

Speaker talks teenagers, drugs, alcohol and adults

Want to keep your kids off drugs and alcohol? Tune in to Farmington 15 and INFO TV-12 to see speaker Milton Creagh and find out.

Creagh spoke at the recent Farmington Families in Action Sober October breakfast. The theme of this year's event was "Zero Tolerance for '00." Creagh spoke about how we can achieve the zero-tolerance goal through parental behavior modeling.

Creagh's approach to the topic turned more than a few heads. "Creagh said each of the more than 600,000 teens he speaks to each year has his own story of how drugs and alcohol have affected his life."

"The No. 1 thing kids talk to me about is the adults in their lives using drugs and alcohol," Creagh said. He puts the responsibility on the adults in this country because kids model adults' behavior. Creagh speaks from the heart about how adult behavior can affect kids' views on many topics, including drugs, alcohol, and even jail or prison. For example, he says that if a child has family members who go in and out of jail or prison, the child sees that jail is really no big deal. In turn, this can lead

CABLE CONNECTION



MELANIE YOUNG

kids to think that the reasons for the jail sentence - crime, drugs or alcohol abuse - are no big deal either. Did you miss the breakfast and Creagh's speech? If you are a parent or a member of the work force, then you need to tune in to see what you missed.

Do you know what time of day most drug use and sexual activity occurs? According to Creagh, most drug use occurs between 3-6 p.m. when there are no parents around.

Ever thought about having a party for your kids that involves alcohol? Do you think it is OK to do so if you take their car keys away? Watch to see why this sets a bad precedent. Creagh's main message: It's time to target the majority of drug users. That group is adults in the work force.

Watch Farmington 15 and INFO TV-12 to see how Creagh proposes how we can do this as a community. Most people in the audience seemed open to Creagh's suggestions, and the

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overall reaction was positive.

Marie Stahl, co-president of the FFIA, believed that his message was what the organization needed to raise the level of the programs. "This is exactly the kind of information we need out there. His challenge to the organization and to the community was right on the money," said Stahl.

Tune-in to see how you can be a part of the solution, not the problem. You can see Creagh and the Sober October Breakfast on Farmington 15 at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. daily. You can also see it on INFO TV-12 this month. Call (248) 473-7266 for times.

Melanie Young is the community relations specialist for SWOCC. The next SWOCC meeting is at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, at Farmington City Hall. The next CAC meeting is at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9, at SWOCC.



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