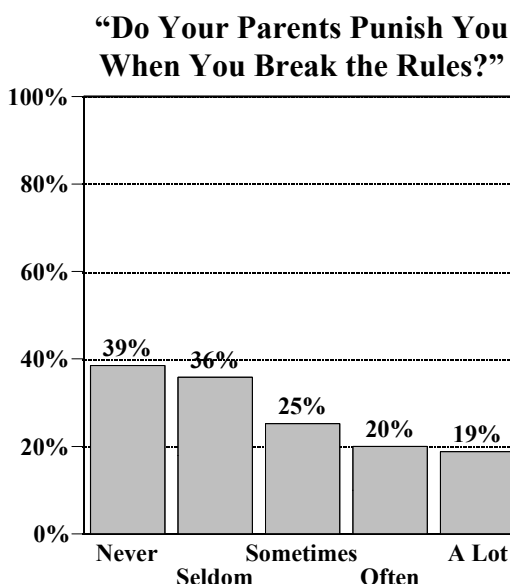
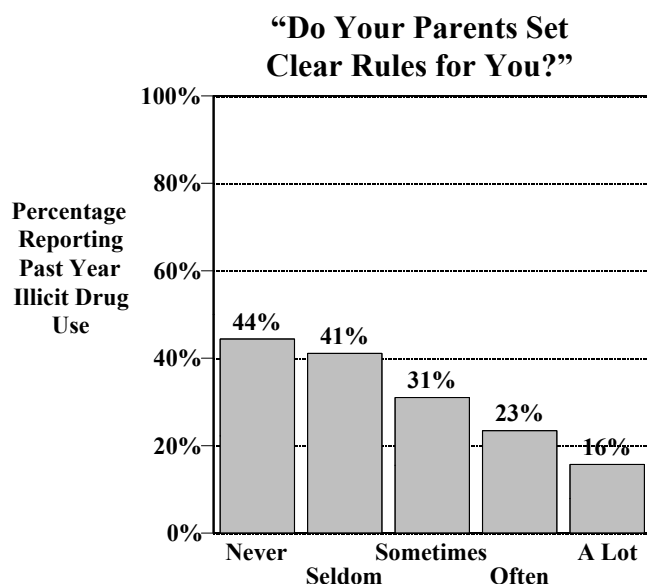


A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Youths Whose Parents Set and Enforce Rules Less Likely to Report Drug Use

The more frequently clear rules are set and enforced for youths, the less likely they are to use illicit drugs, according to data from the 2000-01 Parents' Resource Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE) survey. Overall, 25% of youths reported using illicit drugs (primarily marijuana) in the past year. However, youths who never had clear rules set for them by their parents reported considerably higher rates of past-year illicit drug use (44%) while youths who had clear rules set for them "a lot" reported lower rates (16%). Similarly, 39% of the youths who reported that they are never punished upon breaking rules reported past year illicit drug use, compared to 19% of youths who reported that their parents punished them "a lot" when they break the rules. These findings illustrate the important role parents can play in preventing drug use by their children.



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Parents' Resource Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE), *PRIDE Questionnaire Report: 2000-01 National Summary Grades 6-12, 2001*. Available online at www.pridesurveys.com/natsum00.pdf. For more information, call Doug Hall at 800-279-6361.