

Abuse of Heroin

With the beginning of another school year, we would like to begin by wishing everyone well for the coming year. Whatever our occupation is, we all stand in need of the same thing, namely God's caring and sparing hand. Also in light of our organization, we can see the need for His grace. This year we would like to continue informing you of the substances available in our society and the dangers they include. In the past we put a strong emphasis on the dangers of Crystal Meth, including the long term effects on the mind and body. Now, however we are seeing that Crystal Meth has taken second place, maybe due to the information available, maybe due to the next drug on the scene that is equally dangerous, but very readily available and inexpensive, Heroin. The following excerpt is taken from the book *Heroin=Busted* by Holly J. Hager. This book is available in our senior high library along with many other titles in the "Busted" series.

Ed was working undercover for the Houston Police. He was targeting a drug dealer named Bobby T. In his early twenties, Bobby T. had already become a popular drug dealer in the nightclub scene. Bobby T. had not finished school, and he did not have a job. He was making too much money selling drugs, and he was using too many drugs to think about his future.

Bobby T. thought he would never go to jail because of drugs. But Ed had other plans. Ed knew that the drugs Bobby T. was selling could kill him and others. If he had to put Bobby T. in prison to keep that from happening, he would.

Ed started going to the clubs where Bobby T. sold drugs. At first, Ed acted like he was just having a good time. Then he started buying drugs. He started out buying a little bit from people who worked for Bobby T. But eventually Ed worked his way up to buying the worst drug, Heroin.

As Bobby T. got used to seeing him around, Ed started buying more and more heroin. Bobby T. thought Ed was just another heroin user, a junkie. He never thought Ed might really be a law enforcement officer who was building a case against him. Eventually, Bobby T. sold heroin directly to Ed.

Over several weeks, Ed bought enough heroin from Bobby T. to send him to prison for several years. Then one night, Ed came to one of Bobby T.'s clubs. Instead of buying more heroin, Ed arrested Bobby T. He went to prison for five years, and he lost everything his drug money had bought him. Several years after Ed busted Bobby T., Ed was walking on the street when someone called his name. He turned around and saw a much healthier version of Bobby T. The bones in his face did not stick out anymore, and there were no dark shadows under his eyes.

As the new Bobby T walked over to Ed, he wondered if Bobby T was still as angry as he had been the night he was arrested. But Bobby T. looked anything but angry. Bobby T. held out his hand for Ed to shake it and asked, "Hey, do you remember me? You arrested me."

Ed nodded and shook Bobby T.'s hand, still wondering if he would blame Ed for sending him to prison for five years of his life.

Bobby T. shook Ed's hand. "Thank You. You saved my life."