Inhalants

FORMS: Nitrous, Butane, Nail Polish Remover, Paint Thinner, Glue, Gasoline Additives, among others

WHAT IS IT?
Chemicals that give off fumes that act on the brain.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN TO YOUR BODY?

AT FIRST:

- Losing touch with reality.
- Loss of self control and balance.
- Psychological problems.
- Feel dizzy. Get bad headaches.
- Speech gets slurred.
- Sneeze, cough, get bloody noses.
- Feel sick to your stomach.
- Urinate and defecate without control.
- Death.

OVER TIME:

- Permanent brain, nerve, lung and kidney damage.
- Tired feeling.
- Weak muscles.
- Skin turns blue.
- Severely impaired physical and mental abilities.
- Deadly when used with alcohol or depressants.

MEDICAL RISKS:
The fact that these products are readily available and sometimes used under medical supervision does not mean that these inhalants are safe. They are very dangerous. Users of inhalants develop a tolerance to its effects. This means that the longer they use, the more it takes to achieve the high. In small doses, there is a feeling of light-headedness. Larger doses, produce a depressed state which can led to sleep or even a coma.

TRENDS:
The use of inhalants has dramatically increased in years particularly in young adolescents. Inhalants are used in epidemic proportions in economically challenged communities and countries.

DEMOGRAPHICS:
Although use extends across all demographic groups, it is concentrated among non-
Caucasian young people. Recent studies indicate that increasing numbers of middle school age children are using inhalants, particularly glue.