

Dear Debra,

I have just read your article in the Evening Standard tonight and it has sent chills down my spine. Our son was also at Dulwich College and was also introduced to drugs there. Similarly Graham Able refused to accept that there is a problem. Interestingly enough the School Counselor knows there is a problem but suggested that the school was not willing to do anything.

Our son - whom we took out of Dulwich in February this year - is now at a VIth form college and apart from the odd lapse goes to his classes. He mixes with those who also think cannabis is acceptable and so last week for example we had a really bad time, with lying and stealing. It goes with the territory. We like you do our best to try to speak to him, but his view is that it is OK. We are just old, lacking understanding and trying to curtail his fun!

I have some understanding of the difficulties that you and your husband faced. However our son does communicate - but we don't know how much is truth and how much fiction. (I too am a lawyer and sometimes the legal view kicks in, but then the parental especially maternal feelings take over). If I can work with you to let people know of the effects of this drug, I will do all I can. For your son, to have somewhere to go which is non-judgmental and where he at least could be safe would I think is something to aim at.

Best wishes,