The power of a Grandma.

Children have a very special relationship with Grandma and Grandpa. That's why grandparents can be such powerful allies in helping keep a kid off drugs.

Grandparents are cool.Relaxed. They're not on the firing line every day. Some days a kid hates his folks. He never hates his grandparents. Grandparents ask direct, point-blank, embarrassing questions you're too nervous to ask: "Who's the girl?" drug use among teens is 13. Some kids start at 9.

• 1 out of 5 American kids between 9 and 12 is offered illegal drugs. 30% of these kids receive the offer from a friend. And 12% named a family member as their source.

• Illegal drugs are a direct link to increased violence, to AIDS, to birth defects, drug-related crime, and homelessness.

"How come you're doing poorly in history?"

"Why are your eyes always red?"

"Did you go to the doctor? What did he say?"

The same kid who cons his parents is ashamed to lie to Grandma. Without betraying their trust, a loving, understanding grandparent can discuss the danger of drugs openly with the child she adores. And should.

• The average age of first-time

As a grandparent, you hold a special place in the hearts and minds of your grandchildren. Share your knowledge, your love, your faith in them. Use your power as an influencer to steer your grandchildren away from drugs.

If you don't have the words, we do. We'll send you more information on how to talk to your grandkids about drugs. Just ask for your free copy of "A Parent's Guide to Prevention." Call 1-800-624-0100.

Grandma, Grandpa. Talk to your grandkids. You don't realize the power you have to save them.

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