



Connect with Kids

WebSource

For the Classroom

Ripped Apart

Discussion Questions – Segment One

1. The narrator in the video segment began the overview by saying that school lockers look like medicine chests. Think about the stresses you are under every day (making good grades, running for student government, making the team or getting a role in the school play.) Do you ever consider gaining an advantage by unethical means? How would this be the same as using supplements?
2. There are many news stories about famous athletes (Lance Armstrong, Mark McGuire, Barry Bonds, to name a few) using supplements and performance -enhancing drugs. Has learning this information about these athletes changed your opinion toward him/her? If the athlete set records, do you think those records should stand?
3. What should be the consequences (if any) for athletes who use performance-enhancing drugs? Is it different for high school, college and professional athletes?

Activity

Someone Once Said...

PROJECT AND PURPOSE

Students will:

- discuss cheating, lying and dishonesty in our society
- explore and interpret quotations about honesty and
- predict the worldview of honesty in 20 years using discussion points and their imagination.

MATERIALS

- Someone Once Said Handout
- Paper, pens, computer access

PROCEDURE

1. Begin the activity by writing on the white board, “Taking supplements or steroids is cheating.” Ask students to comment on the statement.

2. Using a portion of the board to record ideas, brainstorm ways in which teens cheat. Make sure students consider many situations including doing homework, taking tests, in sports, at work, in relationships.
3. Using another portion of the board, record ideas from students about why teens don't cheat. What or whom keeps them from cheating?
4. Hand out the Someone Once Said handout and ask each student to choose two quotations that best represent their thoughts on cheating. Take about five to ten minutes to discuss their choices and reflect upon what the quotes mean.
5. Then assign the following writing assignment: If society accepts behavior that represents cheating and dishonesty, what will the world look like in 20 years? Ask students to be very specific about predictions for themselves, businesses, athletics, family life, government and other facets of the community.

Someone Once Said...

"Honesty is the best policy."

Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra (1547-1616)

"I am afraid that we must make the work honest before we can honestly say to our children that honesty is the best policy."

Sir Walter Besant (1836-1901)

"It is not true that men can be divided into absolutely honest persons and absolutely dishonest ones. Our honesty varies with the strain put on it."

George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950)

"If you expect complete honesty, you'll be disappointed."

Ron Taffel, U.S. psychotherapist and parenting expert

"Honesty pays, but it doesn't seem to pay enough to suit some people."

F.M. Hubbard

"Our lives improve only when we take chances – and the first and most difficult risk we can take is to be honest with ourselves."

Walter Anderson (1903-1965)

"People grow through experience if they meet life honestly and courageously. This is how character is built."

Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962)

"Real integrity is doing the right thing knowing that nobody's going to know whether you did it or not."

Oprah Winfrey

"I went in and just looked up the definition of cheat and the definition of cheat is to gain an advantage on a rival or foe that they don't have. I didn't view it that way. "

Lance Armstrong

"In athletics, there's always been a willingness to cheat if it looks like you're not cheating. I think that's just a quirk of human nature."

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

"I would prefer even to fail with honor than win by cheating."

Sophocles

497/6 BC – 406/5 BC

"This taught me a lesson, but I'm not quite sure what it is."

Jon McEnroe