

Media Release
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So why are drugs killing our kids???

Highly successful organisation **Youth Insearch** is calling for more attention to be focussed on why our kids are turning to drugs and alcohol as a way of dealing with life's problems.

"There is not enough focus on the reasons **why** young people are turning to them in the first place" says 20 year old Youth Insearch Leader, Heath Ducker.

"The abuse of **illicit drugs and alcohol** amongst young people is a **symptom of a problem**".

"We don't have a drug problem, we have a decline in social and moral values" said Heath

"As a kid I lived in extreme poverty and experienced the trauma of sexual abuse. Youth Insearch focuses on the reasons why young people choose a path of self destruction".

Heath, now completing a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies and a Bachelor of Law, owes his life to Youth Insearch. He is in Brisbane to help co-ordinate the next Youth Insearch Camp, speaking to community groups, schools and young people throughout the community.

Youth Insearch conducts weekend Camps for young people between **14-20 years of age from differing backgrounds and lifestyles**. At the Camps, a safe and trusting atmosphere is created where young people feel comfortable to discuss emotional issues relating to family breakdown, drug and alcohol abuse, sexual abuse and grief related issues.

Participants are able to draw on the experiences from each other and establish new goals and directions, taking control of their lives and realising their full potential. Youth Insearch is not affiliated with any religious organisation.

The **winner** of the **Australian Violence Prevention Awards** in 1994 & 1996, is conducting a Youth Insearch Camp 15th-17th February north-west of Brisbane. Youth Insearch has been in operation in Queensland since 1992 and is strongly supported by **Lions International**.

Youth Insearch Camps are suitable for young people from all backgrounds and lifestyles.

"Young people need to be loved and they need to have discipline. We need to focus more on providing this safe environment for them to grow up in. We need to find out why kids are turning to drugs in the first place and address it. That is what we do at Youth Insearch" said Heath.

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