

A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

New Video Features Real Teens Talking About Ecstasy

Stolen Dreams: The Reality of Ecstasy both educates middle school students about the psychological and physical effects that ecstasy use can have and encourages the development of effective decision making skills. Produced and developed by University Video and CESAR at the University of Maryland College Park, this 15-minute video features young people who have experienced ecstasy use firsthand as well as renowned experts that highlight the effects of ecstasy use on the brain.

The youths in the video describe their various experiences with the drug, why they used it, and why they realize it was a mistake to use. Many reasons are given for taking ecstasy such as, "I thought it would just be a weekend thing." Many regrets are expressed as well. One girl discusses how she lost a lot of her values after she started taking ecstasy. A boy describes how his ecstasy use "tore his family to shreds." Another boy expresses his regrets at ever having tried ecstasy because now he can't skateboard as well as he used to.

Teens that choose not to use ecstasy offer their reasons, including wanting to achieve their goals and dreams, their fear of throwing away their potential, and missing out on activities such as the prom and sporting events. As one girl points out, "its just not the right choice."

The video also discusses the short and long-term affects of ecstasy use by showing what occurs in the brain after ecstasy use as well as what can happen as a result of an overdose of ecstasy.

Clips of *Stolen Dreams: The Reality of Ecstasy* can be viewed on CESAR's Drug Early Warning System (DEWS) website (www.dewsonline.org). The entire video is available for purchase for \$15. Orders can be submitted by mailing the order form below, along with a check or purchase order for \$15 made payable to CESAR.

SOURCE: University of Maryland, *Stolen Dreams: The Reality of Ecstasy*, 2003. For more information, contact Erin Artigiani at erin@cesar.umd.edu.

Yes, I would like to purchase the video *Stolen Dreams: The Reality of Ecstasy*.

Enclosed is my check or purchase order for **\$15** made payable to CESAR and mailed to:
CESAR, Attention: *Stolen Dreams* Video, 4321 Hartwick Rd, Ste 501, College Park, MD 20740.

Name: _____
Organization: _____
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