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Teen Parties

If parents and teachers want to stay involved with our youth, it is important to know about trends in teen parties. This article will focus on two types of parties, Raves and Rainbow Parties. Neither of these is safe and both pose various threats to the health and long term well-being of our youth.

Rainbow Parties

Teens today are experimenting with group sex parties, or more specifically, rainbow parties. These parties are organized by teens and the purpose is for boys to receive oral sex from a number of girls. Each girl wears a different color of lipstick and after a boy receives oral sex from multiple girls, he ends the night with an array of colors.

Research on this topic uncovered a multitude of opinions, personal stories, and facts from a variety of perspectives but one striking similarity: **The majority of sources agree that most teens believe oral sex is safe and preserves their virginity.** It was found that some sources state that these parties are common in certain demographical areas. Opposing sources state that students in other areas have never even heard of such parties. Oprah Winfrey featured a segment on rainbow parties in 2003 where she stated that there is an “oral epidemic among America’s teenagers”. The question is, if teens are posting personal experiences from these parties on the internet and creditable sources have informative sites for adults –

Have our teens REALLY never heard of rainbow parties?

Reasons our teens DON'T partake in Rainbow Parties:

1. It is difficult to plan and coordinate when parents are involved
2. The negative gossip and labeling among peers
3. Some teens are shy or have instilled personal values

Counter Reasons/Exceptions:

1. Some parents' work schedules create a challenge to stay involved
2. Some teens desire to be the topic of any gossip
3. Other teens have not been taught personal values and strive for acceptance through sex

The good news: Any frequency of rainbow parties has not been confirmed in our area. Talk to the teens in your life to prevent experimentation with oral sex and help keep them healthy and safe.



*Are These Parties for Real? June 30, 2005. *The New York Times*. Retrieved online February 24, 2009 from http://www.nytimes.com/2005/06/30/fashion/thursdaystyles/30rainbow.html?_r=1

*Know the Trends: Rave Parties. *Parents. The Anti-Drug*. Retrieved online February 24, 2009 from http://www.theantidrug.com/ei/trends_raves.asp

*Teen Hook-Up Culture: Theme Parties and Sex Parties. *On Teens Today*. Retrieved online February 24, 2009 from <http://www.onteenstoday.com/2008/05/04/teen-hook-up-culture-theme-parties-and-sex-parties>



Raves

More teens are attending parties called raves, which are high energy, all night gatherings with light shows or lasers, over-crowded dance floors and loud music with a fast, pounding beat. What they might fail to mention is that the purpose of the party is to use street drugs, typically MDMA (methylenedioxymethamphetamine) commonly known as Ecstasy, X, Adam or Clarity. Ecstasy is increasingly reported in metropolitan areas and has a long list of hazardous side effects including depression, anxiety, paranoia, muscle tension, nausea, and heart muscle damage. This drug can produce both stimulating and mild sensory-altering effects so the music, dancing and neon lights boost these results. Additionally, most raves include a “chill rooms” where ravers go to cool down and often engage in open sexual activity.



Ecstasy

Signs that Your Teen Is Attending Raves

Stays out very late

Possesses a pacifier, lollipops, or candy necklace – to decrease involuntary teeth clenching and pain caused by the drug

Possesses fluorescent light sticks or glow sticks – enhances visual stimulation

Possesses hospital masks with menthol ointment – vapor rush also enhances the effects

Anecdotes vs. Facts. May 23, 2008. *Newsweek*. Retrieved online February 24, 2009 from <http://www.newsweek.com/id/138449>

*Ecstasy (MDMA). *Focus Adolescent Services*. Retrieved online February 24, 2009 from <http://www.focusas.com/Ecstasy.html>

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