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How Drug Free Club Has Affected My Friends and Myself

It is no secret in today's society that kids have an easily accessible world of vapes and other drugs in the palm of their hands. As someone who knows virtually nothing about how to get nicotine or drugs, I know that if I go into the restroom during fifth period there will be a plethora of girls standing in the corner, glancing at me suspiciously to see if I will either vape with them or tell on them. As I casually walk by to wash my hands under the lukewarm water, I realize I recognize a couple girls as my teammates, classmates, or even my neighbors. Once they deem me as an okay enough person to vape around, they resume sucking down their nicotine as they gossip. Sometimes, as I'm leaving, someone will ask me if I want a "hit," but I always politely decline, saying "I can't, I'm in Drug Free and even if I wasn't, my parents would kill me if they found out." After a few eye rolls, I walk out.

Being adopted, I understand the importance of staying sober. When I was nine years old, my biological father got into trouble for doing and dealing drugs, so my sister and I were taken away from him. Luckily, we got to move in with our biological aunt and uncle, who I consider my true parents. As I got older and moved into high school, my parents always stressed the importance of making the right choices. My mom promptly signed me up for Drug Free Club, and I have been a member all four years of my high school career. I am so grateful for Drug Free Club. Not that I would have done drugs if I weren't a member, because I would never do drugs after seeing first hand the effects it has on people and their loved ones, but using Drug Free Club as a reason not to do drugs is the perfect explanation when people ask if I want some. On a few occasions people in my class would either offer me their vapes, or marijuana, and the possibility of a random drug test in the next few days is enough to deter them from their incessant offerings.

My friends and I are all very like-minded, don't get me wrong, we have different views and opinions on things, but for the most part we think similarly. We have been best friends since middle school, and not once have any of us tried drugs or vapes. Once we hit high school we started coming to sporting events, such as football Friday nights, and this is when we got offered marijuana most of the time. As I mentioned before, Drug Free Club has offered us an easy reason to refuse drugs.

Drug Free Clubs of America is a great club to participate in; it provides a great reason to say no to drugs, but to be completely honest, the incentives of being a member at my school are great too. For instance, Buffalo Wild Wings offers a 25% discount to DFCA members. Now, why am I mentioning this you might ask? It is simple, DFCA has affected my friends' and I's relationship because of the incentives as well. When we go out to eat we almost always go to Buffalo Wild Wings. So, if you think about it, DFCA has not only helped me stay drug free, but has also strengthened my relationships with my friends and has allowed us to bond over our shared sobriety.