



Hatch Discussion Guides suggest questions and exercises to promote critical thinking around media literacy, digital citizenship and social issues. Rather than impose specific points of view, the guides are designed to provide parents and educators the tools to facilitate discussions on complex issues.

HATCH WORKSHOP DISCUSSION GUIDE: PARTY CULTURE

WORKSHOP MISSION:

- To give parents and educators the tools to have open discussions with #GenZ teens about party culture. With an ear for their story, we have gathered insights that can create true cross-generational learnings. Visit <http://bit.ly/1YmsC7i> to watch our #HatchKids video.

KEY TAKEAWAYS FOR PARENTS & EDUCATORS:

- Hold open discussions with your teen about how they participate in “party culture.”
- Teens respect open dialogue.
- Alcohol and drugs are being used. Are you ready to get real about that?
- Adults, you must be ready to listen, control your emotions and learn for these discussions to be effective.

BACKGROUND:

To make this workshop about teen party culture concrete, SheKnows Media’s #HatchKids explored the key dynamics surrounding peer pressure and alcohol and drug usage. In the face of the holiday season, we believe this is a particularly timely topic.

DISCUSSION STARTERS & QUESTIONS:

Ground your discussion with the useful resources we’ve compiled. Please reference the key terms below and links throughout for additional discussion support.

Key Terms for Discussion:

DEFINING PEER PRESSURE:

- The pressure that you feel to behave in a certain way because your friends or people in your group expect it. ¹

DEFINING DRUGS:

- Drugs are chemicals that alter, block, or mimic chemical reactions in the brain. This causes an alteration of the body's normal processes, causing physical (Faster heartbeat, deeper respiration etc.), or mental (Elevated mood, new thought processes etc.) changes. ²

These concepts are multifaceted. In that vein, we have compiled the following resources to deepen understanding for teens and adults:



RESOURCES SURROUNDING UNDERSTANDING TEEN ALCOHOL & DRUG CULTURE

- HelpGuide.org, <http://www.helpguide.org/harvard/the-dangers-of-teenage-drinking.htm>
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, http://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/MakeADiff_HTML/makediff.htm
- The Reality of Youth Drug Addiction, <http://www.twcnews.com/nys/buffalo/news/2015/05/15/youth-drug-addiction-.html>
- High-achieving New York City Teens Are Abusing Prescription Drugs for Good Grades, <http://www.newportacademy.com/high-achieving-new-york-city-teens-are-abusing-prescription-drugs-for-good-grades/>

Discussion Topics:

Defining alcohol and drug abuse and its intersectionality with teens and peer pressure is essential to setting the groundwork in this discussion guide. Use the following research to further prepare yourself:

RESEARCH SURROUNDING ALCOHOL & DRUG USAGE

- Alcohol is the most commonly used and abused drug among youth in the United States.³
- In 2013, the [National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#) reported that 23% of youth aged 12 to 20 years drink alcohol and 14% reported binge drinking in the past 30 days.³
- "The teen brain is a work in progress, making it more vulnerable than the mature brain to the physical effects of drugs. The potential for developing substance abuse and dependence is substantially greater when an individual's first exposure to alcohol, nicotine and illicit drugs occurs during adolescence than in adulthood."⁴
- "In 2014, about half (47.8 percent) of youths aged 12 to 17 reported that it would be fairly easy or very easy for them to obtain marijuana if they wanted some. Slightly less than 1 in 10 (9.4 percent) indicated that heroin would be easily obtainable, about 1 in 9 (11.6 percent) reported that it would be easy to obtain LSD, and about 1 in 7 (14.4 percent) reported that it would be easy to obtain cocaine. The percentages of adolescents in 2014 who indicated that it would be easy to get cocaine and crack were lower than the corresponding percentages in each year from 2002 through 2012."⁵

Now that you've reviewed the resources, research and statistics, you are prepared to start an open discourse with your teen. Remember, you are here to listen and learn. It is crucial that you keep that perspective as you chart a course of trust in the often turbulent waters of teen party culture. Controlling your emotions and staying open are vital.



HATCH DISCUSSION GUIDE

Questions to consider:

1. How prevalent is (insert below) among your age group?
 - Drinking alcohol
 - Being drunk
 - Smoking cigarettes
 - Smoking marijuana
 - Misusing controlled prescription drugs
2. Do you consider alcohol a drug? Why/why not?
3. What was your first experience with alcohol (not that you necessarily drank)? Was it good? Bad?
4. Do your parents talk to you about drugs and alcohol? If so, how do they discuss it?
5. Do your parents know that alcohol is present at parties?
6. Some parents prefer that their kids drink or do drugs under their supervision. Has this ever been your experience?
7. What are some parameters your parents place on you and parties?
8. How do you get around your parents and their rules?
9. Are there any "party realities" that are different from your parents' assumptions?
10. What's the one question/topic you think your parents want the answers/insight into?
11. Is there any stigma, positive or negative, surrounding drug use?
12. Is there any stigma, positive or negative, surrounding alcohol use?
13. Is there any stigma, positive or negative, surrounding smoking?
14. If you haven't used, why not?
15. How easy is it for you to get drugs/alcohol?
16. Do you have to pay for them?
17. Is there a barter system?
18. Are the dealers people you know?
19. Are the dealers outsiders? How old are they?
20. Is there an online slang that is used? A way to communicate through social media/text?
21. Is peer pressure happening? (Is it deliberate or subtle? What is an example of deliberate peer pressure? What is subtle peer pressure?)
22. Do you know anyone your age who has suffered from dependency issues? Been to rehab? What was their experience? Did they come back to school?
23. How is knowledge of parties transmitted? Do you have to be invited to parties?
24. Do you get nervous when you go to parties?
25. What would cause someone to drink before a party?
26. How frequently are drugs and alcohol present at parties?
27. How do you respond to this?
28. What's your response when you see something illegal happening?
29. What happens after the party? Social media documentation?
30. Are drugs and alcohol more present during the holidays?

A FINAL QUOTE

"Prepare your kids for the party..."

~ #PartyCulture



HATCH DISCUSSION GUIDE

Sources:

1. Cambridge Dictionaries, <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/peer-pressure>
2. Urban Dictionary, <http://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=Drugs>
3. CDC, <http://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/fact-sheets/underage-drinking.htm>
4. Casa Columbia, <http://www.casacolumbia.org/addiction-research/reports/adolescent-substa... - sthash.N5zqJEil.hPtwO4Ys.dpuf>
5. SAMHSA, [http://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUH-DR-FRR4-2014 \(1\)/NSDUH-DR-FRR4-2014.htm - sthash.N5zqJEil.hPtwO4Ys.dpuf](http://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUH-DR-FRR4-2014 (1)/NSDUH-DR-FRR4-2014.htm - sthash.N5zqJEil.hPtwO4Ys.dpuf)

About Hatch:

Hatch was launched in 2014 in response to a SheKnows Media study that revealed moms often feel tense about their kids' use and exposure to technology, understanding its benefits while also worrying about the digital footprint their children leave behind. Never before has a group of young people, #GenZ, come of age with the ability to create and share content at scale.

Hatch's mission is to empower #HatchKids to use media and technology to express themselves in productive and positive ways. Emphasizing media literacy, digital storytelling and social issues, Hatch enables kids to create KidsSpeak content that is responsible and represents their unique perspectives. Education is a key component of Hatch. Parents and educators are invited to use the materials from Hatch workshops to facilitate discussions with their own teens and tweens.