



# Pathway to Prevention

Educating Parents about Prevention of Teen Drug & Alcohol Abuse



August 2015

## Butane Honey Oil Ushers in a World of Pain

The collateral damage of butane honey oil production (AKA "butter," "710," "wax," "hash oil," or "dabs") is making the front page these days. In July, 2015, 10% of the burn victims at Shriners and UC Davis hospitals in Sacramento were burn victims from butane honey oil labs. Two of the victims were innocent out-of town children who wandered into a Butte County kitchen just as the butane gases ignited. Some of the victims are spouses or children of the person making the oil. Some are first responders to a house fire and explosion. In every burn case, patients pay an excruciating and potentially deadly price with deep third-degree burns.

Honey oil is also dangerous to those who smoke it. Smokeless, odorless and easy to hide, it's generally smoked in e-cigarettes ("vaping"). Honey oil contains up to 80% THC, compared to 5% THC (or less) in the pot of the 1970s. Jon Daily, LCSW, CADC-II and founder of Recovery Happens Counseling Services, describes its impact like this: "The symptoms of wax, dabs, or butter include psychotic breaks, having hallucinations, seeing things that are not there, hearing things that are not there, having tactile sensations like something's crawling under my skin." Long-term effects of this concentrate aren't fully known; but we do know that marijuana use can cause paranoia, anxiety, panic attacks and hallucinations, increased heart rate and blood pressure, withdrawal and possibly addiction.

## Kudos to the Town of Truckee

In May of 2015, the Town of Truckee adopted a Social Host Liability ordinance into the Municipal Code, aiming to reduce underage drinking and substance abuse.

The Social Host Liability Ordinance prohibits any person from hosting, or allowing, a party/gathering to be hosted upon his or her public or private party where minors (any person under the age of 21) are using or consuming alcohol, marijuana, or controlled substances. A violation of the Social Host Liability Ordinance can occur even if the person responsible for the party/gathering did not intend for minors to possess or consume alcohol, marijuana, or controlled substances but did nothing to stop or try to prevent the use. If a violation occurs, the host will receive an administrative citation and fine as well as information as to how

Since honey oil includes much more THC than plain old pot, it's likely to prove even more destructive.

What is the price of preventing a psychotic break or third-degree burns on the face of a child? Prevention is priceless, so talk with your teens to make sure they know the dangers of this drug.

Sincerely,

*Kim Box*

Executive Director, Pathway to Prevention

## Parting Notes

Teens are thrill-seekers, which is developmentally appropriate at this stage in their lives. But that means anti-drug scare tactics often don't deter them from dangerous activities. What *does* work? Helping them find opportunities to pursue their passions in an exciting and constructive way, and talking with them in a way that resonates with their desire to be masters of their universe and create their futures. Here are some teen-vetted observations that a parent might share during a conversation about drugs and alcohol:

*Looking out for #1 means staying drug and alcohol-free and hanging with healthy friends. Stand up for a healthy you with a bright future.*

*Love football? Dancing? Running? Lacrosse? Cheer? Skating? Swimming? Moving? Breathing? Staying at the top of your game means staying away from drugs and alcohol.*

*Did you know? Using prescription drugs that aren't yours is NOT any safer than using illegal drugs.*

*Stay in charge. Mixing prescription medications with alcohol can stop your breathing.*

to appeal the citation.

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## Resources

[Navigating the Teen Years](#)

Pathway to  
Prevention *Parent Awareness Guides*  
([English](#) / [Spanish](#))

[Collision Course](#)  
trailer, viewed over  
106,000 times

[ParentPathway](#)  
resources for parents

*Choose your path. How will being unmotivated, unfocused, depressed, doing badly in school or acting out of control help you achieve your dreams?*

*Looking to look good? If you want to know what meth can do for you, check out [The Meth Project](#) online and ask yourself, "What can meth do for me?"*

*Chart your destiny. Drinking and taking drugs impair your learning and memory and can hurt your school performance, chances for college and your future.*

*Stay smart. Your brain keeps developing and forming important connections into your mid-20s. Drugs and alcohol can change the way it develops - forever.*

*Hold on to your true friends. Real friends want what's best for you and for you to be healthy.*

*Stay in the driver's seat of your life. If you drink and drive, you can lose your driver's license - or your life.*

*It's your choice to stay in control - or not. Taking drugs or drinking can impair your judgment and open the door to choices you regret the next day.*

*Let's talk about some possible consequences of binge drinking: Blackout drinking where you can walk, talk, drive or have sex but can't remember any of it. Sexual assault, unprotected sex, unwanted pregnancy, STDs, DUIs, vehicular manslaughter, maybe a fall off a balcony or a drowning. How fun is that party?*

of children with  
substance use  
disorder

### [The Teenage Brain.](#)

Learn how drugs, stress and alcohol change the brain.



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