

# CONVERSATION STARTERS

WE ARE  
TEACHERS

Have you been in situations where there were opportunities for drug or alcohol use? Did you feel pressured? Why or why not?

Why do you think some teens abuse drugs and alcohol? If you asked them, what reasons would they give for using? What *other* reasons might they have?

Imagine that it's 25 years from now and you have a teenage son or daughter exactly the same age as you are now. What would you say to him or her about drinking and drugs?

When you feel down, stressed, lonely or bored, what do you do to feel better? Sometimes people "medicate" with drugs or alcohol to avoid difficult feelings. What are some healthier options?

You are at a concert and someone offers you a pill to "enhance the experience." If you were to take it, what are some of the possible consequences? If you chose not to take it, what would happen?

It's a Friday night and you've been looking forward to hanging out with your friends all week. Your friend says he'll give you a ride because he knows you're stuck. You get there and it's going great, but then you turn around and your ride is smoking a joint. What are your options? What would you do?

What can you do to have cool adventures that make it less likely you would choose the "false" adventure of doing drugs or drinking? In short, what else can teens be doing on a Saturday night?

Name two things you would like to accomplish by the time you graduate high school. How could drugs and alcohol get in the way of those goals?

Have you ever seen anyone using alcohol or drugs make a fool of themselves? What happened? How would you feel if it were you?

When do you think people are old enough to make their own decisions about drinking and drugs? Do grownups always make good decisions? If you were in charge of setting the legal age, what would it be?