

TALKING TO YOUNG ADULTS AGES 17-20



ABOUT MARIJUANA

Keep Talking



Your teen's opinions on issues and values are changing as they get older. As they grow, they'll also be given more opportunities and feel more pressure to try alcohol and drugs.

Stay Connected



By staying involved in your teen's life, it will help you to better understand what they're thinking and how they feel about different issues.

Help your teen figure out what their hobbies and dreams are and what freedoms they value. Help them prioritize those interests over using substances. If they're focused on goals, they'll be less likely to let marijuana get in their way.

Set Expectations



Make sure your expectations are clear and don't change them. Let your teen know you are serious about your views and concerns around marijuana use.

Learn More by
Visiting Us at
PreventionMC.org



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YOUR TEEN SAYS: "I know. You've talked to me about this before."

YOU CAN SAY

"My concern is that things are changing quickly with some states legalizing marijuana, and that's why it's important that we talk about it. Would that be okay?"

HERE'S WHY

Asking permission is essential to open communication, and makes your teen feel empowered to have this conversation. Be prepared for a "No." If this happens, ask why. Then have them suggest a time when they would be willing to talk.

YOUR TEEN SAYS: "At least I don't drink alcohol. Weed is safer."

YOU CAN SAY

"What's going on in your life that makes you feel like you want to do either?"

HERE'S WHY

Your response may still be met with "nothing" or another short answer, but these can lead to supportive statements from you, like "I'm glad to hear there isn't anything going on in your life that makes you want to drink or smoke."

YOUR TEEN SAYS: "But it's medicine, so it's safe."

YOU CAN SAY

"It's not meant for everyone. Patients that receive marijuana for medicinal purposes have been to a doctor who has recommended it for their specific condition."

HERE'S WHY

This is a good opportunity to brainstorm medicines that aren't appropriate for everyone and would be a great opportunity to discuss the importance of safe medication practices.



For more conversation tips visit [DrugFree.org](https://www.drugfree.org)