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MAD
MINISTRY AGAINST DRUGS

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M.A.D.
MINISTRY AGAINST DRUGS

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Our First Issue

By Justin Green

Well here is it is, the first issue of MAD TIMES. Thank you for being a part of this ministry and supporting us in what we do. The newsletters will be dedicated to informing, educating and equipping people on addiction. MAD was started by myself a few years ago when I believed that God called me to use my experience with drugs to help others. I have had the privilege to help numerous families and also the awesome honour to speak to thousands of children in our outreach program. I hope that you pass this letter onto friends and family and help us move forward. MAD is growing and there are such amazing prospects for the future (see inside). If you have any suggestions for this newsletter please let me know via email. Also if you feel that you would like to submit a story or anything worthwhile then please do. And finally If you are struggling with addiction or know of someone in need, we are here to help. ministryagainstdrugs@gmail.com

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Is your child on drugs? what to look out for...

- Negative changes in schoolwork, missing school, or declining grades.
- Increased secrecy about possessions or activities.
- Use of incense, room deodorant or perfume to hide smoke or chemical odors.
- Subtle changes in conversations with friends (more secretive, using "coded" language).
- New friends (often sudden change).
- Change in clothing choices, new fascination with clothes that highlight drug use.
- Increase in borrowing money.
- Evidence of drug paraphernalia, such as pipes, rolling papers (Rizlas).

- Evidence of inhaling products and accessories, such as hair spray, nail polish, correction fluid, paper bags and rags, and common household products.
- Bottles of eye drops, which may be used to mask bloodshot eyes or dilated pupils.
- New use of mouthwash or breath mints to cover up the smell of alcohol, marijuana or tobacco.
- Missing prescription drugs — especially narcotics and mood stabilizers. Drug tests

"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age eager to do what is good" (Titus 2:11-12).

Clarinda's Story

By Clarinda Roets

Hi my name is Clarinda I am 32 years old I have been using and abusing drugs since I was 18 years old. I started with weed then acid (LSD) then ecstasy then coke then heroin, cat and crystal meth. I was always just a weekend user, you know like everybody else and I thought I was on top of the world while using. I had many friends everybody just wanted me at their party I was always first to arrive and last to leave "Little Miss hardcore" I never imagined that drugs would take over my life.

"I never imagined that drugs would take over my life"

5 years ago I started using rocks (crack), rocks soon took a hold of me and my life became unmanageable. I was stealing, cheating, pawning everything I had and things from other people I even prostituted just to maintain my habit. I landed up in rehab because my using had become so bad. I was using every day and all day long. I went to a rehab in Bloemfontein, I was there for 2 weeks then I got kicked out, just because I had asked my dad for 2 pain tablets as I was suffering from severe headaches. The next day they did a random drug test and the found that I was not clean. After I left the rehab I called my dealer immediately to get more rocks, it must have been a bad batch because it tasted awful and I decided that was not for me anymore, but I continued smoking weed and drinking

Shortly after I got out rehab, I met my partner on Mxit and moved to Jhb 3 months later. I was happy to leave Bloemfontein and be away from all the people I had harmed. When I got to Jhb I used acid and ecstasy only on occasion. I started going out more often with friends and soon every weekend became an occasion. I then started



"I started smoking rocks again it started off with a R300 piece and progressed to using sometimes about R5000 a day"

missing work and slacking in my daily activities. I changed my job and became General Manger of a well known restaurant. Big mistake because there I had all the power, authority and lots of cash in my hands. I started smoking rocks again it started off with a R300 piece and progressed to using sometimes about R5000 a day. I was stealing from the company, things got real bad and I decided it was time for a change or maybe it was the guilt in me telling me to get out before I get caught.

A week later I got a new job as a kitchen manager at a restaurant in Cresta. I loved my job and got on very well with my boss. I was his eyes and ears when he was not around I handled all the ordering and paying of suppliers and he entrusted me sometimes with R30 000. I was so proud of myself I really thought I had my addiction under control. I never stole from my boss; I actually was very honest for the first time in a long time. Then two guys from Cape Town started working there, we became friends instantly. I loved hanging out with them, we use to go out often and they where into Cat, we even started using cat at work.



Romans 8:28 (New International Version)

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose"

Story continued on Page 3

Clarinda's Story continued

At that stage I was living in my own place, I was robbed one day of my rent money, R3500, and the next day my place was broken into they stole everything I had from the TV to my socks. I was too scared to sleep there and I started sleeping over by the guys from Cape Town. Two weeks later we asked the landlord if it was ok if I could move in there. He had no problem with that. I moved in that same night with the little stuff I had. That same night the one guy told me that seeing that we are going to be living together I might as well know what their choice of drugs was; I thought it was cat but no he said its crystal meth. I did not even know what crystal meth was until he explained to me that it's TIK. Me always wanting to try everything said okay let's get a gram; I was amazed by how long a half a gram lasted us. We smoked all night and still had enough for work the next day. Wow it's cheap and last a long time, bonus, I have found my NEW choice of drug. At first we only smoked it but one night the one guy injected it I was very intrigued by this, I watched his every move how he prepared his hit how he got the vein and then how high he got he was off his face and I wanted that.

"It took me 2 weeks to pursue him to inject me"

It took me 2 weeks to pursue him to inject me, so one afternoon we were at home and I thought to myself "today is my day" I was very nervous I did not know what to expect. My arm was tied up with a old tie and dangling down so the veins could show more, I was not looking but I could feel him getting closer and closer. I felt a prick and then the euphoria the rush the taste in my mouth, I felt great I was thinking to myself why have I waited so long. I soon got frustrated with the guy that was injecting me because every time I wanted to use I had to pay for the crystal and share my bag with him. I then taught myself to shoot up. It took me a while but boy when I got it right I was so impressed with myself it felt like the biggest accomplishment like getting a degree in shooting up.

Then my using got really out of hand I was shooting up sometimes 6 times a day because as you know that feeling doesn't last as long as the first time. My getting and using and stealing and cheating and lying were out of control and my partner realized that there was something wrong. She collected enough evidence to confront me. At first I was denying everything but after a while I said yes I have been shooting up for 4 months. She was shocked, angry and disappointed. The next day I was on my way to a rehab centre in Klerksdorp. All I knew that I did not want to be there. But stayed because I had no choice I was there for 28 days. When I came out I relapsed 2 days after.

In May this year I got a job at a popular restaurant in Melville as a junior manager but quickly became a senior manager at first I was not using but the long hours got to me and I started using at work. How I got the money, I use to put through customer credit cards

manually and stealing the money just to support my habit. It did not take long before I got caught for credit card fraud and ended up in jail for 2 days. I now have a criminal record and a 3 year suspended sentence. Obviously I lost my job.

I was living of my girlfriend and my family for 5 months, I was stealing from my girlfriend and pawning all her stuff, wealing and dealing, stealing I even printed my own money and conned so many people with it.

I realized my using is way out of control and that I need help getting of the crystal. I then asked my girlfriend to contact Justin from MAD. She made an appointment to meet Justin I spent some time with him telling him about my addiction and how bad my using had become and pleaded for help because I did not have a job and my family had no way of paying for me to go to rehab. Justin was very friendly and listened to everything I said without any judgment. He said he would try and get me into a rehab. When I left there I was surprised that there are really people out there willing to help a stranger. After 2 weeks I was in rehab. Justin had helped me get in there. I really appreciate what MAD has done for me. I have come to terms over my addiction. While I was in rehab I dealt with a lot of my issues. My mother's suicide, my father's unfaithfulness, and me hurting so many people. But most of all realized I was hurting myself more than anything.

Today I am 46 days clean and really grateful that God has given me another chance to a great clean and sober life. This realization was only made because MAD had shown so much interest in me. All I want to do is help MAD in the future by giving my support to other suffering addicts.

To all the youngster and people out there who still think drugs are cool, think again it really is not. It's fun at first but it can destroy your life at the end. And it's something that can take your life away.



" Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time." - Thomas Edison

MAD New Developments



MAD (Movement Against Drugs) is a new initiative dedicated to helping companies with prevention and complete solutions to substance abuse in the workplace. We know from experience that often the true severity of the situation is often "hidden" away and it's only in hindsight and a reactive response that the truth comes to light.

Theft, work performance, damage to fleet, damage to machinery, phone calls, misuse of company time and money are only a few of the problems. Even family members of an addict often abuse company resources to try and help their loved one.

The financial implications on a company are severe.

So Movement Against Drugs works with companies in testing, screening, presentations, counselling and also factors relating to employment contracts and company policies on substance abuse.

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MAD (Ministry Against Drugs)

Prevention "proactive"



- Has an outreach program that travels to schools, offices, churches and other venues
- Has workshops on drug education and identification
- Has seminars for parents and teachers giving them the tools to be informed, equipped and educated
- Is involved with the latest technologies in drug testing and screening
- Has a team that is involved with non invasive drug testing and screening for schools, public places and the corporate environment
- Has a national network of counsellors and a resident social worker
- Offers career guidance
- Has a long term and sustainable relationship with numerous schools

Complete Solution "reactive"

- Has counsellors, support groups and group therapy
- Is geared up for ransom situations and hostage negotiations
- Has a intervention program
- Is able to give the right advice and guidance into numerous rehabilitation center's on a national and international level
- Has a very successful outpatient program

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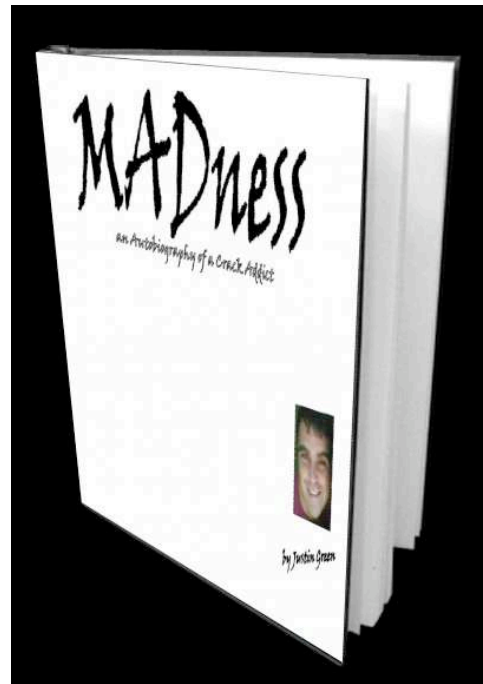


Make A Donation
pay it forward

MAD (Make A Donation):

Make A Donation is a new initiative to raise funding for families that cannot afford rehab. Our belief is that through networking we can get many people to contribute a small amount and make a huge difference. We are in the process of registering an NPO and so we will be able to help more of those who cannot afford it. (join our Face Book page)

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<http://makeadonation.yolasite.com>



MADness (an autobiography of a Crack Addict)

My book and my story is available to those who are interested in reading it. I finished the book a few years ago and it really is a true account of how destructive drug addiction can be.

I am using this book as a way to generate funds for the ministry. All I ask is that you offer a donation and I will send the book to you.

I have gotten great response and feedback from those who have already read the book.

if you want the book , please email me at ministryagainstdrugs@gmail.com

Drug Testing (new advances)

By Riaan de Vries



Drug Detection International talks about - Hair drug testing is a revolutionary method of testing for drugs using hair strand analysis in order to establish and verify persistent substance misuse.

To date most drug screening has been done by testing urine samples, but it is not possible to detect most drugs in urine after 48-72 hours since the majority of drugs are out of the body by then. This makes it difficult to detect drug use by random testing or to monitor the success of treatment in a clinical setting, and impossible to prove use or non-use historically.

“but it is not possible to detect most drugs in urine after 48-72 hours “

Key Facts

- Hair drug testing is the most effective test for long term drug use.
- 1 out of 5 high school seniors admitted using an illicit drug in the past month.
- The most commonly used drugs of abuse are marijuana and cocaine.
- In the first half of 2002 there were over 300,000 visits to emergency rooms related to use of illegal drugs or non-medical use of a legal drug.

Schools

Urine testing (traditional method in random drug testing in schools) is known to be invasive, embarrassing and generates false positives. This was identified in a recent case where a school had a parent protesting the innocence of her son's drug test.

The son assured his parents that he did not ingest any of the drugs he was accused of taking. The first step in the parents' process to prove innocence was a hair drug test to in the body. When this was presented to the school, clearly show that no

substance was found in the child's body in the last three months. This particular hair drug test was run at limits of detection, looking at any substances detected the school remained supportive over their original finding in the urine test. The parents wrote to the media which raised attention to the urine test conducted and forced the school to have the testing kit itself analysed by an independent third party. It was discovered that the urine kit was faulty. If the school had chosen to use hair drug testing in the first instance, the accurate identification of possible substance abuse would have taken place with no room for false positives.

Hair Alcohol Testing

For the first time ever, there is a non-invasive service to detect excessive consumption of alcohol over a period of time. Unlike traditional methods, alcohol testing in hair can establish dependency for periods of up to a year. A new system that clearly indicates or rules out alcohol abuse has been developed. As the hair grows, it absorbs special markers called fatty acid ethyl esters (FAEEs) and ethyl glucuronide (EtG) into its structure, which remain in the hair indefinitely. These patented markers are only produced when there is alcohol in the bloodstream, and the more markers there are, the more alcohol has been consumed.

What makes this analysis revolutionary is that FAEE testing gives a history of up to 6 months if required. No other method can do this. For example, testing using blood only provides results covering a period no longer than one month. Once history of alcohol abuse is established using this latest technique, treatment can then be monitored periodically.

For any more information on the latest methods of drug testing contact Riaan riaandevries@drugdetectionint.com

10 Dangers of Crystal Meth Addiction

The use and abuse of TIK or Crystal Meth (is growing faster than any other drug in South Africa. The drug is manufactured by using common household ingredients.

1. **Tremor; and convulsions.** Crystal meth can send your body into a state of chaos with uncontrollable twitching and violent tremors.
2. **Severe movement disorders.** Doctors have described the movement disorders associated with crystal meth use as "similar to Parkinson's Disease
3. **Respiratory problems.** Long-term side effects of crystal meth use include labor breathing and other respiratory concerns.
4. **Strokes.** Crystal meth can damage the blood vessels in the brain so severely that the individual suffers a stroke.
5. **Anorexia.** Female crystal meth addicts have a high incidence of anorexia, as they are so consumed by the drug that they fail to take in the nutrients their body needs to survive.
6. **Crime.** Many hardcore crystal meth users have been known to turn to crime (especially robbery) as a means of financing their drug habit.
7. **Broken relationships.** When an individual develops a crystal meth addiction, the drug becomes the only thing of importance in their lives. That means family and friends are neglected in the name of the drug.
8. **Problem; achieving sexual climax.** Although some short-term users report a more engaging sexual appetite, long-term use of crystal meth leads to the inability to achieve an erection or sexual climax
9. **Meth mouth.** One of the hallmark symptoms of crystal meth addiction is the degradation of the teeth and gums. Meth mouth can spotted casually as the individual's dental health falls into disrepair.
10. **Mood swings.** Individuals who use crystal meth are prone to violent mood swings, often moving for intense euphoria into depression or anger without warning.

ITS ALL ABOUT MONEY

By Justin Green

It's a sad reality but it really is all about the money. Drug dealers are finding new and potentially lethal ways to mix drugs and save costs on the real thing. People have this idea that a drug dealer lives in a big house and drives a fast fancy car. This may be true for the guy at the very top but all the way down the ladder lies a desperate human willing to do anything to survive.

And so these people find cheaper ways of mixing drugs and by the time, the man on the street buys it ... it is deadly. You see we are all made up of chemicals and so there is a chemical reaction. Your chemical make up might just be the complete wrong set up for a drug. You can become someone who dies, who will always have drug induced psychosis or get very very sick. The only way you can find out is by buying something from someone and hoping that it "works" the right way.

Its December soon parents and the best and easiest way to identify if your child is using drugs is the money. Keep track of their spending, take note of funds inside your wallet or purse. Drugs cost money and so focus on the money and you will soon find out.

AND THEY WILL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE !! by Justin Green

Its amazing to actually listen to what people pray for. We have the "please can you feed the starving Lord" please can you help the drug addicts Lord" , "please can you help the families of drugs addicts Lord?"...

There is a song by Tree 63 and the words go something like "its not a question of what you can do for me but what can I do for you?"

So what am I saying ? Well I think often Jesus response to these prayers would be " Get off your backside and do something"

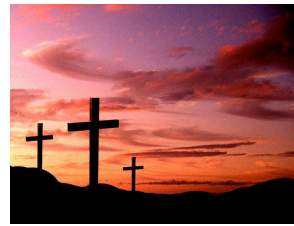
In reality He has given us eternal life, He has done His bit. When He left this earth, He left the Holy Spirit within us. That enables us as fleshly humans to reflect this revelation. This enables us to be more than we ever could be. But it does not stop there

The church is bigger than any organization or government. We have the capacity to feed thousands and help millions. There are more churches in a country than clinics or hospitals...

We have the power to save the world because of what God gave us ... freely receive .. Freely give...

And He said GO GO GO GO not sit around and ask me to do everything GO!!!

Let people experience an often-intangible God by spending TIME not money With YOU!! You can reflect Jesus in a very tangible sense !!!



TRUE LOVE

by Justin Green

When you fall in love with someone it feels amazing. You just want to spend every moment with that person, spoil them with gifts and just let them know constantly how you feel. As you grow together , the love grows with you. Sadly for most of us through experience we find that love often doesn't last forever. We get hurt and we wonder how it all went so so wrong. You see we put our hearts in someone's hands and we just hope that they treat it with love, kindness and a gentle approach. We give them the power to harm us. We trust them.

If you really love God , if its genuine, then its because you love Him for what He has done already. If you love this God because you are expecting some sort of selfish gain.. is it love? You see then you create an expectation based not on your trust in Him but rather in your " I need " list. and when that list is not filled, your list, then you lose heart.

If you spend time with God and get to know Him, if you realize that your life is a gift and that there is really so much to be grateful for. Sure things are often tough and trying but thats when true friends stick together. Thats the test. If you leave your preconcieved view of love aside. If you realize that this unseen person has your back. Your response will change. And something will change you from the inside out and in time you will reflect that revelation.

God loves us so much that He gives us His heart, He allows us to reject Him. He allows us to hurt His feelings.

I pray that you grow in love together with this God you serve, that your response to His unselfish love is returned.

Amen

The year in review

The year 2010 was another great year for MAD. We continued in our passion for prevention and again spoke to thousands of children. I am hoping that our "parents drug education seminars" will be more attended and that every parent realizes that prevention really does beat trying so hard to find a cure. Trust me, I know.

MAD was also able to help many families with rehab advice and placement. Because of some of our loyal and faithful supporters, MAD was also able to help many families financially with rehab costs.

I am still hoping and praying for a farm. My dream is to have a cost effective place of safety and restoration for those in need.

Thank you to everyone who walks with us, for my friends and family that often give me words of encouragement. Sadly this is not an easy ministry and often we are let down but we continue forward.

I pray that you all have a wonderful December and enjoy the holidays. MAD is always open and just a phone call or email away.

Thank you for everything.

May God bless you and inspire you and may your life be full of love, light and way to much laughter.

Justin (please check out our website www.themadfaith.com)