

SAY NO TO DRUGS

I was raised in a “Traditional” Mexican family, where family, honor and values are everyday words. Drug abuse is a killer! Everyday drugs ruin more lives in the World than can be imagined. The word drug abuse and family cannot share the same sentence. Drugs ruin relationships with anyone. It ruins your thoughts, and your dreams. Doing drugs is a sign of ultimate weakness.

I value my family and respect them tremendously. I have watched my father work his entire life trying to do what is right. I would never want to hurt him or my family by using drugs.

When people do drugs, they don't realize the kind of damage they cause to the people around them both physically and mentally. It doesn't matter whether it's marijuana or crystal methamphetamine. Drugs turn regular people into monsters. It forces the abusers to steal from family members and friends. To act out of place, and a lot of times in violent manners. Ultimately, if death does not occur, the abuse will leave the drug abuser homeless, and all alone. Who in their right mind would want that?

Once the drug has taken hold of the abuser, the person simply survives to use again. The person's sole purpose in life is to get more drugs. Whatever they must do, they will do. Lie, steal, cheat, and even sell their body, for their next fix. It is in fact a harsh reality, but unfortunately it happens.

I have spent a good time of my life growing up in the city of Pomona. I went to public schools in elementary and middle school, and it was in middle school where I myself had my first encounter with drugs. The school had a wide range of students from all over. I was a decent student. I got decent grades. I also got in trouble a few times but I was kid acting like a kid. Detention here and there, and even getting into a couple of fights.

It was not until halfway through my eight grade year. I had gotten to school early and I a friend of mine was also there early. We were hanging out in the back of the school near the gym and as the clock drew closer for school to start he asked me if I wanted to ditch school and go smoke “Meth” at his house. I looked at him with a surprised look as he smiled at me. I told him that I couldn't. He tried to persuade me by telling me he had everything in his backpack and that all we needed to do was go down the street and smoke. I thanked him and again told him

that I was sorry but that I couldn't and wouldn't do it. I got up and went to class.

Now if I would have said yes, and went and done the meth I probably would not be sitting here writing this essay and probably would not have graduated high school. I probably would not have the plans of attending college and following my dreams of entering the military after college. I probably would not have a lot that I have today, but most of all I probably would not have respect from my friends and family that I have today.

So why you ask should we say no to drugs? Very simply because its bad for your health. It promotes nothing but negative output in a world that already has enough problems. It makes an individual lose themselves, their future, their hopes and dreams. Whatever the reason it was that started a person down the road to abuse is not enough to lose your life to something that basically takes you in as a slave and controls your every move and thoughts. That is definitely not the way a human being is supposed to live. **SAY NO TO DRUGS!**