



FOUNDATION FOR A
DRUG-FREE WORLD

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

HELLO *November*

NEWSLETTE

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Happy month of November and Happy Thanksgiving to you all! It's hard to believe the year is almost over. With Thanksgiving coming, it's a time to reflect on the things we are grateful for in our lives, and I hope that for you, there are many!

Sadly, I have recently learned of several families local to me that have lost kids to drugs that were laced with Fentanyl, and I can only imagine how painful the holidays may be for them this year. Fentanyl seems to be taking all of our communities by storm, no matter what kind of community and where.

In talking to parents at the schools these kids attended, I found something very unfortunate. Many people wait for a tragedy to occur before they realize there *is* something wrong! And for some, the tragedy has to be very close to home before they realize something bad has happened!



My advice is *don't do that!* It is better to prevent than cure! It is better to become proactive and knowledgeable and know what is going on around you *before* something horrible happens to let you know what is happening and spur you into action! You can't bring back a kid that we've lost.

This attitude is what makes the difference between one who is the victim

of life circumstances and one who is not. It is the difference between *you* making life or life making you!

When one knows the basics and the facts about any subject, he can have certainty in that subject and therefore make good decisions in that area.



When it comes to drugs, those facts and basics are really about the simplicity of what a drug is! It doesn't matter what the name is, what color it is and what mixture. It doesn't matter if it is legal or not! All one needs to know is what a drug is and what it *does!* With that basic totally grasped, he can make up his own mind about *any* drugs that come into the market.

Fentanyl will not be the last drug to be abused to such a degree! Unfortunately, there will be others as there will always be people who are after money and going after our kids as they are easy targets and once hooked become customers for life!

But when you don't know the facts, you get fooled and can be lied to.

So, my suggestion is be the captain of your own ship in life and decide its course. Don't wait and let life just happen and make the course for you – you may not like where it takes you.



As a parent, your most valued possession is your kid. You are responsible for him and his well-being. Be present in your kid's life, know what they are doing, who they are hanging out with and what their problems and issues may be – be interested in them! These simple things can very easily save their lives!

Education is what gives one certainty and stability midst the confusion and the chaos. So, educate yourselves and your kids.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” - Nelson Mandela.

And the world needs a lot of changing today.

Have a great Thanksgiving!

Koko

Pop Quiz

Does Naloxone (Narcan) work on any drug overdose?

[VIEW THE ANSWER →](#)

Myth Buster

Myth: All Fentanyl is the same.

Truth: Legal and illicit fentanyl are two very different things. One is a legal, FDA-approved medication. It's prescribed in the form of patches, pills, or administered before surgery.

Illicit fentanyl is very different. It's made in illegal labs and often sold as heroin. Because fentanyl is 30 to 50 times more potent than heroin, it's very easy for people who use drugs to overdose. Imagine going to a bar and ordering a shot of vodka only to receive a shot of rubbing alcohol.

The Truth About Painkillers



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Important Fentanyl Articles

LA Dept. of Public Health: Counterfeit Pills Contaminated with Fentanyl Causing Drug Overdoses

Article Courtesy of TDC Health, September 19, 2022



A health alert has actually been released in Los Angeles after 4 teenagers overdosed after taking counterfeit narcotic pills; one of them was discovered dead at their school.

The Los Angeles Department of Public Health is providing a health alert after 4 teenagers were discovered overdosed following acquiring counterfeit narcotic pills at Lexington Park, consisting of one trainee discovered deceased on school at Bernstein High School in Hollywood on September 13, 2022.

Nationwide, there has actually been a growing pattern of illegal drugs (especially methamphetamine and drug) and counterfeit pills contaminated with fentanyl and other deadly compounds. This has actually affected both grownups and youth. In 2021, fentanyl was recognized in about 77% of teen overdose deaths nationally, and over 80% of drug overdose deaths amongst teenagers aged 15– 19 in 2015 were unintended. Fentanyl and methamphetamine-related overdose deaths have actually increased in Los Angeles County even prior to the pandemic and continue to increase at a worrying rate.

Fentanyl is a high effectiveness artificial opioid that is colorless and odor free and can trigger fast breathing anxiety leading to unintentional death. Awareness of the threat of fentanyl in counterfeit pills, stimulants, and other compounds offered outdoors of drug stores is needed for both the public, consisting of youth and grownups, along with doctor.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

Rainbow Fentanyl Alert from the California Dept of Public Health

Article Courtesy of The California Department of Public Health, September 21, 2022



TO: California County and District Superintendents and Charter School Administrators

SUBJECT: Rainbow Fentanyl Alert

Fentanyl (an extremely potent and dangerous synthetic opioid) continues to be a major contributor to drug overdoses in California, including among youth [1]. According to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) California Overdose Surveillance Dashboard [2]:

- Emergency department visits related to non-fatal opioid overdoses in California's youth ages 10-19 years more than tripled from 2018 (379 total) to 2020 (1,222 total).
- Opioid-related overdose deaths in California's youth ages 10-19 years increased from 2018 (54 total) to 2020 (274 total),

marking a 407 percent increase over two years, largely driven by fentanyl.

- Fentanyl-related overdose deaths in California's youth ages 10-19 years increased from 2018 (36 total) to 2020 (261 total), a 625 percent increase.

Today I am writing to inform you that, in addition to these concerning trends, brightly-colored fentanyl (referred to as rainbow fentanyl) has been identified as a new trend according to the United States (U.S.) Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) [3]. Rainbow fentanyl can be found in many forms, including pills, powder, and blocks that can resemble sidewalk chalk or candy. Any pill (regardless of its color, shape, or size) that does not come from a health care provider or pharmacist can contain fentanyl and can be deadly.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

The Truth About Fentanyl

Article Courtesy of Foundation for a Drug-Free World



A lethal dose of heroin (left) and a lethal dose of fentanyl (right).

What makes heroin's synthetic cousin, fentanyl, one of the deadliest drugs in the world?

“Dealers are lacing cocaine and heroin with fentanyl, and young adults are dying in significant numbers. It is an epidemic. Horrific,” says a registered nurse in New Zealand. Indeed, while there has been a downward trend in deaths from prescription opioids alone, overdose deaths from fentanyl have risen dramatically, up 540 percent in three years.

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid painkiller, prescribed to treat severe pain. It is a cousin to heroin, but much deadlier because it is much stronger—50 times more potent than heroin, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The photo to the left

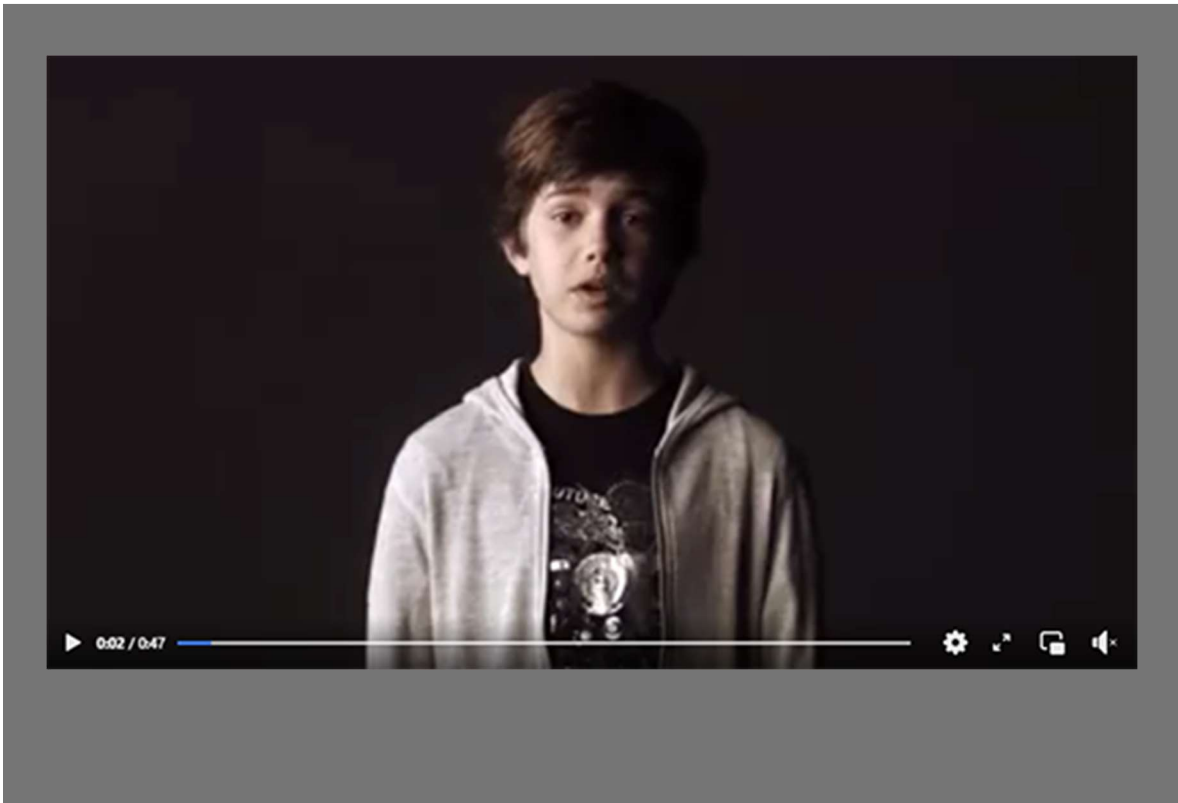
shows a lethal dose of heroin, at about 30 milligrams, compared to fentanyl, a dose of only 3 milligrams. In fact, rescuers responding to overdose calls have to be careful—just touching it or inhaling it can be deadly.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

"One Hit"

They said "ONE" hit wouldn't hurt...They Lied!!

[Click here to watch the video.](#)



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WELCOME TO THE
DRUG-FREE WORLD
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No one questions the severity of the drug problem and its devastating impact on youth. Academic results suffer and, even worse, drugs undermine health and destroy young lives.

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The Truth About Drugs education curriculum is the ideal supplemental aid for teachers, instructors and drug prevention specialists. This curriculum is now available online, providing lesson plans and resources ready for download and use anywhere and everywhere.

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Pop Quiz Answer

Question: Does Naloxone (Narcan) work on any drug overdose?

Answer: No! Naloxone (Narcan), the medicine that reverses an opioid overdose, is an opioid antagonist. This means it binds to the opioid receptors in the brain, preventing and reversing the effect of opioids. It works for any opioid, including fentanyl. It does not work on any other kind of drug overdose!

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