

Challenging myths and stereotypes

The statements below are all true – but challenge some of the stereotypes we pick up from society, the media, etc.

- ❑ The majority of young people do not habitually use drugs
- ❑ The majority of young people who use drugs do not do so problematically
- ❑ Only some drugs can kill
- ❑ There is no simple causal link between young people's drug use and crime
- ❑ Illegal drugs are not the unique preserve of people from a particular social or ethnic background.
- ❑ Not all drugs are addictive. Legal drugs can be as addictive as illegal drugs
- ❑ The widespread short-term threats to personal safety are from alcohol and volatile, sniffable substances
- ❑ Statistically, in the long-term, the greatest danger is to tobacco smokers, one of whom dies every five minutes or so in the UK.