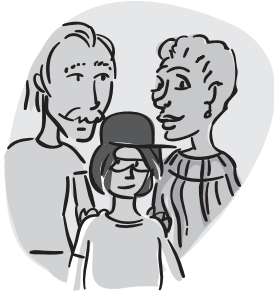


Risk And Protective Factors

(Adolescent Marijuana Use)

There are things in our environment that may increase or decrease the likelihood of making the decision to engage in a particular behaviour – like marijuana use. Things like...

+ CARING FAMILY ENVIRONMENT



+ PRO-SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT AT SCHOOL



- FRIENDS WHO SMOKE



- LIVING IN AN AREA DRUGS ARE SOLD



Protective Factors

These are called risk and protective factors.

Risk Factors

protective factor – a factor in one's behaviour / environment / personality that will decrease the likelihood of engaging in a risk behaviour

- Having a positive adult role model (parent, teacher, coach, relative)
- having good parental or caregiver supervision
- having a strong attachment to family, school and community
- having goals and dreams
- being involved in meaningful and well-supervised activities (sports, music, volunteer work)
- young people are given roles in the community
- positive relationships and communication with adults
- social skills
- secure sense of self

risk factor – a factor in one's behaviour/environment/personality that will increase the likelihood of engaging in a risk behaviour

- family conflicts, chaos
- alcohol or other drug problems among family
- poor school performance
- poverty
- low school commitment
- stress
- having friends who drink or use other drugs
- not fitting in socially
- emotional, physical or sexual abuse
- experiencing discrimination or oppression

VALUES

How we behave is influenced by our values. Something we value greatly will outweigh things of lesser value when we are choosing to take action.

