the media. No one ever meets their adequacy standards. The media manipulates us into buying things we don't need, or want for that matter. Everyone else controls what we wear, how we look, how we feel about ourselves, and what we do... even what we think! Fellow people, are we going to let them manipulate our minds and control our actions?

All: NO!

Savior: Are we going to let them invade the privacy of our homes?

All: NO!

Savior: Are we going to conform to a society where everyone is told to look the same? Where everyone is told that the way they are is not good enough?

All: NO!

Con 2: Are we gonna let them brainwash us so we forget who our kids are and then are forced into trying to kill them just like Darth Vader?

All: What?

Vicky: Good one!

Savior: Well, what are we gonna do about it?

Con 2: You're going to sit down and shut up you low-life scum!

Con 1: (Noticing a large zit on Con 2) Wait a second, what is going on here? What is that?

Con 2: What are you talking about?

Con 1: I mean that big raunchy zit on your forehead. That's disgusting! You're an embarrassment to the division. I'm going to have to write you up for this. Let's see, where is that citation book...?

Con 2: You are, are you? Well, we'll just have to see about that. What do we have here? It looks like you've put a little weight on your hips.

Con 1: (worried) Do you really think so? I've only eaten lettuce for the past three weeks!

Con 2: Yeah, well how much dressing did you put on it?

Con 1: I only put a touch of low-fat... HOLD ON THERE, ZIT HEAD! This has nothing to do with my hips and everything to do with that zit!

Con 2: Oh yeah?

Con 1: Yeah!

Con 2: Oh yeah?

Con 1: Yeah!

(Cons continue arguing—quietly—through the next patch of dialogue)

Vicky: I can't believe we ever listened to them.

Savior: We didn't have to, we just never thought to ask ourselves why we shouldn't. There's always someone who will tell you that you're not good enough or that you don't meet their expectations. It's just up to you whether you listen to them or not.

Con 2: Oh yeah?

All: YEAH!

Title: **So Here's My Story**

Group Size: 6 actors/actresses – Mike, Boss, Teacher, Girlfriend, Mom, Dad

Materials: None

Setting: Mike enters and moves to center stage

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Mike: I started smoking pot just for fun, you know? Marijuana. It was something social—I'd take a hit or two at parties every now and then. I didn't really like alcohol that much, so it was a good alternative. Besides, it was really relaxing—and fun.

I'm not really sure when the situation escalated—when it was no longer once or twice a month for fun. It didn't take long, though, and I was smoking every weekend. Just a way to relax, you know after a long week of school. Then it was a way to relax after a long day at school. And before bed. And work. And tests. And then things began to spiral down around me...

Boss: Mike can I see you in my office, please?

Mike: Sure.

Boss: Listen, Mike, you've been a good employee. But lately things have begun to slip. You've missed work a lot, been late almost every day, and haven't been paying attention to your job. If this continues, I'm going to have to let you go... Shape up or ship out—that's my motto. (Boss walks away)

Mike: My boss talking to me was a big blow—but hey, I could always get another job, right? I'll just try to be on time a little more. It'd be okay. But then...

Teacher: Mike, can I talk to you for a second?

Mike: Sure.

Teacher: Listen, Mike, your grades have been slipping.

Mike: Yeah, I don't understand this section too well.

Teacher: No, it's not just in English. It's in all your classes. If you don't shape up, you're going to fail—don't destroy your senior year this way.

Mike: I'll try harder, okay?

Teacher: We'll do anything we can to help. Just ask.

Mike: Thanks. (Teacher walks away)

So I was having trouble in school—so what? Life was good. Maybe I'd just get in an extra hour of studying at night after I met up with my boys. Or

maybe I should spend some time with my girlfriend. I haven't seen her in a while.

Girlfriend: Well, actually, Mike, about that...

Mike: Hey, hon! Where have you been hiding?

Girlfriend: I think we need to see other people.

Mike: What? Why?

Girlfriend: You know why.

Mike: I do?

Girlfriend: I'm just not important to you anymore.

Mike: But... no, that's not true.

Girlfriend: Oh, isn't it? You're always high and you're always with your low life, loser friends. I just don't want to compete anymore.

Mike: But... (she walks away)

Losing her was a big blow. But it was pretty easy to get lost in the drugs some more. Well, it was until...

Mom: Mike, we got your report card today.

Mike: Yeah, so?

Dad: You are in no position to talk back to your mother, young man.

Mom: The highest grade you managed was a C Minus, and that was in Art!

Mike: It doesn't matter. Those are only midterms.

Dad: Only midterms? You're halfway through the end of your senior year! This is what colleges are looking at... if you continue on this track you aren't going to graduate! Doesn't that bother you at all?

Mike: I don't want to go to college anyway.

Mom: Just what sort of future DO you envision for yourself, huh? Where are you going to get in life without a high school education? There are things you need to think about—and not screwing up your life is one of them!

Mike: I don't need to hear this. Later. (he walks away)

My parents are so completely bogus. Grades, teachers, school—it's all a load of crap. Why would I need an education?

Dad: Get back in here, Mike, we're not done talking to you. Get back her NOW, son or else... I'm warning you!

Mike: "I'm warning you..." whatever. Leave me alone. I need to relax...this definitely ruined what was left of my buzz. Now, where did I put my... (pantomimes searching)

Mom: That's what we weren't done talking to you about.

Mike: What?

Dad: Your mother found marijuana in your room this morning.

Mike: What?

Mom: In your dresser.

Mike: What were you doing going through my stuff? What did you think you were doing?!?

Dad: Do not speak to your mother that way.

Mom: I was putting away your laundry.

Mike: And who asked you to do that?

Mom: I've ALWAYS done that!

Mike: So what? You found a little pot in my dresser while your were invading my privacy. So what?

Mom: So we'd like you to get help.

Mike: I don't need any help—especially not from YOU.

Dad: You're only hurting yourself and your future.

Mike: Exactly. Myself and My future. MINE. So stay out of it. Just get out of my life!

(Pause—group looks at him)

I mean it! Go away!

(Pause—group still looking)

Leave me alone!

Girlfriend: I'm sorry.

Mike: Just leave!

Boss: I'm sorry.

Mike: Go!

Teacher: I'm sorry.

Mike: Please?

Mom & Dad: We're only sorry

All(except Mike): For you

Title: **Familiar Feuds**

Group Size: 7 actors/actresses – Host, Rigid family (2 female, 1 male), Easy family (1 female, 2 male)

Materials: 2 tables, 2 bells, flash cards with questions for host and percentage answers, microphone, poster boards of percentages

Setting: Tables are angled and facing each other. Rigid family on left (posed and still); Easy family on right (posed and still); curtains open and host enters stage with enthusiasm and goes between the tables.

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Host: Welcome to Familiar Feuds. On the right we have Robert, Ruth and their daughter Rene Rigid. (The Rigid family comes from their pose and position themselves behind the table on the left)

On the left we have Ed, Edna and Eric Easy. (The Easy family comes from their pose and position themselves behind the table on the right.)

You know the rules, we ask you a question based on a survey of 100 people. The 5 top answers from the survey are on these cards along with the percentage of people who chose that answer. You must get at least 2 right answers to gain points for a round. If you don't get 2 right answers, the other family gets to try. Each answer is worth the same number of points as the percentage of people in the survey who chose that answer. The family which gets the most points at the end of the game wins. Are you ready for the first question? Ring the bell when you can answer a question. First question. Hands on bells? Ready? What is the most difficult issue for teens to talk about with their parents?

Robert: (Rings bell first.)

Host: The Rigids were first. Robert?

Robert: Sex, nobody talks about sex.

Ruth: Well, I don't think it's a problem in our home, but I'll say drugs.

Rene: Oh mother, really! You two are so out of touch. The problem is curfews.

Host: Our survey said (flips his flash card):

1. Sex 42%
2. Drugs 41%
3. Pregnancy 10%
4. Suicide 4%
5. Rape 3%

Rigids: (Robert and Ruth hug each other.) Very good, mother.

Rene: (Rolls eyes and acts disinterested.)

Host: (Moves to the Easy family.) What telltale signs do teens have that alert us to drug use?

Ed: Gosh, I don't know. I guess a call from school.

Edna: Could it be the friends or people they hang out with?

Eric: Paraphernalia—like pipes, bottles, and rolling papers.

Host: Our survey said (flips flash card):

1. Paraphernalia	20%
2. Mood swings	20%
3. Changing friends	10%
4. Loss of initiative	20%
5. Curfew violations	30%

Host: The Rigids have 83 points and the Easy family has 30 points. Next question (moves to the Rigid's table) When are teens most likely to use alcohol and other drugs?

Robert: After school, for those who do. But not my kid.

Ruth: At night.

Rene: When they want to party or have fun.

Host: Sorry, only one of your answers was right. Easy family, want to try to get this one?

Ed: Special occasions like prom, graduations, and other celebrations.

Edna: When pressured.

Eric: Weekends.

Host: Our survey said:

1. Weekends	65%
2. Parties	21%
3. Celebrations	11%
4. When bored	2%
5. When pressured	1%

Easys: (hugging and jumping up and down.) All right!

Host: The Easy family has 106 points and the Rigids have 104 points. Now it is time for the bonus round. We will use Ed and Robert. You will each have 30 seconds to answer 5 questions. Robert, go off stage to our sound proof booth while Ed gives us his answers. (Wait while Robert walks off stage)

Ed here is the first question: Name the most abused drug by teens:

Ed: Alcohol

Host: A symptom of teen drug abuse?

Ed: Changing friends.

Host: The first part of the brain that alcohol destroys?

Ed: Reasoning.

Host: Major cause of deaths for 18-25 year old people?

Ed: Drug related accidents.

Host: An organ affected by drug use?

Ed: Sex glands.

Host: Lets see how many people on the survey agreed with you.

- |                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1. Alcohol          | 10% |
| 2. Changing Friends | 42% |
| 3. Reasoning        | 32% |
| 4. Accidents        | 35% |
| 5. Sex glands       | 12% |

Ed, that gives you 253 points. Bring out Robert.

Robert, Ed did real well, but you can do better. Here is the first question:  
Name the most abused drug by teens:

Robert: Alcohol

Host: Choose again.

Robert: Pot.

Host: A symptom of teen drug abuse?

Robert: Drop in grades.

Host: The first part of the brain that alcohol destroys?

Robert: Inhibitions.

Host: Major cause of deaths for 18-25 year old people?

Robert: Drug related accidents.

Host: Choose again.

Robert: Suicides.

Host: An organ affected by drug use?

Robert: Lungs.

Host: Lest see how many people on the survey agreed with you.

- |                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| 1. Pot         | 60% |
| 2. Low grades  | 58% |
| 3. Inhibitions | 68% |
| 4. Suicide     | 60% |
| 5. Lungs       | 30% |

Host: The Easy family has 253 points, the Rigid family has 400 points. Rigids, you win. (Hugs the Rigids as the Easy family begins to argue with each other in the background.)

Now audience, I want to clear up some things. We don't want you to think that the survey audience had the correct answers to all the questions. Let's correct some areas where our 100 people were not accurate.

The most abused drugs for kids are tobacco, alcohol and marijuana—in that order. The major cause of death for 14-25 year olds is drug-related accidents.

M.C.: Remember, that which is “easy” is seldom fulfilling. Set some “rigid” rules about abstinence from drugs in your life and put an end to all those Familiar Feuds with your parents.

Title: **Be An Individual**

Group Size: 8 actors/actresses – New kid, Individual, Narrator, crowd (group of 5 or 6)

Materials: None

Setting: Group on one side of stage, individual on opposite side, new kid in middle

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Narrator: \_\_\_\_\_ is the new kid in school and he/she wants to fit in with the crowd. So he/she looks the crowd over and sees that they are pounding their foreheads. (Crowd begin hitting their foreheads with their fists)

Narrator: So \_\_\_\_\_ begins pounding his forehead. (New kid hits forehead with fist and begins nudging toward the crowd, without joining them. Then goes back to center stage.)

Narrator: Next the crowd starts holding their breath. (Crowd pantomimes holding their breath by blowing their cheeks out, while they continue to hit their foreheads)

Narrator: \_\_\_\_\_ thinks “I could die from that, but I really want to be part of the crowd, so I’ll do it, too.” (New kid holds breath. Starts going toward the crowd, then goes back to center stage.)

Narrator: He/she looks over again and sees that the crowd is stomping their feet. (Crowd is now stomping feet, holding breath, and pounding their heads.)

Narrator: \_\_\_\_\_ thinks to himself that “This sure has gotten ridiculous, but it must be the thing to do, so I’ll do it too.” (New kid stomps feet, pounds head and holds breath.)

Narrator: \_\_\_\_\_ looks around and sees someone who’s not pounding his/her forehead, holding his breath or stomping his feet, so he goes over and says: (New kid hops over toward individual, still pounding, holding and stomping)

New Kid: Why aren’t you pounding your forehead, holding your breath, and stomping your feet like the rest of the crowd?

Individual: Well, look at them. Don’t they look silly?

New Kid: (Still pounding, holding, stomping) Well, yes they do look pretty silly. (New kid looks slightly embarrassed, stops pounding, holding and stomping)

Individual: I don’t need to do what the crowd does to be accepted, I’m an individual. I just like being me. (Individual exits)

New Kid: (Looks back at crowd, brings fist up towards forehead, but decides not to pound his head again.) I want to be an individual! (new kid exits)

Title: **No Talk Rule**

Group Size: about 8 actors/actresses – Narrator, family or group of friends, visitor, ‘animal’ (could be two people with sheet over them so their 2 sets of legs become the front and back legs of the animal)

Materials: A living room or kitchen setting and an animal costume

Setting: Set up for a living room or kitchen scene with family members on stage. “Animal” (chemically dependent person) waits off stage until narrator is finished with introductions.

---

Narrator: Our subject in this skit is the “No-talk Rule.” All the members in a family are affected by the chemical use of any member. In families or in a group of friends where one member has a chemical problem, the family often will establish a “no-talk” rule. This rule is applied by ignoring or denying that the problem exists or by covering up the problem. The “no-talk rule enables the dependent member to continue his or her actions without consequences, thus causing problems and an imbalance among the entire family or group. The irregular behavior of a chemically dependent family member is like the unusual member of this family (gestures to the animal in the family group on stage and exit)

Actions: (After the narrator has introduced the skit.)  
A person dressed in an animal costume represents the dependent family member (or use posters on each person). In a home setting (dinner table, living room, den, etc.) have the family together with the animal exhibiting his distractive behaviors (move around, sit in front of people, make noises, take things off a person’s plate, sit down in a chair just before another person sits there, etc.)

At the same time, the other family members ignore the animal. The entire home schedule will revolve around accommodating the big animal thus resulting in chaos for the entire family. For example, the family members move rather than move the animal, talk loud over noise, replace food animal takes, move to another chair, clean up spills, etc.

Company can come, and the family covers up the animal (this can be done either literally with a sheet or figuratively with their actions).

Narrator: The entire family or group can become sick with guilt and pain from playing the cover-up game. They are enabling the person with the problem to continue. The dependent person needs to be made aware of his or her problem and made responsible for his own actions. The sooner the enabling is stopped and confronting starts, the sooner the person will receive help.

Redo the skit, but this time have the family members confront the animal instead of covering up.

Title: **Alcohol Sculpture**

Group Size: 7 actors/actresses – Narrator, Typical Alcoholic (TA), Spouse, Too-good/Hero, Scapegoat, Mascot, Lonely or Missing Child

Materials: chair

Setting: Chair placed front and middle.

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Narrator: (Enters stage and addresses the audience.)  
In exploring the dynamics of alcoholism, it is important to understand the dynamics of the family. So today we're going to show you a typical alcoholic and how the members of his family interrelate. Can I have a typical alcoholic please?

T.A.: (Enters stage and stands on the chair.)

Narrator: This is your typical alcoholic. What we're going to show is how this alcoholic's family actually supports his drinking. Can I have the typical alcoholic's wife out here please?

Spouse: (Enters stage and kneels on all fours on the floor, directly in front of the alcoholic. He places one foot on wife's back.)

Narrator: This is the person who takes care of the house and picks up everything after the alcoholic rips it apart. This is the person who calls up the boss and says he (points to TA) is sick, when he has been drinking all night long. As you can see here, she supports his drinking. Could I have the first child out here please?

Hero: (Runs onto stage and raises one arm in the air victoriously, exchanges a warm and affectionate glance with Alcoholic and stands beside him. Alcoholic places arm around Hero's shoulder.)

Narrator: This is the kid who wins at everything...football hero, good grades. This is the "too good" child, the family hero. With a kid like this, how could the father be an alcoholic? Could I have the second child, please?

Scapegoat: (Enters stage slowly, dejectedly, head down. Walks behind family and places him/herself away from them, with back to them. Then alcoholic points finger at him/her.)

Narrator: This is the kid that gets all the blame in this family. The one that's always in trouble at home, at school, maybe even with the law. This is the scapegoat. Somebody has to take the blame for the problem, right? Third child please.

Mascot: (Enters running, pokes other family members, freezes in the closest open spot available.)

Narrator: (Walks over to Mascot) You can understand why there'd be lots of tension in this family. Well, this (narrator puts hand on mascot's shoulder) is the kid that acts as a steam valve. When everything is tense, this kid cracks a joke

and everybody laughs and feels better. This is the family mascot or clown.

There's another child in this family, which we're not going to bring out her, called the lost or missing child. When you ask a teacher about this kid, they say, "Oh, yeah, little Johnny who sits in the back of the room. Quiet kid." With everything else going on in this family, this kid gets "elected" to pull out or distance him/herself from the family.

Note: The sculpture is now complete, with everyone frozen in their respective places.

Narrator: As you can see, everyone has a place and a part in the dysfunction of the family. So, when you're looking at an alcoholic family, it is important to see where everyone fits in. Then you can begin to treat not only the alcoholic individual, but the family as a whole.

(Approaches Scapegoat.) Since this is the kid in trouble, this is probably the reason why the family has sought outside help. So we'll take this child and get him/her into treatment (moves Scapegoat and places him behind chair).

Scapegoat: (Begins shaking chair –"rocking the boat".)

Narrator: (Moves to Mascot) Then we'll take the Mascot – (Talks to Mascot) Hey, things are pretty tough on the inside, aren't they? (Talking to audience again.) And we'll get the Mascot into treatment. (Moves Mascot into position behind the chair. Mascot joins Scapegoat in "rocking the boat".)

(Goes to Hero) Now we'll get the Too Good/Hero into treatment. (Talks to Hero) It's pretty hard to live up to your reputation of being so good. Victory can be pretty hollow sometimes, can't it? (Moves Hero into position behind the chair where hero begins rocking the boat too.)

Next we'll get Mom up off her knees. She doesn't need to be taking care of EVERYTHING. (Mom moves behind the chair with the kids.)

And we'll bring out the Lonely/Missing Child. (Missing Child enters stage and joins others behind the chair.)

Now that everyone can explore themselves and their relationships to the alcoholic, we can topple the alcoholic from his drinking... (everyone shakes the chair and the alcoholic falls from chair – all family members form a line with the father and joins arms) and become a functional family unit.

Title: **Masks**

Group Size: 8 actors/actresses, Narrator and 7 students

Materials: 6 posters each with one of the following labels: Caring, Friend, Faith, Love, Patience, Hope

Setting: The first student enters stage and sits down. He pantomimes smiling, laughing and drinking until at the end of the program he is blasted.

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Narrator: (From off stage as the voice of the student)  
Don't be fooled by the mask I wear  
My smooth outer shell is not the real me.

The real me is lonely and confused  
Through my eyes, the world is downright scary.

I want you to think I have no problems and am carefree,  
But this is only a mask I wear.

Pretending is an art and it is second nature to me.  
At least when I drink, I don't feel for a while.

If someone would just notice me or even know what I am there.  
But what do they care. They go on and tread me like dirt.

At least when I drink, I don't feel for a while.  
When I do talk,  
Please listen carefully and hear what I am not saying

Each student enters with a poster naming his character.

#2: I am **Caring** and I know you think there is no one who cares about you. That is not true, because I care for you. (goes to side of stage and stands)

#3: I am your **Friend**. I know everything about you and still like you for what you are. You think I can't see what is happening to you but I can. I will be here when you need me because I am a true friend. (joins #1)

#4: I am **Faith**. Faith is something you cannot see but I can see characteristics in you that are very powerful to me. Be proud of who you are and what you can be. Keep the faith! (joins #1 & #2)

#5: I am **Love**. Not physical love but the love that is willing to commit to helping you through the tough times. Love supports when all else fails.

#6: I am **Patience**. I know you feel your troubles will never end. I have found that time does heal and time moves much faster when you stay busy and involved. Particularly if you will try to help someone else. Look for patience!

#7: I am **Hope**. This is what keeps man constantly trying to be better. When I am lost, nothing else seems to matter. You can find me in sharing your real self with others.

(All come and stand behind Student 1 and say in unison)  
We can only help if you will let us in.

Narrator: Please hear what I'm not saying.

Title: **Between You & Me**

Group Size: 3 actors/actresses – P1, P2, & P3

Materials: None

Setting: All three people are standing on stage

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P1: Between you and me, drugs scare me

P2: Between you and me, I see nothing wrong with drugs.

P3: Between you and me, I have a friend who does drugs.

P1: Between you and me, my best friend does drugs.

P2: Between you and me, I've done drugs for a really long time, and they haven't screwed me up.

P3: Between you and me, she gets more screwed up every day.

P1: Between you and me, she never wants to do anything with me anymore.

P2: Between you and me, I've picked up new friends, I've even gotten more outdoor air.

P1: Between you and me, I always see her standing outside, smoking.

P3: Between you and me, she just hangs out with her new friends, smoking pot all the time, or getting drunk.

P2: Between you and me, my new friends aren't real friends at all.

P3: Between you and me, I don't know if I could ever forgive my friend for her habits.

P2: Between you and me, it tastes awful.

P1: Between you and me, I'm worried I can never be friends with her again.

P3: Between you and me, I miss her.

P2: Between you and me, I hate doing drugs.

P1, P2 & P3: Between you and me, it's just not worth it.

Title: **Drugs Destroy Your Dreams**

Group Size: 10 actors/actresses – 3 Dreamers and the 7 drugs from Turn Around

Materials: The drug shirts from Turn Around and 3 signs with dreams on them (i.e. doctor, actor, musician, athlete, etc.)

Setting: The “Drugs” sit in chairs in the shadows around the back of the stage. The three dreamers stand in center stage with their dream (sign) taped to their chest.

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Dreamers: Hug and smile as though you are all friends. One of the dreams goes back to the drugs, pulling them one by one out of their chair and testing (hugging) them.

The other two dreamers follow the first and test the drugs. The three dreamers return to the center as if nothing happens.

Drugs: The drugs in the back stand and walk towards the three dreamers in the middle. The drugs put their arms around the dreamers, pull the dream off their chest, and sit them down in the chair that the drug came from.

The drugs return to the center, and tear up the dreams.

Title: **Fairy Tale**

Group Size: 6 actors/actresses – Narrator, Little Girl, Problem #1, #2, #3, and Alcohol

Materials: None

Setting: Stage is clear, the Narrator begins the Fairy Tale.

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Narrator: Once upon a time, there was a little girl (enter **little girl**, skipping), who had a little problem (enter **problem #1**). She tried ignoring her problem, she even tried running away from it. But nothing seemed to work. And the more she tried avoiding her little problem, the more other little problems began to pop up. (enter **problem #2** and **problem #3**)

So she tried going around her problems, she tried going under her problems, she tried going through her problems, but in the end felt hopelessly overwhelmed by them. (problems circle little girl)

Until one day, she found a new friend... alcohol (enter **Alcohol**...all the problems hide behind it). And it was love at first sight, because alcohol made all of her problems disappear from view. And she felt free of her problems and was happy.

And when she looked around, she could no longer see all of her awful problems. So wherever she went, she took her new friend... alcohol.

But alcohol had gotten a firmer hand on her than she realized (neck lock) and when she turned to look, alcohol had become a part of the problems she had tried to avoid. (problems and alcohol circle her). And again, she was overwhelmed by all of her problems. She was hopelessly lost.

Until she finally decided to take charge of her problems and take a good look at them (lines them up). And she decided that he couldn't deal with the others until she dealt with alcohol first.

So she took a close look and measured out the problem, sized it up, and looked at it from all sides. Then she confronted it squarely and made the decision she no longer needed alcohol in her life (shoves alcohol to the ground)

Having done that, she could now face all other problems and work through them no matter what the difficulty (confronts rest of problems, one by one)

And so, she coped happily ever after.

Title: **Went To A Party, Mom**  
Group Size: 1 or more actors/actresses  
Materials: None  
Setting: This is a monologue that can be performed by 1 or more narrators. Feel free to assign the lines to the narrators as necessary. Make sure the final presentation still maintains a nice flow.

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I went to a party, Mom, I remember what you said.  
You told me not to drink, Mom, so I drank soda instead.  
I really felt proud inside, Mom, the way you said I would.  
I didn't drink and drive, Mom, even though the others said I should.  
I know I did the right thing, Mom, I know you are always right.  
Now the party is finally ending, Mom, as everyone is driving out of sight.  
As I got into my car, Mom, I knew I'd get home in one piece.  
Because of the way you raised me, so responsible and sweet.  
I started to drive away, Mom, but as I pulled out into the road,  
the other car didn't see me, Mom, and hit me like a load.  
As I lay there on the pavement, Mom, I hear the policeman say,  
the other guy is drunk, Mom, and now I'm the one who will pay.  
I'm lying here dying, Mom... I wish you'd get here soon.  
How could this happen to me, Mom? My life just burst like a balloon.  
There is blood all around me, Mom, and most of it is mine.  
I hear the medic say, Mom, I'll die in a short time.  
I just wanted to tell you, Mom, I swear I didn't drink.  
It was the others, Mom. The others didn't think.  
He was probably at the same party as I.  
The only difference is, he drank and I will die.  
Why do people drink, Mom? It can ruin your whole life.  
I'm feeling sharp pains now. Pains just like a knife.  
The guy who hit me is walking, Mom, and I don't think it's fair.  
I'm lying here dying and all he can do is stare.  
Tell my brother not to cry, Mom. Tell Daddy to be brave.  
And when I go to heaven, Mom, put "Daddy's Girl" on my grave.  
Someone should have told him, Mom, not to drink and drive.  
If only they had told him, Mom, I would still be alive.  
My breath is getting shorter, Mom. I'm becoming very scared.  
Please don't cry for me, Mom. When I needed you, you were always there.  
I have one last question, Mom, before I say goodbye.  
I didn't drink and drive, so why am I the one to die?

Title: **Don't Be A Dummy**

Group Size: 8-10 actors/actresses – 2 to 4 Janitors (mop, broom, trash can)

Dummies:

2 Partiers (cigarettes, beer)

1 or 2 Marijuana (joints)

1 Pill Popper (pill bottle, pills)

1 Cocaine Addict (“mirror”, rolled dollar bill)

1 Heroin Addict (belt, oversized syringe—easily made out of tinfoil)

*Feel free to make additions to your drug user cast.*

Materials: Drug props and large, easy to read poster that says, “DON'T BE A DUMMY”. Best if it can be unrolled.

Music: “Narcotica” by Liquido or “Addict” by Jane’s Addiction

Setting: Janitors off stage, Dummies in the back of playing space, backs turned to audience, heads down.

The actors maintain complete silence throughout the skit.

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Janitors enter stage with mops, brooms, trashcan and poster. Begin “cleaning” the stage. The trashcan is placed down center, the poster to one side of the playing space, still rolled. As the music starts, one janitor notices the dummies in the back of the room. Two janitors go to retrieve the dummies, dragging them onto the stage. Note: The less the dummies move, the better. Dummies should remain limp with heads down as they are being bodily dragged to the stage. The other janitors continue cleaning until the first dummies are brought on to the stage, at which time they put away their mops/brooms and begin “posing” the dummies, using props pulled from the trash can, while the other janitors go back until all the dummies are brought onto the stage. Then all the janitors set to work putting dummies in their various poses—leaning over trashcan with beer in hand, making conversation with beer in one hand and cigarette in the other, pill bottle in hand with cap off, smoking a joint, dollar bill and mirror lifted to nose, belt around arm and clasped in teeth with syringe is placed against the arm, etc. The dummies hold these positions as the janitors inspect them. Two janitors go and get poster while the others step to the sides of the stage. Janitors move front and center to unroll the poster, revealing “DON'T BE A DUMMY”. Note: On a stage, this may be best done standing on the floor in front. Freeze for a few moments, staying still while the music is fades. If the music has already ended by the time the dummies are finished being posed, just freeze for a few moments. Hold freeze for a long silence. Janitors then roll up poster, and go around “releasing” the dummies by tapping them on the shoulder. The Dummies throw their props into the garbage can and all exit stage, the janitor with the garbage can leaving last.

Title: **Substance Abuse**

Group Size: 1 actors/actresses

Materials: None

Setting: Young man or woman who is a recovering substance abuser. (monologue)

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I wanna talk to you about something. It's an important part of my life, and might be part of yours. Drug addiction. We choose not to use a flashy format for this piece because drug addiction isn't glamorous or sexy, even though it may seduce you into thinking it is in the beginning. Drug addiction is quiet and personal and over time grows more and more painful for everyone involved.

A friend of mine turned me on to crystal. I was stressed out because my mom and dad were always fighting and putting me in the middle. So my friend told me to try a little to help keep me going. She'd been using it for a little while and it didn't seem to effect her negatively, so I tried it. It felt good. I forgot all my problems for a little while. But they didn't forget me. They were waiting for me when I came down off my high. So I used again and again and again. If I only knew what I know now. Using drugs only stacked one more problem onto my life.

After a while my habit became the focus of my life. How was I going to get my next line. Where would I get the money to buy it? Where could I use without being seen? I was obsessed. I started missing school and borrowing money from my friends. Soon, no one would lend me money because I never paid them back. That didn't stop me though. I started stealing from my mom and dad. But even that wasn't enough. I got a job working at a gas station with some of my other using buddies. We all took turns borrowing money from the cash register, buying drugs, selling them, then putting the money back before the end of our shifts. It was a nightmare. I was so scared that I would get busted, but I wanted a high so bad, I didn't even care.

My world was crumbling around me. My old friends didn't want to hang out with me anymore. I was suspended from school for showing up high. My mom and dad flipped out when they got word from the principal. I told them they had some nerve, they were in worse shape than I was with all their drinking and arguing. Besides, I could handle it. I'm not an addict. I could quit any time I wanted to. Nobody could tell me anything. One night my boss came by early during my shift and discovered that the register was short. He fired me on the spot and called my parents. I felt so ashamed and angry. I went home and my parents were waiting for me. They told me my friend who got me started using O.D.ed. It blew my mind. She committed suicide because she couldn't stop using and her life was falling apart.

My parents said they were going to give me a choice, go to rehab or get out. I was pissed off, but I went. The rehab center sent me to twelve step meetings. Everyone there seemed so different at first. Most of em' were older than me and were really burned out. They told me that if I didn't stick with the program that they were a glimpse into my future, if I lived that long.

I'm still going to twelve step meetings. I'm not cured, but I'm recovering. Something I'll be doing for the rest of my life. Drugs are not a solution, not even a temporary one. They are a problem that won't go away. Don't start using to hide from your problems and if you are using, stop, get some help.

Title: **Me Too!**

Group Size: 1 actor, 1 actress

Materials: None

Setting: Girl and boy enter from opposite sides of the stage, meet in the middle, and walk forward together and speak to audience.

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Boy: Hi! My name is \_\_\_\_\_

Girl: Hi! My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and (boy's name) and I are best friends!

Boy: Yeah. (Smiles) On Mondays, I like to go to the movies

Girl: Me too! (Smiles and nods)

Boy: On Tuesdays, I like to go skating.

Girl: Me too!

Boy: On Wednesdays, I like to hang out at the mall!

Girl: Me too!

Boy: On Thursdays, I like to go dancing. (dances a little)

Girl: Me too! (dances a little)

Boy: And on Fridays, I like to party and get wasted.

Girl: (Looks at boy, then to audience) Not me! My choice is drug-free. (Both freeze and process the skit with the audience)

Title: **Self-Esteem**

Group Size: 8 actors/actresses – 1 teen at his/her locker, 6 cut-down people, 1 nice person

Materials: None

Setting: Teen is at his/her locker, facing the audience, and pantomimes getting books, etc.

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CD #1: (Enters) How'd you do on the math test?

Teen: Not so good.

CD #1: Really? It seemed pretty easy to me. (exits)

CD #2: (Enters) Hey! (name) Want to go out tonight?

Teen: Uh...sure okay!

CD #2: Well, have fun by yourself! (exits)

CD #3, CD #4: (Enter CD #3 & CD #4 walking together. They see the teen and once they pass him/her they start laughing, as they walk offstage.)

CD #5: (Enters) You remind me of a famous TV star.

Teen: Really? Who? (expectantly)

CD #5: Alf! (exits laughing)

CD #6: (Enters) I heard you and (name) broke up. Well, I guess he/she found out what you were really like.

(Teen gradually looks more and more dejected, and now hangs his/her head and shoulders while continuing to get books.)

Nice person: (Enters) Hey! (name) What's up?

Teen: Uh...nothing much. (depressed)

Nice person: Well, a bunch of us are getting together to go to the movies tonight! How 'bout it?

Teen: Nah. (looks away)

Nice person: Why not? Come on it'll be great!

Teen: I don't think so.

Nice person: It won't be the same without you. You're so much fun! I still remember the last time we all went out! It was great!

Teen: You think I'm fun? (questioningly)

Nice person: Of course. Everyone thinks so!

Teen: Well...(shrugs) okay.

Nice person: Great, I'll pick you up at seven!

Teen: (finishes up at locker and begins to exit, then stops, and turns to back to the audience) Sometimes it's hard to believe a good comment after hearing so many bad ones!

Title: **Trust Me**

Group Size: 4 actors/actresses

Materials: Chair

Setting: The 5 actors/actresses are standing in a wide semi-circle facing an empty chair. The chair is facing the audience. Each actor/actress addresses the chair as if speaking to a boy named “Johnny”.

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Girlfriend: Johnny, what’s the matter? You forgot to call me again last night.

Teacher: John, you have been absent for the last two major exams...Is there a problem?

Mother: John, your room is a disaster and your stereo is always blaring. When are you going to develop some responsibility around this house?

Pusher: (Breaking out of the semi-circle and moving left to right as he speaks to the empty chair). John, I understand what’s happening to you, man, and I got something that can help...here try this...trust me...we’ve been friends since second grade, remember?

(On the word “remember,” all characters except the Pusher move to another location in the semi-circle. Music or drums may accompany this change.)

Girlfriend: (Beginning as soon as all actors have changed positions) Johnny, we had a date last night! I sat waiting for you for over an hour. Where were you?

Teacher: Your attendance has been miserable, and it is beginning to be reflected in your grades. You’re a bright boy. You can do better than this.

Mother: Where were you last night? I sat up until 2:30 waiting for you to get home. You are grounded until we can get some things straightened out.

Pusher: (Crossing stage from right to left as he speaks) John, I really want to help you out, but you gotta help me out too. I know it’s expensive, but we all gotta make a livin’...lighten up...

(All characters except Pusher move to another location within the semi-circle)

Girlfriend: (Beginning as soon as all actors have changed positions) John, maybe if you would talk to me once in a while we could work this out. But we never even see each other anymore. I thought it was just me, but everyone is noticing a difference in you. Maybe we should just stop going out at all.

Teacher: I've tried to help you, John, but I can do only so much. You have to meet me halfway. You failed the marking period, but let's try to get you to pass for the year...What do you say?

Mother: Johnny, you had better straighten up. You're becoming lazier and more rude every day...and, you're always asleep! We didn't raise you to behave this way...I also want you to stop hanging around with those new friends of yours. They're no good. Your father is ready to throw you out. Is that what you want?

Pusher: (Crossing from left to right as he speaks) Don't listen to them, Johnny, listen to me. If I listened to all those fools I wouldn't be where I am today. You're doin' fine. You gotta look out for yourself first! Trust me...Trust me...

(Characters change positions)

Girlfriend: (As the Girlfriend is speaking, the Pusher is crossing to just off her right shoulder.) I want to help you Johnny, but you won't let me...

Pusher: What does she know? You know what's important. You don't need her. You just need this (holds out his hand to the chair)

Teacher: (As the teacher is speaking the Pusher is crossing to just off his right shoulder) You're on your last legs, John. Turn it around. Turn it around now! This may be the last chance you get.

Pusher: School is just a waste of time. Teachers don't care. They just want to cause trouble for us. Don't listen to him/her.

Mother: (As the mother is speaking the pusher is crossing to just off her right shoulder) You're not going to survive this, son. Stop, please.

Pusher: Your mother was gonna throw you out of the house. Why should she care what you do now? She doesn't care anything about you!

Girlfriend: (Throws down a varsity jacket) That's it! It's over! (Turns her back on the chair)

Teacher: Is this what you wanted? Is this what you really wanted? (Turns his back on the chair)

Mother: That's it! I've done all I can do! Now you are on your own! (Turns her back on the chair)  
(After the Mother turns, the Pusher looks around at all of the people who have, literally, turned their backs. The Pusher then walks slowly over to the chair, puts his right foot up on it, looks directly at the audience and smiles wickedly as the lights fade to black.)

Title: **Everybody's Doing It!**

Group Size: 6 actors/actresses – Teen A, Teen B, Valley Girl, Fashion Setter, Dancer, Drinker

Materials: 2 barrettes or hair bands, 2 “beer” cans

Setting: Valley Girl, Fashion Setter, Dancer, and Drinker are in a line with their backs to the audience. The Valley Girl has her hair fastened on top of her head in a way that makes her hair stand up and is obvious to the audience. The Fashion Setter is wearing his/her shirt or pants in some way that is obviously different and can be done to Teen A while on stage (i.e. one pants leg rolled up high, shirt sleeves rolled up to the shoulder, etc...)

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Teen A: (Entering) I wonder what my friends are up too?

Valley Girl: (Turns around) Like, look at my new hairstyle! Why don't you try it? Everybody's doing it!  
(Valley girl pulls second barrette from pocket and does Teen A's hair.)

Teen A: Cool! (Fashion Setter turns around)  
Hey, what are you up to? (Valley Girl rejoins the line and turns her back to the audience)

Fashion Setter: Look at the way I'm wearing my shirt/pants. Why don't you try it? Everybody's doing it! (Fashion Setter helps Teen A fix his/her clothes)

Teen A: Cool! (Dancer turns around)  
Hey, what are you up to? (Fashion Setter rejoins the line and turns his/her back to the audience)

Dancer: (Dancing) I'm doing this wild new dance. Why don't you try it? Everybody's doing it! (Teen A starts dancing with Dancer)

Teen A: Cool! (Drinker turns around)  
Hey, what are you up to? (Dancer rejoins line and turns his/her back on the audience)

Drinker: I'm just drinking this beer. (Drinks from the can)  
Why don't you try it, everybody's doing it! (Offers Teen A the other can)

Teen A: Well...

Teen B: (Enters)  
Hey, it might be okay to wear your hair like your friends... (Valley Girl turns around and fluffs her hair)

or to wear your clothes like your friends... (Fashion Setter turns around and poses)  
or even to do the same dance as your friends...(Dancer turns around and dances)  
but, I think it would be wise to make your own choice when it comes to drugs.

Teen A: (Looks over the line) Yeah, and my choice is drug free!

Title: **Beer Is The One**

Group Size: 2 actors/actresses

Materials: 1 “beer” can

Scene: Person A is an actor/actress in a commercial. Person B interrupts the commercial and does his/her own.

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Person A: (Enters and moves to center stage. Has beer can, but keeps it to his/her side) Friends, are you tired of the real world? Has the daily stress and strain of teenage life got you down? Well, I’ve got just the thing for you! We’ve blended the finest grains and added clear, mountain spring water to make a great tasting drink of the finest quality. What is the drink? Beer’s the one! (Holds up can) so, put a little weekend in the middle of your week and head for the mountains, because it doesn’t get any better than this! If you’ve got the time, we’ve got the beer...

Person B: (Enters, interrupting) Wait! Stop! Are you for real?

Person A: What? What do you mean?

Person B: Why don’t you tell them the truth behind all these glitzy commercials and catchy slogans? (Person B waits for an answer, and when he sees he isn’t going to get one, grabs the can from Person A and takes center stage)

Person B: Give me that! (Person A steps aside grudgingly, crosses his/her arms, and watches Person B with displeasure)

Person B: Friends, and I am your friend, (gives sidelong look to Person A, who curls his/her lip). I’m here to tell you the truth about beer. Are you tired of the real world? Has the stress and strain of teenage life got you down? Well the answer isn’t in a can. They’ve blended the finest grains and mountain spring water into a drug, a drug called alcohol. If this drug is added to a teenager who is already experiencing the normal stress and strain of growing up, you get a person who is cheating himself; someone who is not learning how to deal with problems or how to have fun the natural way. So to borrow a familiar catch phrase – be all that you can be, and start by being drug-free! (Person B walks over to Person A, shoves the can into his/her hand and walks offstage.)

Title: **The Dilemma**

Group Size: 4 actors, 4 actresses

Materials: None

Setting: Girls are at the side of the stage acting like they're at a party

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Female 1: (Looking at female 2) Thanks for having us over tonight. This is really fun – just hanging out.

Female 3: (Sarcastically) Especially when we don't have dates or anything!  
(Everyone laughs)

Female 4: Can I tell you guys something?

Female 2: Have you got some hot gossip?

Female 4: NO!! This has to remain a secret!

(Everyone agrees)

Okay... Tomorrow night I have a date with (Male 1), and every time we go out we get a little closer to going all the way. I'm afraid tomorrow night will be the night.

Female 1: What are you going to do?

Female 4: I'm not sure, I don't know what is the right thing...

Female 3: It's a lot of fun if you are careful. You know it is not that big of a deal... No one is a virgin anymore.

Female 2: Well (Female 4's name) and I are. I think there is more to having sex than just the act. How did you (looking at female 3) feel when Jack broke up with you a few months ago? You know you were a wreck. Plus I think it is just not safe until you know you are in a lasting relationship.

Female 4: I agree with you (looking at female 2) but (male 1) can be so persuasive.

Female 3: Well, one thing I have learned is to never let a guy persuade you into having sex... only do it if you are ready.

Female 1: Well, I did it, but I wish I had waited for someone more special.

Female 4: Wow! Thanks (looking at all of her friends) you guys helped me out a lot. I am going to wait. I think I have known all along that I wasn't ready. In fact I've always pictured myself waiting until I was much older.

**Scene 2** - Females exit and Males enter

Male 1: Hey (male 2) good game today, man.

Male 2: Thanks, I didn't think that last shot I took would fall, but it did.  
(Shooting arms up as if taking a shot)

Male 3: (To male 2 sarcastically) When you wish upon a star, your dreams come true.

Male 4: Man (male 3), you sure are one lucky guy to have a girl like (female 3).

Male 1: So have you hit a home run yet, or are you still at the plate?

Male 3: (Sheepishly) No, I'm not at the plate...

Male 2: (Interrupting) So you're saying, dinner, movies, and then some serious makin' out.

Male 1: Enquiring minds want to know!

Male 4: (To male 1) But what about you and (female 4)? Have you gone all the way with her yet?

Male 1: No, I've gotten pretty close, but tonight is the night.

**Scene 3** – Female 3 and Male 3 sitting close on their date

Female 3: I am so glad my parents are out for the evening and we can be alone.

Male 3: Yeah, but shouldn't they be home soon?

Female 3: (Caressing his leg) They won't be home for another 3 hours (She tries to kiss him and he turns away)

Male 3: (Nervously) Let's see what's on TV (Turns on TV)

(They sit for a few seconds)

Female 3: (Caresses his leg and kisses him on the cheek)

Male 3: (He goes to kiss her back and then stops) I can't do this.

Female 3: What's wrong with you? Don't you like me?

Male 3: No, I like you but....

Female 3: But what? (Pause) Are you a virgin? (Pause, Male 3 turns away) You are, aren't you?

Male 3: Please don't tell anybody. I feel so stupid

Female 3: Don't feel stupid. Sometimes I wish I had waited too. I don't want to persuade you into doing something that you aren't ready for. I'm glad we got this out in the open, now we can relax and just have fun together.

Male 3: Yeah (as he snuggles closer)

Title: **College Decisions**

Group Size: 2 males, 2 females, various number to act as students

Materials: 2 pillows, alarm clock, books, flyers

Setting: 1 male is one stage, lying down and apparently sleeping

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Steve: (Enters stage screaming) Whoa! Yeah, I feel good. (Tries to open door and then bangs on it) Hey! Gavin, wake up and open the door! Open the door man!

Gavin: (Looks at alarm clock and rises slowly) Dammit Steve – this is the third time this week you’ve come in drunk and screaming your head off. It’s 3:00 AM and I’m trying to sleep.

Steve: Ah man, lighten up – I just had a couple of beers up at the bar. I need my bed (Falling onto other pillow) Hey Gav, pass me a beer out of the fridge.

Gavin: There are no beers in the fridge Steve. Don’t you remember the beer chugging contest you held in our room last night? (Steve has passed out and is now asleep) Steve... Steve? Oh man, forget it.

Gavin: (To the audience) Well, here I am in the fourth week of classes and Steve has decided to party and drink himself right out of school. I don’t understand it. He goes out every night and drinks so much that he misses all of his classes. Even his parents bring him beer when they come to visit. Back in high school it wasn’t like this at all. But now that I’m in college, I wonder if it is OK to drink? (Gavin falls asleep, Alarm clock goes off)

Gavin: Oh man! I’m gonna be late for class. Steve... Steve wake up! Steve... Oh, forget it. (Gavin grabs his books and runs off stage)

(Students and teacher walk on)

Teacher: Today class we have a representative from the National Organization of the Reform of Marijuana Laws – better known as NORML. Ms. Hill will now tell you why they believe marijuana should be legalized.

Ms. Hill: Many of you have been told bad things about marijuana but today I will give you facts that support the legalization of marijuana. I’m sure you are aware that marijuana can be used for paper and cloth. It has also been used to treat cancer and glaucoma. Marijuana is useful; it’s not as bad as you were taught. I’d like to thank you for listening to the real facts about marijuana. Please take a flyer for more information.

(Class leaves. Gavin remains focusing on the flyer)

Gavin: Man, college is an experience – it's a little scary. The pressures of schoolwork along with the presence of drugs and alcohol can make you wonder what is right and what is wrong. It's funny that the representative didn't tell the class how the chemicals in a joint kill brain cells and increase memory loss. One thing is for sure, I am glad I was in IDFY. I learned the real facts about alcohol and other drugs. I can also recognize peer pressure and realize that you don't need to party till you are totally wasted.

(Throws down the flyer and exits stage)

Title: **The Big Date**

Group Size: 6 females, 1 male

Materials: None

Setting: Females 2-6 standing with backs to the audience scattered across stage

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Male: (Enters with female 1) (Female 1's name), I don't understand what the problem is. It's not like anything happened that you didn't want.

Female 1: You think I wanted this? Look at me, does it look like I'm happy? (Scowling)

Male: You're making a big deal out of nothing. Besides, if you didn't want it, why did you stay out so late with me?

Female 1: I thought I could trust you. No means NO (males name)! I thought we were friends.

Male: We are friends. I'm a nice guy, I would never do anything like that to you.

Female 1: Just leave me alone, I don't ever want to talk to you again.

(Male leaves the stage)

Female 2: (Walking up to Female 1) You're lying. I know (male), and he would never do anything like that. Why would he rape you, he's cute. He doesn't need to do anything like that. (Walks away)

Female 3: (Walking up) (Female 1's name), I heard what happened and I just wanted to let you know that if you want to talk, I'm a peer listener. (Leaves)

Female 4: (Turns around) Are you sure you're not exaggerating? (Walks up to female 1) Things can get carried away. If you are going to accuse someone you had better be sure you know what you are doing. Are you sure he heard you say no?

Female 5: (Walks up) I think you just wanted it, why else would you have been there that late. I know that you've had your eye on him for months now. (Female 4 & 5 leave)

Female 6: (Walks up) I think it is important to realize that what happened to you was not your fault. You are brave to come forward and deal with the pain you've experienced. Most teens never tell anyone. If you need me for anything here is my phone number, along with a number for a support group I run.

Title: **Girls' Night Out**

Group Size: 2 females, 2 males, 1 male bouncer

Materials: Bar music, beer cans, chairs, bell

Setting: 2 females are standing on stage talking

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Female 1: I am so tired of Mrs. Greene's English class – I can't wait until we graduate and get out of here.

Female 2: Yeah, me too. (Pause) I'm so glad it's Friday – let's go out tonight and have some fun – down to campus or something!

Female 1: Sounds great! We can go to that new bar – Purity. I just hope my fake ID works. I'm afraid it won't.

Female 2: Well, let's go early – we'll beat the crowd, then if you don't get in, no one will see us get turned away.

Female 1: Okay, good plan! Pick me up at 9:00 pm. (Bell rings) I gotta go! See ya later!

Female 2: Bye! (Both girls leave the stage)

**Scene 2** – 2 girls are sitting in a car (seated on chairs), Male bouncer off to side of stage

Female 2: I'm so excited! We are going to have a great time tonight!

Female 1: I hope so – I'm really worried about my fake ID

Female 2: We'll be fine! (Pause) I hope we meet some hot fraternity men tonight!

Female 1: Yeah, but I'll bet they'll be drinking.

Female 2: (Gets out of chair) Well, we don't drink so who cares what they do – don't worry so much – let's just go and have fun.

(Girls walk up to bouncer and hand him their ID's. Both get in)

Female 1: I can't believe I actually got in! Now I can relax and have fun!

Female 2: Look at those guys – I think they're coming over here  
(Males begin to walk over)

Male 1: Hi! I haven't seen you here before, do you go to school here?

Female 2: Yeah, we're freshman. I am a communications major.

Female 1: (Acting nervous) Um... I'm undecided.

Male 2: Can we get you ladies a beer?

Female 1 & 2: (At the same time) No thanks, we don't drink.

Female 2: Let's all go dance!

Male 1: No, I don't dance until I have a few of these in me. (Points to his beer)

Male 2: Yeah... Um, and don't we need to meet our friends anyway?  
(Males walk away)

Male 1 & 2: (Together) We'll see you around

Female 1: Man, we got dogged.

Female 2: Oh who cares, they were jerks. They only wanted to get us drunk anyway.

Female 1: No doubt! We'll have fun without them. Remember there are a lot of other fish in the sea!

Title: **Lunch Room**

Group size: 6 teenaged females

Materials: Table, 6 chairs, lunch trays (if available)

Setting: 6 females are sitting around a lunch room table

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Female 1: This soy burger is gross as usual

(All agree, and comment on bad food)

Female 2: Are you guys going to get tested for AIDS next week?

Female 3: Are you kidding? I don't need to get tested for that disease. The guys I date aren't dirty.

Female 4: How do you know? I heard some stuff about Jack, and I know you dated him.

Female 5: AIDS is a venereal disease, you can't tell who has it. It doesn't discriminate against a person's age, background or even a person's looks. The only way that you know for sure is to not have sex. I know I'm safe.

Female 6: She's right, my uncle has AIDS and believe me you wouldn't know that he has it. Sometimes people don't come down with symptoms until years after they've contracted it.

Female 1: I didn't tell you guys, but a few months ago I was with this college guy and I haven't talked to him since then. I don't know anything about him, and now I'm worried. I'm afraid to get tested, what if it comes up positive?

Female 5: But you have to get tested, it's the only smart thing to do.

Female 6: If you test positive for HIV, you have a better chance of surviving longer if you get immediate treatment. Anyway, when it comes back negative, think of the relief you will feel.

Female 3: If you go, I'll go with you and we can do it together.

Female 5: It's a really easy process; all they do is draw blood. In fact why don't we all go get tested.

Title: **Who's Drinking**

Group Size: 4 females, 1 male, extra partiers

Materials: Beer cans, western wear, 4 chairs set close together, Siren

Setting: Starts in a car on the way to a "Barn party"

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Scene 1 – 4 females sitting in a "car"

Female 1: We are going to have so much fun at Bobby's barn party. His parents are in the city for the weekend, so we don't have to worry about anything. (All females agree)

Female 2: Does anybody have a light? (Holding a cigarette)

Female 3: I do.

Female 4: Why do you have to smoke in the car?

Female 1: Really! Can't you wait until we get to the party? I don't like smelling smoke.

Female 2: Oh, I'll open a window... Like you have room to talk. You've been dating Ron for a year now and he does that awful chew.

Female 3: I don't know how you can stand to kiss him (Pointing to female 4)

Female 4: I don't think he does it that much... and never really around me.

Female 1: Do you guys think everyone will be wasted at this party?

Female 2: Probably, I heard the guys talking about it today.

Female 3: Well, I just hope they don't drink and drive... I'll never forget how horrible it was when Dave and Tammy died last year.

Female 4: I'm worried. They were seniors, and now we're seniors

Female 2: Would you three relax, no one is going to die. We are going to a party, let's have a few beers and have fun!

Scene 2 – Girls arrive at party and "get out" of the car

Male 1: (Walks over to four females) Gosh, you four sure took forever getting here. The party has been crazy and so much fun. (Acting tipsy) Come on in and get some beer.

(All walk in)

Female 3: Where did you get all this beer?

Male 1: Can you believe it? My parents gave me some of it and then I bought the rest.

Female 3: I wish my parents were cool like that... they would never do that for me.

Female 1: (Walking over to female 4) Look, there's Ron and all the guys. Ron's chewing again.

Female 4: He'll stop... I'm going over there (She walks over to a partier)

Female 2: This is a fun party, everybody from our class showed up.

Female 1: People are drinking an awful lot. It is still pretty early and they are getting pretty drunk. Aren't you afraid something will happen?

Female 2: Nothing will happen... (Siren sounds)

Female 1: Oh no! Is that the cops?

Male 1: Cops are here, what am I going to do?

(Actors are going crazy, it's chaotic)

Partier: (Screaming) Let's get out of here! Into the corn fields everyone!

Female 2: Come on (To female 1). Let's run and hide so we don't get busted.

Female 1: Go ahead, I have to find my purse. (Everyone runs off to hide and she is left alone on stage as the sirens get louder). I had a feeling something bad would happen here tonight. Everybody was getting out of hand, they were getting really drunk. Something has got to change here.

Title: **Being Responsible**

Group Size: Teacher, 3 females, and volunteers

Materials: 10 or more classroom chairs

Setting: Stage set up like a classroom, Teacher is wrapping up a health class

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Teacher: Sexually transmitted diseases are dangerous and you can't assume that anyone is disease free. So never have unprotected sex, always use a condom. But the most important thing to remember is that AIDS is deadly and the only way to truly protect yourself from the virus is to not have sex. Abstinence is the best policy! Ok, I'll see you all tomorrow.

(Bell rings and kids leave except 3 females remain in the room)

Female 1: Miss Johnson, did you really mean what you said about girls carrying condoms?

Teacher: Of course, if you are going to be sexually active then you have to be responsible enough to carry condoms and make the guy wear one from the start to the finish. If you don't want to use a condom, then don't have sex.

Female 2: But guys will think we are easy and have sex all the time.

Female 3: Yeah, and then pretty soon the whole school will know that we fool around.

Teacher: Now girls, you know that people will find out you are having sex whether you use a condom or not. If you don't want people to talk about you, don't do anything.

Female 1: But we don't need to carry condoms around. Guys always have them.

Teacher: We have to be responsible for the health of our own bodies and take control of situations. If we have unprotected sex we run the risk of getting AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. A condom makes sex safer, but the only way to be completely safe is to not have sex.

Title: **Pump It Up**

Group Size: 2 males, Mom and Dad

Materials: Football

Setting: Starts out at home after the football season is over

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Mom: That was a wonderful awards banquet. I can't believe all the effort that was put into it.

Dad: It was alright.

Mom: Didn't you like the high-light film?

Dad: Oh yeah, I really enjoyed it. (Sarcastically) Every single time the camera flash by the sidelines I got to see my boy's butt planted to the bench.

Mom: Now don't say that. He's trying. You know the only reason he's playing is for you. He wants to make you proud.

Dad: Oh... I'm real proud of my little bench warmer. He better get his butt in gear for next season or things won't be as pleasant around here.

Male 1: (Walking into the room) Well... I'm getting a little tired. I should probably go to bed now. Goodnight Mom. Goodnight Dad.

Dad: You're not going to bed yet. We need to talk. (Angrily) I'm going to say this one time so you better listen. You WILL start lifting weights, you WILL start running, you WILL play varsity next year! Am I understood?

Male 1: But, Dad...

Dad: (Interrupting) Don't "But Dad" me! If you don't start performing on the football field, then things are going to be pretty tough for you around here. Do you get the picture?

Male 1: Yeah, Dad... Whatever. (Everyone exits)

Scene 2 – 2 males in the weight room

Male 2: Look man, I've maxed out at 240 already. Looks like all this work in the off season is paying off.

Male 1: Yeah... I can't believe how fast you've gone up.

Male 2: What are you lifting now?

Male 1: Oh... Well... I've moved up to 135.

Male 2: Look, I'm going to let you in on a little secret. If you want to get real big real fast you've got to use 'roids.

Male 1: You mean steroids?

Male 2: Yes, I mean steroids! All of the starters on Varsity use them. If you want to make the team and do well you have to use them (Walks away)

Male 1: (Speaking to himself) Maybe steroids are the answer. I don't think I could make the team as it is now. But my dad would kill me! But then again, if I make the team and do well then I'll be a lot more popular. (Walks over to Male 2) Hey... Can you tell me where to get some?

Male 2: You want to use steroids? Well... Alright. Look here's how you can get some...

(Males exit stage together)

#### Scene 3 – 2 males at Fall practice

Male 2: Let's go with Roger-28-Split-Cross. This one's coming at you (Pointing to Male 1). Coach is watching. Don't mess it up.

(Run play, Male 2 passes to Male 1 and he drops it)  
(Male 1 starts yelling and throws his helmet down)

Male 2: Hey, calm down...

Male 1: Get away from me! (Pushes Male 2)

Male 2: Settle down. It was just a stupid pass. Don't worry about it. What has gotten into you?

#### Scene 4 – Male 1 at home in bedroom

Male 1: This week is the big game. I need to make sure I'm ready (Pulls out a syringe and a bottle of steroids)

Dad: (Walking in on son) I want to just tell you how proud I am of you... (Seeing son injecting) What the hell are you doing? (Takes the needle) Are these steroids? What are you using these for?

Male 1: I'm...

Dad: I can't believe you are doing this. Why ARE you doing this?

Male 1: I'm on varsity now, isn't that what you wanted?

Dad: Yes, I wanted you to do well in football, but I didn't want you to use drugs!!!  
Don't you know what steroids will do to your body?

Title: **The Times Are Changing**

Group Size: 2 moms (1 black, 1 white), 1 Dad (white), 4 males (black), 4 females (white)

Materials: Music

Setting: Starts with black male getting ready for a date

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Mom: (Walking into room) Big date tonight huh?

Male 1: Not really a big date, just someone I met at the mall.

Mom: Well tell me a little about her. What does she look like? How old is she?  
What school does she go to?

Male 1: (Looks at Mom, walks away trying to avoid questions) She is really pretty,  
she is smart, lots of fun to be with and she goes to Township High.

Mom: Township? I didn't know they had any black girls there. What do her parents  
do?

Male 1: I think she said something about her dad being a doctor and her mom being a  
teacher.

Mom: Alright, it is good to see black people getting ahead. You know son, with a lot  
of hard work you can be there too.

Male 1: Mom, I gotta tell you something. Lisa is not black.

Mom: Not black! What is she?

Male 1: She's white, Mom.

Mom: (Chuckling with disbelief) Boy, don't joke like that.

Male 1: Mom, I'm not joking.

Mom: Son, you know you can tell me anything, but I don't think you know what you  
are doing with this girl.

Male 1: And why is that?

Mom: Why would you want to mix races?

Male 1: Mom, things have changed.

Scene 2 – White Mom and Dad in living room when Female 1 walks in

Dad: Hi (female's name). Are you going to watch this video with us tonight?

Female 1: No dad, I can't. I'm getting ready to go out.

Dad: Why don't you tell us a little bit about this guy?

Female 1: What is there to say? He is just a guy I met, we've talked a few times on the phone, he seems really nice so we are going to hang out.

Dad: Look, we're not going to beat around the bush anymore. Your brother told us this guy is black.

Female 1: Yeah Dad, he's black. What's the big deal?

Mom: The big deal is that it is an issue you've never talked to us about and we have the right to know.

Female 1: You have the right to know what, Mom? You never have a problem with any of the guys I go out with.

Dad: Well, this is different.

Female 1: Different? Just because (male's name) has a different color skin?

Mom: That is exactly how it is different. I don't think you have thought this whole thing through.

Female 1: Mom, this is just one little date.

Dad: The big deal is that it's not just one little date. Suppose someone sees you.

Female 1: Dad, I'm sure lots of people are going to see us. I think you are really blowing this whole thing out of proportion.

Mom: Are you willing to be stared at every time you go out?

Female 1: Just don't worry about it, I'll see you guys later. I'll be home on time  
(Walks out)

Scene 3 – Female 1 and Male 1 at the movies

Female 1: Before you picked me up, I had a little talk with my parents and...

Male 1: Let me guess, they didn't really like the idea of us seeing each other.

Female 1: I don't understand them, they raised me to like all people

(A group of 3 white females walk into the movie lobby)

Female 2: Hey (female's name), how's it going?

Female 1: Pretty good, what are you guys here to see?

Female 3: (Current movie name). It starts in a few minutes so we had better get our seats (They walk away)

Female 2: (To other friends with a laugh) I can't believe she was with him!!!

Female 3: I think it is cool that she would go out with a black guy and not be worried about it. (They walk off stage)

(A group of 3 black males walk into the movie lobby)

Male 2: Hey, what's up (male's name)?

Male 1: Nothing much man, we just came to see this movie. Oh, by the way this is (female 1's name).

Male 3: Hi (female 1's name), nice to meet you.

Male 2: We have to get to our movie. (Walking away). But can we speak to you a minute first?

Male 1: Yeah. (To female 1) I'll be right back. (Walks over to friends)

Male 3: Hey man, what's up with the white babe? You sellin' out?

Male 1: Sellin' out? I'm just on a date. Quit trippin'

Male 2: Yo, whatever G. (Black males walk off stage, Male 1 walks back to female 1)

Female 1: What did they say?

Male 1: Nothing

Female 1: I know they said something... I know they said the same things that my parents said, that you mom said, and what everyone else staring at us is saying!

Male 1: Does it matter what they think? Should it matter what they think?

Title: **The Choice Is Yours**  
Group Size: 4 males  
Materials: Music, play money, 2 beepers  
Setting: Starts with 2 drugs dealers on a street corner

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Male 1: What's up man.

Male 2: I rolled in \$500 tonight.

Male 1: Word? Hey did you hear what happened to Dave last night?

Male 2: No.

Male 1: He got shot!

Male 2: (Laughs a little and acts like he doesn't care). For real? That's on him, man. You can pass or fail, I guess Dave failed. It doesn't make any difference to me, just means more money for me. (Slaps hands with male 1)

Male 1: Damn man, I can't live like that. I started just to put food on the table and help out my mom. The more I think about it, the more I wonder if I took the easy way out.

Male 2: Save the drama! You want to talk right and wrong? Talk to me about why your family had to live in a one bedroom apartment 'til you started dealin'. Yo, if things were different, it would be cool, but they're not. You got to take care of yourself.

Male 1: That's true, but...

Male 2: But what?

Male 1: It's killin' us.

Male 2: Killin' who? Who cares about a crack head?

Male 1: It's not just them. It's everybody, from the crackheads to the babies they bring into the world, hooked before they take their first breath and...

Male 2: (Angry) And what? I'm not going back to wondering where or when my next meal is coming just because Dave failed.

Male 1: Don't you see what this can do to people?

- Male 2: (Shakes his head. His beeper goes off.) Look man, it's all a test. Dave failed it. We're too smart to fail the test. Nothing will happen to us. Hey, I gotta check this call out (Points to beeper, walks to corner of the stage, pretends to make a phone call)
- Males 3 & 4: (Walk up to booth, pantomime getting drugs. See drug dealer's Money. One pulls out a gun and shoots him. They steal the money and run away)
- Male 1: (Walks over to the dead dealer. Beeper goes off. Looks at his beeper, looks at his friend. Drops his drugs and beeper and walks off the stage.)

Title: **That's My Girl**

Group Size: 1 male, 2 females

Materials: Telephone, 2 chairs, beer and cigarette, Report card

Setting: Mom and Dad are sitting on chairs at home. Dad is drinking a beer, Mom is smoking.

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Daughter: (Walks into the room). Mom, Dad I have my report card to show you.  
(Hands report card to her Dad)

Dad: Ahh, All A's in math I see. That's my girl!

Mom: (Taking report card). You also did excellently on your poetry project. That's my girl!

Dad: How did that track meet go yesterday?

Daughter: I took first place in the hurdles.

Dad: That's my girl

Mom: And do you remember how wonderful she was in the school play last month? It was SO good. That's my girl

Dad: Yes, we must have raised her right. She always does such a good job on everything. Must take after me. She even qualified for state on her debate team. That's my girl

Mom: And she's always so polite and kind. That's my girl

(In the background the phone rings)

Dad: (Answering the phone). Yes, I'm Sarah's father. Isn't she the greatest... What? She did what!?! When? Very well, thank you for informing us.

Mom: (Concerned) Who was on the phone?

Dad: That was the principle. (Scowling at his daughter) Guess what he had to say.

Daughter: (Looking anxious) I don't know

Mom: Well, tell us!

Dad: He said that our girl has been drinking and smoking in between class periods behind the school!

Mom: That's not possible! (Stands up and takes a long draw off her cigarette).  
What were you thinking?

Dad: Don't you care about what happens to your future? What's wrong with you  
anyway!

Daughter: (Getting angry and grabbing Dad's beer and Mom's cigarette) Well after  
all... That's "your girl!" (Daughter throws beer can and cigarette away and  
walks off the set)



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