

# Youth Are Experimenting More With Harder Drugs?

By Susan Ellsworth  
Post Staff Writer

Use of alcohol and cigarettes has declined or stabilized, whereas, youths are experimenting more with harder drugs.

These findings are part of a 1969-79 study exploring student alcohol and drug abuse conducted by the Charlotte Drug Education Center under the direction of Dr. Sehwan Kim.

Among Mecklenburg county's junior and senior high students, most of the increase in drug use between 1969 and 1979 was from methaqualone and inhalants. They both increased by 3.9 percent the report said.

Between 1977 and 1979 those who have used methaqualone doubled from 5.6 percent to 9.5 percent.

Cigarette and alcohol use declined in 1979 when compared with 1977 observations. Student exposure to alcohol, however, (students who have tried the drug) increased from 49 percent in 1972 to 60.5 percent in 1979.

Marijuana users have increased from 8.2 percent in 1969 to 41.4 percent in 1979.

Comparing the three social drugs, marijuana's popularity has been greater than alcohol or cigarettes.

With harder drugs, the largest increases have

## Second In A Series

been with methaqualone and inhalants, followed by cocaine, amphetamines, hallucinogens, opiates, PCP, needle and barbiturates.

Student hard drug use peaked in 1974, was followed by a decline in 1977 and by 1979 it rose again.

Concerning how often drugs are used, alcohol claimed the largest number of current users with 36 percent in the 1979 survey. (Previous figures were students who have ever tried the drug even if just once. Current users are those who take the drug regularly.)

They use it an average of once or twice a month most often.

Although more students have tried cigarettes than marijuana, a larger proportion (25.7 percent) presently use marijuana, compared to 22.3 percent which use cigarettes, according to the 1979 study.

A majority (8.4 percent) use marijuana once or twice weekly, whereas the average smoker uses cigarettes once or twice a day.

One-third of the students in grades 7-12 presently use alcohol and a quarter use marijuana and cigarettes.

indications are that although more students are exposed to cigarettes than marijuana, but a larger proportion of students use marijuana over cigarettes.

Dr. Kim credited massive public information linking tobacco with cancer, as making cigarettes appear less attractive.

"Marijuana on the other hand," he said, "is conceived by the general public as producing no apparent physical damages."

Current users of harder drugs number less than 4 percent for each substance and are used once or twice a month on an average.

Hard drugs appeal to fewer students than the social drugs, the study surmised.

"Children are socialized that drug use is bad," Dr. Kim explained.

"The more we know of the effect of a drug the more likely it is to become a deterrent," he pointed out.

This theory appears to hold true for the majority, yet the upswing in hard drug use indicates another principle in effect. Dr. Kim calls it reward vs. punishment.

For some youths the temporary physical and psychological rewards of using a drug overshadows the punishment or detrimental consequences.

Drug use can be influenced by peer pressure, society, school or parents, and positive or negative reinforcement, Dr. Kim continued.

Some youths find drugs fulfill psychological needs, gives them a feeling of self-esteem and well-being and is worth whatever consequences it brings them.

Next we will compare local figures with the national average and discuss student drug use patterns and grade levels.

## At Southern Living Show

### Ideas For Townhouse Living

Does this sound familiar? You live in a multi-unit dwelling you really like. But you feel the facades and yards of all the units look alike. And when you're in your yard, you imagine the neighbors can hear you whisper.

If that scene rings true, then the SOUTHERN LIVING SHOW, running Feb. 28-March 8 at the Merchandise Mart here, has some help for you.

A special feature of the show will be a row of townhouses, filled with ideas to help you put some personality and privacy into your townhouse, condominium or apartment. Even if you live in a conventional house, there will be plenty of adaptable ideas for you too.

Designed by Ralph Graham, a landscape architect from Raleigh, the townhouse row will feature several gardens, a variety of exteriors and window and door treatments on each "unit," and a series of

decorated interiors. Although it's oriented toward small spaces, the creation of "townhouse row" is a huge undertaking for the show.

Graham said, "We're trying to show that individuality can be achieved in a multi-unit structure. There is an opportunity for personal expression, and no matter how small the space it can be useful as well as attractive."

The show's townhouse row will have gardens and facades separated by brick walkways. This arrangement will enable visitors to walk between the two sections (even out on the gardens' decks) and study all the design aspects carefully.

The gardens will also be separated by brick walls to afford privacy. And the walls themselves will be a study in ornamental brick design. In all, seven colors of brick donated by Sanford Brick Co., in three sizes will be used in the walls. Brick pavers, laid in

a variety of designs, will cover the walking areas.

Each garden area will be different in concept, like Meadowcraft's "extra" living room and VPI's greenhouse hobby area.

The townhouse exteriors will again emphasize variety. One will be brick and the remaining will be a variety of wood sidings, donated by Weyerhaeuser Co. The facades will also include different door and window treatments, donated by Bass and Company, including steel doors filled with insulation.

Through the townhouse windows, viewers will see a series of rooms, sponsored by Belk and decorated by Larcella Davis, IDS. Visitors will be able to walk through the rooms, which include a kitchen-dining area, a bathroom and two bedrooms featuring many new decorating fashions for spring.

For more information, write the SOUTHERN LIVING SHOW, 1945 Randolph Road, Charlotte, N.C. 28207



Howard Lee  
Secretary of Natural Resources

## Lee Will Be Guest

### Lecturer At J.C. Smith

Howard Lee, secretary of Natural Resources and Community Development for the state of North Carolina, will be guest lecturer at a convocation to be held at the Johnson C. Smith University Church on Tuesday, February 10, at 10 a.m.

The convocation, sponsored by the North Carolina Iota Chapter of Phi Gamma Mu, is located at the campus. It is the international honor society in the social sciences.

Lee will speak on the "Black Experience in the Political and Social Arena in N.C."

Lee was appointed by Gov. Jim Hunt in January 1977 as Secretary of Natural and Economic Resources. In July 1977, the General Assembly reorganized the department and changed its name to Natural Resources and Community Development.

A native of Georgia, Secretary Lee was a 1959 honor graduate of Fort Vallet State College, Fort Vallet, Ga. Following service in the Army, he

received his master's degree in social work from the University of North Carolina.

In 1966, he was named Director of Youth Services at Duke University and assistant professor of Sociology at North Carolina Central University.

He was elected mayor of Chapel Hill in 1969 and re-elected in 1971 and 1973. While mayor, the town of Chapel Hill became the first in the nation to establish a loan and trust fund to guarantee mortgage loans to enable low-income and moderate-income citizens to buy or improve their homes.

As Secretary of the department, Lee administers a broad range of programs including Marine Fisheries, Forestry, Environmental Management, Community Employment, Housing and State Parks. The department has approximately 2,000 employees and administers state and federal operational funds and grants of over \$200 million annually.

## Wingate College To Offer AMAEI Courses

Management personnel in a wide area surrounding Charlotte, in both North and South Carolina, will now be able to work toward obtaining a Certificate in Management thanks to a new program undertaken by Wingate College in cooperation with the American Management Association's Extension Institute.

"To earn such a certificate," says Dr. Lonnie Nickles, "a participant must successfully complete six courses out of 12 that will be offered over the next year." Nickles is the acting chairman of Wingate's Division of Business and Economics and coordinator of the program.

"To begin the program we will offer courses entitled 'What Managers Do,' 'Communication Skills for Managers,' and 'Computer Basics for Management,'" Nickles says. "It has been the American Management Association's experience that these particular courses meet a definite managerial need and are quickly filled. We'll offer three more courses this spring and six next fall."

The Certificate Program is a skills-oriented learning opportunity that results from a unique blending of training resources. The AMA Extension Institute has put together a multi-course curriculum that forms the essential core of management education. These courses are nationally recognized for their value and comprehensiveness.

To increase their effectiveness, Wingate College has added the critical element of experience. The instructors are professionals with business experience with a common background as consultants to business and industry. Using the Extension Institute courses as the cornerstone, the instructors will utilize their knowledge and expertise to build courses designed specifically for the classroom participant.

Successful completion of a course earns 1.8 units of continuing education credit. The courses are totally tax deductible when undertaken to maintain and improve professional skills.

The course will be one night per week for six weeks beginning at 6 p.m. on February 16 at the Wingate campus and at 6 p.m. on March 16 at Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, Eastland Office, 5601 Reddman Rd., Charlotte. Cost of the course is \$125.

For more information regarding the program or possible future sites, call or write to Dr. Lonnie Nickles (704-233-4061, ext. 164) or Ms. Linda Plummer (ext. 166) at Wingate College, Wingate, N.C. 28174.

**Class of 1962**  
West Charlotte Senior High School class of 1962 will meet at Greenville Neighborhood Center, 1330 Spring Street Sunday, February 15, at 7 p.m.

"We urge all 1962 graduates of West Charlotte to attend this very important meeting to discuss plans for our 1982 Class Reunion," said Mrs. John Love, president. "Please don't miss this very important meeting," she concluded.

For additional information, please call John Love, 392-1036

### YMCA Sleep-In

There will be a sleep-in at the Rock Hill YMCA gym, for boys and girls, 6-12 years of age, Friday, February 6th, 7p.m. until 9 a.m., Saturday.

The cost is \$5. for "Y" members and \$8. for non-members. Activities will include swimming in the "Y's" indoor pool, gym games, and a terrific movie - "Buck Rogers in the 25th Century."

You will need a sleeping bag, swim suit, and a towel, no flashlights please.

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