

Recommended
Teacher Outline:

“Choose Freedom Campaign”

Instructional Guide for Teachers

Purpose: To emphasize positive alternatives to crimes in the community.

- Education—records indicate that youth who graduate from high school are less likely to enter into the Department of Corrections custody. Completion of education is pivotal to a child’s future.
- Freedom—facts show that a large percentage of students are either related to or associated with someone who is under some form of correctional supervision. By recognizing and associating this fact with the aspects of lost freedom, the severity of lost freedom is heightened.
- Family—many youth commit crimes in an act of attention, rebellion, and at times underlying family issues can be a factor. By teaching families skills such as parenting, literacy and substance abuse, the families are more prepared to handle the complex issues that their children will face.
- Community—chances to make the wrong decision increase when youth have extra time on their hands. Involving the community in the lives of its young people, the opportunity for deviant behavior decreases. We can decrease juvenile delinquency by having community centers, after school programs, employment, college preparation classes, and support groups.

Method:

- Select audience of 10-15 students in classroom
- Introduce subject using sample comments
 - a. Briefly discuss background - 2 minutes
 - b. Show Public Service Announcements from GDC webpage.
 - Open Discussion (have students share their feelings about the video)
 - Test (Question and Answer, share answers aloud)
 - Go through scenarios with students
 - c. Develop discussions by asking some of follow up questions. Allow students to talk about causes and corrective measures and solutions.
 - c. Have students develop their own advertisements
 - d. What you think we can do to get the word out to classmates about hanging out with the wrong crowd?

Teach Aids:

- TV
- VCR/DVD
- Brochures
- Instructional Guide

Outcome: At the conclusion, students have a better understanding of the Georgia Department of Corrections.

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Teacher Scenarios:

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Question and Answer Scenarios

Example Scenario 1

John and Jack, both age 16, are high school juniors. Jack has a younger cousin named William. William is 14. On a Friday night, the three students are headed to the mall to see if they can meet some girls. On the way to the mall, John and Jack stop at the convenient store to get some breath mints. They tell William to wait in the car. While in the store John and Jack rob the convenient store clerk at gun point. They grab a few items and race out of the store. They are stopped by the police on their way to the mall. What happens to John, Jack, and William.

Pause for Discussion

(Review question and answers with students because most students will assume that these students will go to the juvenile justice system)

Q: What kind of sentence do you think John, Jack, and William will receive?

Q: What will happen to William, being that he is 14 and did not actually commit a crime?

Answer to Scenario 1

John, Jack, and William are tried as adults, they each receive a minimum sentence of 10 years with no chance for parole. They will go to adult prison, not juvenile. Each of them will be in their mid-20's before they are released.

Example Scenario 2

On the way home from school, Brian sees a group of students walking along the sidewalk across the street. He notices that students from a different school are walking home wearing the latest trends. Brian robs one of the students with an unloaded gun for his tennis shoes.

Pause for Discussion

Q: Will Brian go to prison even though his gun was not loaded?

Q: For something as simple as shoes, will Brian go to prison?

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Answer to Scenario 2

Although Brian’s gun was not loaded, he has committed one of the 7 deadly sins and will be sentenced to a minimum of 10 years. Regardless of the amount of the stolen property, the crime stands.

Example Scenario 3

Mario and Kesha are in the same homeroom class. They are both sophomores. Kesha is not a virgin and she has a bad reputation that has followed her from junior high school. Mario is a star athlete and secretly is a virgin. One evening after the football game Mario and his friends are getting dressed to go celebrate their undefeated season. One of Mario’s friends starts to tease him saying that he’s never seen him with a girl and that Mario’s a virgin. Mario is seriously bothered by the accusations because he knows they are true. On the way to his car, Mario sees that Kesha is waiting on her ride. Knowing Kesha’s reputation, Mario tries to run game on Kesha. Kesha likes Mario, is very flirtatious and they begin to kiss. Once Mario begins to take things further, she wants things to stop and she starts fighting him, he assumes that she is just playing hard to get and continues to have sex with her.

Pause for Discussion - Review Sample Questions with class

Q: Mario felt that it was consensual sex, will he still be charged?

Q: Kesha was a willing participant and then changed her mind, what was Mario to do?

Answer to Scenario 3

Mario has just committed one of the seven deadly sins, rape. He will receive a sentence ranging from a minimum of 10 years to **life** and forever be referred to a sexual predator. When he is released and gets a job, his background check will show that he is a rapist. He will not be able to work at schools, day cares, nor live with a certain distance of schools. A woman or man has the right to say no at any time. Once a person decides that they do not want to have sex, no matter how far things have gone, the partner must stop!