

Drugs and Alcohol

You are over at a friend's house, while their parents are out of town. The friend offers you a beer. What do you do?

- a) **Accept it.** After all, **one beer doesn't hurt** anyone, and you certainly don't want your friend to think you're not cool.
- b) **Accept it, but you** will look for a discreet way to **pour it down a drain** when your friend isn't looking.
- c) Tell your friend, "**No thanks,**" **but** let him or her know that **if they want one, that's fine with you.**
- d) You **say, "No thanks,"** **and** come up with an excuse of why you need to **go home.** (Homework, chores, etc.)
- e) **Tell your friend that drinking beer is wrong** and leave for home.
- f) You say "**No thanks,**" **go home, and tell your friend's parents** when they get back into town.

Discussion Points:

- 1) **How does/can alcohol affect your life?**
 - a) **Takes focus off of what you need to do to succeed.**
 - b) **Can temporarily change your personality. This will affect how you relate to the people you care about.**
 - c) **You can start down a road where it can be difficult to change the course.**
- 2) **Talk about a person you know whose life was affected by alcohol.**
 - a) **As a drunk driver.**
 - b) **Ruined by a drunk driver.**
 - c) **Problems with friends and family.**
 - d) **Financial issues.**

Charity

While going home from shopping you see an unshaven man holding a sign that reads, "Homeless vet, need food, please help, God Bless." What do you do, or what would you do if you could?

- a) You stop and **give this man some money,** so he can buy some food.
- b) You stop and invite this man for a home-cooked meal or **take him to** the nearest **restaurant** where you'll **buy lunch.**
- c) You go to a local restaurant, **buy the man lunch and take it back to him.**
- d) You stop and **give him directions** to the nearest soup kitchen or **homeless shelter.**
- e) You **ignore the man** because you feel that giving him anything only makes it easier for him to refuse work, or to buy drugs or alcohol.
- f) You **tell the man to quit begging** and go find a job like most everyone else in the world.

Discussion Points:

- 1) **Should you question the motives of why this man holds the sign instead of getting a job?**
- 2) **Does giving this man help him in the short-term, and what about the long-term implications?**
- 3) **What does this man need in life beyond today?**
- 4) **Could this be an act designed to play on your sympathies and does this matter?**

Family

A parent just told you to clean your room. How will you respond to this directive?

- a) You drop whatever you are doing and **immediately start cleaning.**
- b) You will **get started as soon as you finish** what you are currently doing.
- c) You will **start** cleaning your room **as soon as you finish** the other **things** you must do that are **more important**, such as your homework.
- d) You'll get around to it **later.** You are always being told to clean your room.
- e) You will **wait until** you feel like **you're** getting **nagged.**
- f) You **don't really worry about it.** After all, you're the one who has to live in your room. You can't understand what difference it makes.

Discussion Points:

- 1) **Why do children wait to do as parents request?**
 - a) Laziness?
 - b) Showing their independence?
 - c) The children have heard the request so often, they become jaded to it's repetition?
 - d) Differing priorities?
- 2) **Chores and other tasks are easier to accomplish if things are kept in order on a daily basis.**

Peer Pressure

As you have gotten older, you find that you still like a musical group that all of your friends no longer enjoy. How do you react to their change of taste?

- a) **You don't care** what your friends think. You will listen to your favorite music when you want.
- b) You decide to **verbalize your dislike** for some of their favorite performers.
- c) You will only **listen to your favorites when you are alone** or at home where your friends will not have to listen.
- d) You will start to **listen to this band less** and will try to understand what your friends now like.
- e) This is one of those things that you will **change in order to 'fit in.'** You know that soon enough you would hardly listen to this group anyway.
- f) You decide to **change your mind** and express that you really like the group all of your friends now enjoy.

Discussion Points:

- 1) **How much should your tastes be molded by the opinions of others?**
- 2) **The fact that you like a certain performer does not mean that you must dislike other performers.**
- 3) **Some of your other friends may be less than completely honest in stating their likes and dislikes. Remember, each person must face the same question as yourself. Some of your friends may have:**
 - a) Publicly changed an opinion to 'fit in.'
 - b) Decided to keep his or her opinions to himself.

Honesty

While you are taking a test, a classmate across from you nudges you. He wants you to give him the answer to one of the questions. What do you do?

- a) Raise your hand, and **tell your teacher** that this other student is asking you to cheat.
- b) You quietly **say, "No."**
- c) You **shake you head 'no.'**
- d) You do your best to **ignore him.**
- e) You give this person a **silent hint** using a hand sign. After all, you never know when you might want a hint from this person.
- f) You clearly **give him the answer**, but do it discretely enough to avoid attention of your teacher.

Discussion Points:

- 1) **Can you get in trouble even if you do not give an answer or a hint to another student?**
- 2) **Can helping another person score well on a test, actually hurt your academic standing in the class?**
- 3) **If you go along and help out someone during a test, are you actually helping them?**

Money and Possessions

You have just started saving your money for a major purchase, (a new bicycle, stereo, etc.) Over the last weekend, you earned \$20 helping a neighbor with his large garden. How much of this money do you save, and how much will you spend on small expenditures like candy bars and movie tickets?

- a) You **save the entire 20** dollars.
- b) You set aside two dollars for spending, and **save the remaining 18.**
- c) You **put four or five dollars in your wallet**, and put the other 15 or 16 dollars into savings.
- d) You decide to **save half** and keep the other half for 'fun' spending.
- e) You will save a small percentage, and **spend the majority** of your earnings.
- f) You decide to **spend as much as you want** for the next few days, and save what is leftover.

Discussion Points:

- 1) **It is important to learn good habits when young. Starting good savings habits will help later in life for:**
 - a) **College**
 - b) **Buying a house**
 - c) **Automobiles**
 - d) **Starting a family**
 - e) **Retirement**
- 2) **Discipline is important. You need to set enough aside for immediate needs, not other, minor wants. Is it realistic for you to save every dollar until you reach your goal?**