12th-graders' drug use at 16-year low

Illegal drug use among the USA's high school seniors is at its lowest since 1975, a new federal report says.

About 44% have tried an illicit drug such as marijuana, cocaine or LSD, according to the annual high school survey by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

That's down four percent from last year, when 48% of about 15,000 seniors surveyed said they'd used an illicit drug at some time. Use has dropped since it reached its highest level in 1981, when 66% said they had tried an illicit drug.

One reason: "For the first time in seven years, high schoolers say it's harder to get drugs," says Dr. Frederick K. Goodwin, Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration.

Other findings from the survey, which included 15,000 seniors, 1,410 college students, 18,000 eighth-graders and 16,000 10th-graders:

• Cocaine: 4% of seniors used the drug in 1991, down from 5% in 1990.

• Marijuana: 24% of seniors used it at least once, down 3%.

• Tobacco: 28% of seniors had smoked in the month preceding the survey, a 1% drop. Use actually rose about 2% among college students.

• Alcohol: More than half of the seniors drank at least once in the last month; 30% were binge drinkers—five or more drinks at one sitting. Of eighth-graders, 13% were bingers; so were 43% of college students.

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Kmart...

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Mississippi, wrote: "There is a brand new Kmart located in the Barnes Crossing Mall, just three miles from her home. It is a really nice store, and I would love to shop there because of the convenience—but I don't—and I won't. You see, I drive right by your store and go an additional five miles to Wal-Mart. Why??? Because Wal-Mart is a "Family" store, and thus far, I have never read or seen anything to reflect anything else."

Jim DeGraff, editor/publisher of Good News America, wrote: "Good News America is joining the efforts of the American Family Association. We hope to convince Kmart that pornography is not only a violation of Christian moral standards, it is bad business. We will urge our modest readership that an immediate boycott of Kmart is the right thing to do. Our prayer is that God will soften your heart and lead you to the decision you need to make."

Jean Sosebee of Gastonia, North Carolina, wrote: "A friend of mine, who was not aware of the Kmart porn business, bought me a gift from Kmart. I returned the gift to them, got a refund and went to another store to buy the same item, even though it cost me $2 more of my money. We did not do our Christmas shopping at Kmart this year."

Becky Coldwell of Atlanta wrote: "In the past, I felt it was too harsh to boycott a parent company for pornography sales; but after I heard mass murderer Ted Bundy's own explanation of how pornography was the key element that brought him to the sick murders he committed, I saw the direct link between pornography and many of the heinous sex and murder crimes that are committed today. Tragically, there is also a burgeoning neighbor-industry, child-porn and sex crimes against innocent, helpless children."

Jim Eikenberry of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, wrote: "We have just come through our second Christmas having done no shopping whatsoever at Kmart. Why? Because we are deeply concerned about the damage which Kmart is doing to our community and nation by selling pornography through its Waldenbooks store." He went on to say Kmart had lost $1,000 in sales from his family.

William J. Hamilton of Gladstone, Missouri, wrote: "My companies (three of them) did at one time buy almost exclusively our computer references and other business related books from Waldenbooks. But we are not buying from you now, and won't until your companies stop polluting our society with smut....We are asking others to join us in this boycott. If you don't know or don't care about how you make your money then I suppose you will have to live with your conscience. I recommend that you visit some of the jails, mental institutions, abortion clinics and other institutions that bear the burden of what your pornography sales create."

Pastor H. Gene Garrick of the Tabernacle Church of Norfolk, Virginia, wrote: "I, as pastor of Missions and Extended Ministries of Tabernacle Church of Norfolk, endorsed the boycott and participated in it myself and encouraged our people to do so. This has been true of our senior pastor, Reverend Richard Hardison, also."

Mrs. Connie Hutchison of Redford, Michigan, wrote: "I most assuredly would have spent $300 at Kmart this holiday season...It has been well over a year since I stopped shopping at Kmart. I wish I had kept track of the items I have purchased elsewhere so I could give you some idea of how much business you have lost from just one individual...I don't understand why you would put profit over the welfare of people, especially children."

David Justice of Olive Branch, Mississippi, wrote that Waldenbooks is careless about to whom they sell pornographic magazines. "I was in the Waldenbooks store at the Hickory Ridge Mall in Memphis on or about January 15 and observed a young boy buying three pornographic magazines. I noticed when he was checking out that the cashier did not ask for any ID and the cashier did not even ask if he was 18 years old. When the young boy left I went over to the cashier and asked him why he didn't ask for any ID. He replied that the young boy looked 18 to him.

"So I left the store then. My point is this. How many boys who might look 18, but are not, are buying this mind polluting trash. I thought you might like to know of this incident."

Kmart is counting the number of phone calls coming in protesting their involvement with pornography. AFA urges those desiring Kmart to get out of the pornography business to call and register their complaint and to get others to call. The number is 1-800-63-Kmart. Please be polite when you call.

Individuals are also urged to call their local Kmart store and their local subsidiary stores and tell the manager you are boycotting Kmart and asking others to do the same. You may be told that Kmart does not sell pornography in their stores. That is correct. The pornography is sold in Waldenbooks, owned by Kmart. Kmart has the authority to order Waldenbooks to get out of the pornography business at any time. All profits from the sale of pornography go to Kmart.

Also write Chrm. Joseph Antonini, Kmart Corporation, 3100 West Big Beaver Road, Troy, MI 48084, phone 1-800-63 Kmart. Kmart owns Waldenbooks, American Fare Stores, Pay Less Drug Stores, Office Square, Bargain Harold's, Builders Square home supply stores, Sports Authority and PACE Membership Warehouse stores.

Meet at City Hall...

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National Day of Prayer. In fact, we have designated this as a special day of fasting, prayer, repentance and waiting upon God. God willing, I will be involved along with a number of other U.S. denominational leaders in special activities in Washington, D.C. on that day. We will be cooperating with the National Prayer Committee.

"My special thanks for your concept of 'Meet At City Hall.' I am sending a copy of your sheet to all of our Evangelical Free Church pastors and leadership team. I will encourage them to be involved in their communities. Again, thanks for all you are doing for Christ and His Church!"

Dr. Donald D. Owens, General Superintendent of the Church of The Nazarene, wrote: "I am writing to acknowledge your letter of January 20 concerning the National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 7, and your suggestion for members of the Church of the Nazarene to participate in a MEET AT CITY HALL project. With your understanding, I have sent a copy of your letter to Dr. Jack Stone, general church secretary, who is chairman of the Christian Action Committee at the General church level for his consideration."

John Cardinal O'Connor, Archbishop of New York, wrote: "Your too often unheralded efforts are appreciated by many of us who, perhaps, don't say so often enough. I am grateful for the information about "Meet At City Hall" and am asking my people who are directly responsible in these areas to act upon it."

More than 300 Christian leaders and about 1000 Christian broadcasters have been sent information on the event and encouraged to promote it with those with whom they have influence. AFA is also promoting MEET AT CITY HALL through our more than 600 local chapters.

Wildmon said he is excited about MEET AT CITY HALL. "We are encouraging Christians to act on the instructions of II Chronicles 7:14: 'If My people, who are called by My name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.'"

MEET AT CITY HALL is a very simple concept. It involves people meeting at their local city hall and praying for twenty minutes for the moral rebirth of America. It is open to anyone and everyone who wishes to participate.

AFA is preparing promotional spots for use by Christian radio and television stations. Hopefully, these spots will be mailed about the first of April.

MEET AT CITY HALL is not a political event. It is a project for special prayer—a prayer that America will return to its moral roots. Nearly every community in America has a City Hall. Every community in America can participate. We hope millions of Americans will MEET AT CITY HALL on the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 7, from 12:20 p.m. until 12:40 p.m., to surround their city hall, and to pray for a moral rebirth in America.

Here is how churches and individuals can help. Begin praying that MEET AT CITY HALL will be blessed by God. Commit to participate in MEET AT CITY HALL with your presence from 12:20 p.m. until 12:40 p.m. on National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 7, 1992. Distribute the pass along sheet found on page 21 to your minister and others. Encourage members of your church, family, friends, etc. to participate in MEET AT CITY HALL. Encourage your pastor to help promote MEET AT CITY HALL.

Pastors are encouraged to get their local ministerial group and/or denominational group to help organize and promote MEET AT CITY HALL in their communities.

NEA...

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that the New York State Council on the Arts gave an additional $7200 to "the portable lower east side" to help fund the publications.

The poem from *Queer City,* referring to Jesus as a homosexual pedophile, read:

I remember when
Christ ------ my ---- *(Describes oral sex)*
behind the pulpit
I was 6 years old
he made me promise
not to tell no one.

NEA Chairman John Frohnmayer further insulted the Christian community by defending the use of tax money to support the poem which included the lines about Jesus sodomizing the young boy. He called the poem "emotional, intense and serious." Frohnmayer said, "Limited excerpts from one poem in this issue have been reprinted and circulated by ciritics of the Endowment. These lines have been taken out of context and sensationalized. The poem, in its entirety, is emotional, intense and serious."

AFA said that the NEA also approved tax-funded grants to the Kitchen Theater in New York to help present a new video by "Post Porn Artist" Annie Sprinkle, who has starred in more than 150 X-rated movies.

Sprinkle has a new video entitled "The Sluts and Goddesses of Transformation Salon." Kitchen Theater will feature Miss Sprinkle's new video which began February 16. Kitchen Theater received a total of $190,550 in tax dollars to support their programs this year from the NEA. Part of the tax grant given to Kitchen, $13,000, went "to support video exhibitions and installations."

According to *The Independent,* a magazine published by the Association for Independent Video and Film, the video "is an absurd and worshipful look at sex." The magazine says that the video, entitled "Slut," is a spoof of Jane Fonda-type exercise tapes which presents "the erotic side of such pleasure stimulators as flagellation by oak leaves, gender bending, body shaving, body painting, menstrual blood, rhythmic deep breathing, passionate safe sex, and more !"

Two years ago Kitchen presented Miss Sprinkle in an exhibition called "Annie Sprinkle: Post Porn Modernist" in which she invited the audience to inspect her vagina and cervix with the aid of a flashlight. In that exhibition, she said: "I usually get paid a lot of money for this, but it's government-funded."

"At a time when our government is denying money to aid a multitude of genuine needs, it is disgraceful that we should spend tax dollars in this way," Wildmon said. "Congressmen and Senators who have consistently voted to continue tax funding for such trash must accept responsibility for this. NEA Chairman John Frohnmayer should be fired and the NEA closed down," Wildmon said.

AFA has also learned that the NEA funded still another homosexual film festival. The NEA gave Chicago Filmmakers a grant of $19,000 in tax funds to help support the 11th Annual Chicago Lesbian and Gay International Film Festival held November 8-17.

"It appears that the NEA funded every homosexual film festival which applied for a grant," said Donald E. Wildmon, president of AFA. Previously the AFA had reported that the NEA, had given tax dollars to help fund homosexual film festivals in San Francisco, Boston, New York, Tampa, and Minneapolis-St. Paul.

He said that a slim majority of Congressmen and Senators have consistently voted to back Frohnmayer's decision to fund homosexual pornography. "These lawmakers were well aware of the kinds of filth being funded with tax dollars when they voted to continue funding such trash. With elections coming up, those who voted to continue funding homosexual pornography will probably try to deny they knew what the tax money was being used for. But they knew. We sent them samples of the trash," he said.

Addresses for concerned taxpayers: Congressman: U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515. Senators: U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. The phone number for your Congressman and Senators is 202-224-3121. For a list of Congressmen and Senators who voted to continue funding the anti-Christian bigotry and pornographic "art" by the NEA, see the January 1992 AFA *Journal.*

God's standard...

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very little conviction.

One thing I think we—the church—need to remember is this: Although man's standards—even the church's standards—may change with the times, God's standards never change. The 10 commandments don't change. The Sermon on the Mount doesn't change. Paul's writings on Christian morality do not change. We need to resist the temptation to justify our actions by comparing ourselves to the world around us, and instead always be willing to measure our lives by God's ever constant word.