

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In an upcoming unit of AP Psychology we will be studying the affects of drugs and addiction on behavior. In order to give students a realistic idea of how dramatically a drug addition can effect all aspects of one's behavior the AP Psychology classes plan to engage in a simulation called "Icecube."

Each student will pretend to be addicted to "Icecube" which is simply an ice cube colored with food coloring. Every time a student drinks any liquid they must have a piece of colored ice in it. Additionally other than fellow "Icecube" addicts, each student must do everything in their power to hide their "Icecube" usage. Thus, they must find ways to secretly make and transport ice throughout the day.

Lastly, to simulate the destructive physical effects of drug use, each student will have a 3 foot piece of twine which they must wear on their body somewhere during the simulation. They may wrap it around their leg, arm, or torso, but they must make sure no one can see it.

The simulation will take place sometime this semester (I do not give the exact dates as we want the simulation to come at an unpredicted time.) The simulation will last 48 hours. We ask that parents who find colored ice in the freezer dispose of it just as you would if you found actual drugs in your child's possession. Parents you should inform your son or daughter if you located their stash or catch them drinking a beverage with "Icecube" in it.

The end goal in this simulation is to demonstrate how consuming addictive behavior can become in an individual's life. We will discuss the amount of time and effort that was spent by each student in trying to hide and continue their addiction. We will continue to discuss the destructive effects of drugs on the mind and body. The students will then understand how a real addiction would be even more dangerous and destructive.

Please sign below indicating if you give permission to allow your student to participate in the "Icecube" simulation. Students who are not allowed to participate will be given an alternate research assignment dealing with addiction.

I give my student \_\_\_\_\_  
permission to participate in the "Icecube" simulation.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer my student \_\_\_\_\_  
not participate in the "Icecube" simulation. They instead will do the alternate  
assignment.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_