

# HIGH

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We HEAR nothing but natural sounds as we SEE a series of static shots of the autopsy room that is vacant. We SEE sponsors names on the static images. Over this we HEAR:

Jeff Nine pg. 13 bottom VO

It is a shame to screw up the nice organs // and, particularly in young individuals, you know, high school age, their organs are always very nice, nice condition, and it makes you appreciate the wonders of human physiology and human anatomy,

GRAPHIC: NM Children, Youth and Families Department  
NM Public Education Department  
Bernalillo County Dept. of Substance Abuse Programs

but it also on the other hand, makes you appreciate how fragile the heart is, and how fragile the brain is, and how in the blink of an eye you can go from being alive one day, take some drugs, your heart stops the next day and you're on a table in our office. And there's no way to predict who that's going to happen to. I mean, you can be the star athlete in high school or you could be on the chess club or you could be the person that goes out and smokes all the time. It doesn't matter who it is. We can never predict who it's going to happen to.

We SEE from low angle, the gerney coming into the room and follow the sequence as the doctor and nurse prepare for the autopsy. During the next VO we SEE:

GRAPHIC: New Mexico Mutual  
NM Office of the Attorney General  
Cooperative Educational Services  
State Farm  
Independent Insurance Agents of New Mexico

We HEAR:

Jeff Nine pg. 8 bottom VO

Unfortunately New Mexico ranks highest in the nation for drug related deaths. And I say unfortunately for individuals that are effected by those drugs, fortunately for me in the business that I am, you know, it helps with the study of drugs and things like that but unfortunately New Mexico has always had a reputation as ranking very highly in drug overdose deaths and I think recently has been ranked the highest for drug overdose deaths.

Graphic:

SafeTeen New Mexico  
&  
Christopher Productions.LLC  
present

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We HEAR the nat sound of the rib cage being opened as we SEE other static shots in the room, not the autopsy itself.

GRAPHIC TITLE:

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Take SYNC SOUND when appropriate

Jeff Nine pg. 11 middle

I think the brain is not as resilient as some of the other organs in the body and that can be attested to by the fact that it's encased in a thick skull, it's coated by a tough membrane called the duramater. /// So since the brain is really is kind of the central processing unit of the body, the body does everything it can to really protect it. So when you start using things that damage your brain, like stimulant drugs, methamphetamine, inhalants, cocaine, //, anything that can get into the brain and cause it to function abnormally, then that's really going to have a horrendous effect on your body in general.

KID SEQUENCE fast cut perhaps one wide A cam, the next tight B cam, and so on:

Reggie pg. 1 : Alcohol and 'shrooms.

Chris: smoking weed

Tim pg. 1: I went from weed to pills.

Shenee pg. 2: cocaine, crack.

We HEAR HOT MUSIC and SEE PARTY AND NIGHT FOOTAGE. As we HEAR:

Undercover Cop pg. 1 top

I'm an undercover narcotics detective. So I buy and sell drugs. I get crime stopper tips. I employ informants.

Undercover Cop pg. 10

Drugs are an issue all over the state of New Mexico

KID SEQUENCE AS BEFORE

Ray pg. 2 I was involved in meth, heroine, marijuana

Julian pg. 2: I would go to school high almost every day.

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Undercover Cop pg. 5

Drugs are at every high school. Drugs are at most middle schools, and I wouldn't be surprised if they're in some elementary schools.

KIDS SEQUENCE AS BEFORE

Julian pg. 2 bottom: The kids I know are doing everything they can get their hands on. (B cam Julian continues) Meth, Heroine, crack, prescription drugs, over the counter drugs.

Undercover Cop pg. 10

It's scary how easy it is to come by. We could probably go buy drugs right now. Just anywhere around here. It's ...it's so easy.

We now SEE brain scan images. As we HEAR:

Dr. Kent Hutchinson pg. 1 VO

what I do is research on addiction and more specifically I'm interested in the neurobiology of addiction and the genetics of addiction.

//////// so what we're focused on is how the brain changes and how those changes underlie the process of addiction.

Shenee pg. 2 top: I guess I got addicted to it because I like the high. I like the feeling that it gave me.

Katie: I did it and I got hooked like that.

Tim pg. 1 bottom: I tried coke and then heroine. That was my main..that I got addicted to.

Take SYNC SOUND

Dr. Kent Hutchinson pg. 2

, I think what surprised me most is///// seeing exactly the extent of the changes that take place as a result of alcohol and drug use. ////////// And in this case what we're seeing is that the more alcohol you use, the more alcohol you drink, the more these parts of the brain are sort of taken over by the alcohol use.

Reggie pg. 1: I would have to smoke two and three blunts just to get me high. And so that led me to trying to experiment with other drugs ///

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Dr. Hutchinson pg. 3 bottom

There's a lot of really important development in the brain during adolescence and so you can imagine if you're doing something, you know, like drugs that clear alters the systems in the brain, I mean, the worst time to do it would be during adolescence, right? Because the brain is developing and alcohol and drug use can interfere with some of the connections that are forming in the brain during that critical period of time.

Dr. Nine pg. 3 top

there are basically two different ways that drugs act on the body. They can either fall in the category of depressants, like alcohol, oxycotton, or sedatives, or they can fall in the category of stimulants like cocaine, methamphetamine, //

a lot of these drugs are targeted specifically for pleasure centers in the brain. // The receptors in the brain attach these drugs onto them and the brain goes, whoa, that makes me feel good. // But the problem with those is your brain gets addicted to having those drugs attach to the receptors

Ray pg. 2: Heroin makes you feel like...like there's no problems in the world. Just makes you sleep kind of but you ain't worrying about anything. It's just like you're in heaven. Until you come off of it.//And then it sucks. Then you're in hell.

Katie: Meth is just a drug that will get you hooked right away. I first started smoking it and then I'd snort it and then I started main lining it.

Dr. Hutchinson pg. 4 middle to end

people will say, well, I know of somebody who, you know, they tried using drugs and they didn't become an addict, right, and so that's a fair point but the problem is it's hard to know up front whether you're the kind of person who's more at risk or less at risk/////

in some sense it is Russian roulette. I mean, you have no idea exactly, you know, where you're going to end up once you go down that road. /////

I mean, if you use enough alcohol and drugs, you're going to reach that point where you are going to have some... some brain changes.

Tim pg. 2 top: I was taking...first I started off taking like hydrocondones and peracetets and then after a while I needed something strong, I moved on to Oxycottons and morphines and all that.

Dr. Nine pg. 4 middle

**oxycotton** has become a really popular... it's called **percaset** sometimes, but has become a really popular drug to be abused by people because it's much more potent

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than morphine by itself. It gives you much more potent effects and the effects it has on the brain are stronger than morphine so people get instant reactions to it and they get really addicted to it much more easily than they do to morphine

Dr. Nine pg. 5 middle

I would say probably about one out of every 20 high school students, or seniors that we see, have used oxycotton and we see oxycotton dust pretty frequently now in younger individuals. The prescription medication use is going up quite a bit in younger individuals, high school and junior high school students.

Undercover Cop pg. 1 bottom, pg. 2 top

I think that people don't think prescription drugs are as dangerous and lethal as any other drug because it's not this seedy underworld of buying it and they can find in, you know, their parent's medicine cabinets, their grandparent's, they just figure it's okay and that it can't kill them which is very wrong because it actually, I mean, you can just overdose not even knowing it and be dead.

Transition with PICTURES of Sean Effort

Take SYNC SOUND:

Lorna Effort pg. 1

Sean grew up in this neighborhood. He grew up in a very nice neighborhood of Albuquerque. He was always involved in sports. And... his dad and I were very involved in his life

Lorna Effort pg. 2

on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006... I received a phone call at around 3 am from a police officer. And the police officer started questioning me if my son was allergic to some type of... any kind of medication, and I told her, "no, not that I know of." And I asked, "what's wrong? What's wrong with my son?" //... they called me in, they sat me down in a room and they told me and I'm going to receive a phone call // from the OMI's office, and... the... the person in that office delivered the news to me. And I asked... what did that... what did my son died from? She said that they found some opiates in him. They found some oxycotton in his pocket. And... I couldn't understand, I didn't understand what she was talking about. // And I found out that... I found out that it's a very popular thing that the kids are using now.

Lorna Effort pg. 3 top

They use prescription drugs, especially pain killers, to get high.

Lorna Effort pg. 5 middle

Sean died from... // He took the coating off, crushed it and grind it and snorted it..

Lorna Effort pg. 3 bottom

. I believe in my heart that he thought taking prescription drugs was safe ///

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Lorna Effort pg. 5 top

He wanted to get married and have children. He just wanted so much in life. He loved life so much. and that was taken away, that one day that he died from oxycotton.

Transition to Autopsy

Dr. Nine pg. 3 bottom and 4 top:

that's why so many of these drugs are regulated, that's why so many of them are illegal or illicit because you have no idea, you cannot predict, how any individual's going to react to a certain drug or medicine.

Dr. Nine pg. 8 top

At low doses they're tested to be okay. But when you take more than what's supposed to be prescribed for you, then you get into the bad side effects that can cause permanent organ damage and even death.

Hard cut to SYNC SOUND:

Undercover Cop pg. 2 top

some people will have prescriptions left over, maybe after a surgery and they'll just give them to a friend and think that's acceptable when in fact that's drug trafficking. You can't give them to anyone else, you can't sell them, you can't trade, it's all a felony and it's all illegal.

KIDS SEQUENCE AS BEFORE

Tim pg. 2 bottom: The pills are easy to get. I would ust..ask a friend to get them for me. And somebody would know somebody where to get them.

Graphic:

Pharming

This sequence can be some SYNC SOUND and some party footage.

Janey Lynn pg. 2 top middle

...that's the huge one. It's the abuse of the prescription drugs. That's what we're seeing the most, I mean, the prevalence of that we've not ever seen before.

Debbie Hofer pg. 2

Parents don't realize that their kids go into their medicine cabinet, or wherever they keep their prescription drugs, and often they may have like a pain killer, anti-anxiety drug, and they don't take them all the time so they don't even remember how many tablets were still in the vial or if they even had any.

Tim McCarson pg. 3 top they don't realize that if they leave that medication in the cabinet that kids have what they call farming parties.

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Janey Lynn pg. 2 bottom

They call it pharming. It's p-h-a-r-m-i-n-g and it's pharmaceuticals from the pharmaceuticals.

Tim McCarson Continued pg 3

And all the kids go home to their parents' medicine cabinets and they take a couple of pills out of all the pill bottles

Debbie Hofer continued pg 2

They come in and they mix all the pills in a big container and it looks like jelly beans often,

Janey Lynn continued pg. 2

and they dump it in the middle of the table and then take whatever they want to take.

///// And it's huge on college campuses

Tim McCarson continued

And they just don't know what they're taking and they wind up with some really horrible effects.

Debbie Hofer continued:

Well, when you get them to the emergency room, the doctors don't even know what to treat,

Hard Cut to SYNC SOUND:

Undercover Cop pg. 1 bottom:

Prescription drugs are... we're finding them a lot lately and I think what's happening is the younger crowd is starting to get into them more as they used to say marijuana was a gateway drug, I believe that prescription drugs and their abuse are more of a gateway drug now.

Alfredo Vigil pg. 2 middle

as adults if we have rows of drug bottles on our shelf, some of which perhaps we maybe don't even need, and if we certainly leave them unsupervised but basically if we give the message to young people that the way to live your life is by popping drugs, it's not too hard to understand why young people then would feel like that must be the way to go.

///// Very few of us, very few of us can say we make it through the day without taking some kind of a drug. Very few of us. And even if that's caffeine, maybe that's alcohol, maybe that's nicotine, whatever that happens to be, very few of us make it through the day without taking a drug so we've become a drug society, its not complicated to understand why we're losing our kids.

Reggie pg. 4 bottom: I know I'm your kid and you don't want me to do it, but you're doing it, so how can I stop doing it when you....you're doing it?/////So that's how I look at

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it. If you want me to stop, you need to stop. You need to show me...show me an example of some...of what I need to be doing in order for me to get to where you want me to be. But how you going to tell me to stop and you do the same thing? I don't understand it.

Transition to Carla Stover Story. Take B roll and music lead in:

Carla Stover pg. 1

. I started in the seventh grade, I started smoking pot. And then when I got into high school I did more pot and drinking and then speed came around. Black Beauties and little White Crosses and I didn't realize I had a problem but, you know, I was a party girl.

Dr Kent Hutchinson pg. 7 various

when you think about alcohol and drug use a lot of that happens between the ages of say 14 and 25 is the big period of drug use. /// And so that's a very important time in terms of brain development and interestingly some of the parts of the brain that are doing the most in terms of developing at that point in time is more the mid brain and the pre-frontal areas, //////////

They control things like how well you can control your impulses, /////

Carla Stover pg. 3 top

///I barely made it through high school and then once out of there they made me go to college and I remember I went to UNM and I was hooked up with a sorority and I was a wild one, you know. And that didn't last very long and so what they mostly did was try to control me and the more they controlled me, the more I rebelled.

Dr. Kent Hutchinson pg. 7 various

So it's entirely possible that using drugs during adolescence also decreases an adolescent's ability to control their impulsive behavior.

////

so obviously the more impulsive you are the more likely you'll experiment and the more you experiment it could be entirely possible the more you're... you're hurting the ability of the brain to develop those important inhibitory connections and therefore, you know, it's kind of like a viscous circle.

Carla Stover pg. 1

///// And I ended up going into treatment and I was 21 at the time and now I'm, what, 47... 48. I just turned 48. And it's been over 30 years of drinking and drugging and... that's where it's at.

Very brief music breath, Carla walking B Roll perhaps

Carla Stover pg. 5 various

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I think the most I regret is... I think a lot of the pain that I caused my mother and... my dad. I didn't get to know my dad //

And I regret... you know, missing out on my education. I had my education and everything paid for, could a, would a, should a. // I missed out on kids. I'll never have children. //... and I missed out on a husband. I missed out on the family life that I, you know, that I see so many... // So I did miss out on that and I believe that's... directly from my drugs and my alcohol, you know. I couldn't stay sober long enough

Dr. Kent Hutchinson pg. 6

the more you use alcohol and drugs the more the brain changes and really the pleasure zones become focused on alcohol and drugs and the less, you know, normal stimuli are pleasurable for these kinds of people. So they're more prone to depression, you know, // and that's the kind of, the behavior that you see that goes along with addiction.

Carla Stover pg. 7 top

I can just tell you it will mess up your life. And... I don't think you want to be an age at 48 and... having to really start over. You know what I mean?

Graphic:

## Regrets

Reggie pg. 3: I lost my education.

Tim pg. 3: ...I was an athlete, I lost being an athlete to drugs.

Katie: My daughter is my whole world. I lost the first year of her life.

Anthony pg. 2: I lost all my friends that didn't use drugs.

Ray pg. 3 I used to have my own apartment and my own car and everything, and now I don't got nothing.

Chris: I'm turning into those monsters that are in the penitentiary.

Reggie pg. 3 If I knew I was going to end up like this...I'd have never did it.

Angela Brian pg. 3

So when someone is sober, they might make one kind of decision about how risky a certain behavior is. Once you're drunk, once you're high, your ability to make those decisions about risk is compromised. You're not as likely to see that something is going to be risky for you, you're not as likely to see that it's dangerous for you to engage in a particular behavior,

Jeff Nine pg. 7 top

The younger you start using drugs, the more likely you are...you are to have permanent damage to your organs, the heart, the lungs, and the brain in particular.

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Graphic: The Drugs

Sequence intercut between Autopsy room and undercover cop driving. Maybe just straight cuts, no cover. Graphics woven through out on **BOLDED** words.

Jeff Nine Pg. 2 top

Now in this case the lungs, and cases where people smoke **marijuana** or tobacco, the lung tissue gets destroyed and it gets deposited black substance in it called anthrocosis, or it's a black pigment.

Jeff Nine pg. 10

people can die very suddenly, very quickly from **cocaine** and **ecstasy**, **methamphetamine**, because of the action that they have on the heart. Anytime you tell your heart to speed up, when it really doesn't need to speed up, then you're at risk for causing a sudden heart attack and sudden death.

Jeff Nine Pg. 4 bottom

**Fentanyl** is a very powerful sedative, like **morphine**././

Jeff Nine Pg. 5 middle

**Vicadin** is hydrocodone which is also a drug very similar to **oxycotin**. ./././

Jeff Nine continues: . Slows down the heart beat, slows down the breathing, and this sort of thing can lead to sudden death from heart attacks or respiratory depression. ././././ when people may depress their lungs to the fact that they kind of suffocate.

KIDS SEQUENCE This builds with MUSIC to a climax:

PULL ONE WORD OR TWO WORD DRUGS OUT OF FIRST FEW PAGES OF KIDS BITES FOR THIS SEQUENCE IE:

Reggie pg. 1 : shrooms.

Tim pg. 1: weed

Shenee pg. 2: Cocaine

Anthony pg. 5 Zanax.

Tim pg. 2 top: Oxycottons

Katie: meth

Julian pg. 2 bottom: Heroin

Reggie pg. 1 : Alcohol

Tim pg. 2 top: hydrocondones and percacets

Chris: weed

Shenee pg. 2: crack.

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CUT MUSIC nats only with bite

Undercover Cop pg. 3

When we arrest these kids and arrest these young adults and their parents, we call them so they know where they're at, they're shocked and they have no... no idea what's going on.

Graphic: Parents

Debbie Hofer pg. 2 top

most parents are very much in denial with what happens. If you look at the statistics and you ask eighth, tenth and twelfth graders how many of them have used such as alcohol and the rate is usually about 80% for twelfth graders and you ask the parents, about 40% of them think that their child may have had one drink when they are out. ////

Same thing with the drugs. They're probably even in more denial with the drugs.

Undercover Cop pg. 4 middle

I think that parents don't... don't recognize a lot of the highs. I think that they recognize a change in behavior in their children but they don't understand why. And I think a lot of times they put it off to oh, it's hormones, oh, it's puberty. No, look at your children a little bit deeper.

GRAPHIC: SIGNS

Tim McCarson pg. 1 bottom

Things that a parent would look for, you know, **change in behavior** is one of the big things, who they're hanging out with, how their children dress.../// you know, their behavior just suddenly changes, eating... **change in eating habits**, you know.

Graphic: Depressant Signs

Tim pg. 3 continued: /// Methamphetamines, any of the stimulant type drugs that are illegal on the street, they will cause pupil dilation. //// certain depressant medications even cause pupil dilation.

Tim McCarson pg. 4 top to middle

in the depressant category when you're talking about muscle relaxers //// that might make somebody very **lethargic**, very rubber-like movements, **sleeping** a lot.

Graphic: Stimulant Signs

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Tim pg. 4 continued: ///// your cocaine, your crack cocaine, your methamphetamine, that type of drug /// you just have **hyperactivity**, rapid speech, you could have heavy **sweating**, pupil dilation, loss of appetite.

Graphic:

## Answers

### KIDS SEQUENCE

Ray pg. 6 I wish I could take a lot of things back that I done.

Shenee pg. 4 I want to finish school for one thing.

Ray pg. 6 Probably paid more attention in school, paid more attention to my parents.

Chris: I'd be the leader, you know, be the leader. Let's go do something else. Let's go to the bowling alley. You know, let's just hang out at my house. Let's go to the gym.

Let's go swimming at my apartment

Reggie pg. 3 I would have just went the other way like...dang, I ain't know drugs actually...bring your life down like....I just looked at it just like fun and that's what you're supposed to do.

Angela Brian pg. 4 bottom

for these kids who've had a lot of bad experiences with drug and alcohol, it's pretty easy to help them to see how their current behavior is keeping them from achieving their goals, so one of the thing that we do in this intervention is we say, write down a goal, write down where you'd like to be in five years. Okay. So now let's think about it. If you were to get drunk at a party and have sex with someone you didn't know and get HIV, how would that effect that goal in five years?///// it's really about getting them to see what the **consequences** of their behavior right now, in terms of drug and alcohol use, are going to be on their future goals///// and to the things that they'd like to accomplish in their lives.

Janey Lynn pg. 4 top

A parent has to remain vigilant and a parent. They don't ever get to let go. You know, you have to **be involved** in your kid's life. ///// ... as involved with their tenth grader as they were when he or she was a first grader. And if they are, then the kids know it.

Debbie Hofer pg. 2 bottom

First off, **lock** your **drugs up**. They're as dangerous as a gun. So lock away anything... and this can even be cold pills, Advils, you've got to monitor them.

Tim McCarson pg. 3 middle

And if, you know, it seems like an extreme but, you know, a lot of times that's what it takes. You have to take it out of the loop, take it out of the equation.

Debbie Hofer pg. 2 bottom continued:

....The second thing is to **talk** to your child. /////Parents are the most effective deterrent to substance abuse. They're more important than peer pressure. ///// And they have to know you care.

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Janey Lynn pg. 4 middle

And you have to **be aware**. /////... get on websites and look at things that are going on, trends that are going on. /////, don't be an ostrich. Don't put your head in the sand and think that your children are not doing it.

Tim pg. 3 bottom: It could be stopped if the parents were more...stricter, say so about where their kid goes and what they do and who they're with and why they want to go there. My thing I think is I had too much freedom. My mom gave me way too much freedom. And that's where I messed up.

Alfredo Vigil pg. 1 bottom

/// most of us had two or three times as we were growing up when some adult looked at us and said, I'm so proud of you for what you've done and I'd actually be a little disappointed if you'd make some wrong decisions. So all of us as adults can contribute to this without any special training, without spending any money, without standing on a soap box. I mean, it may be as simple as **spending** a little extra **time** with a niece or a nephew. It may be volunteering for some community group or some church group.

Debbie Hofer pg. 3 middle

Teens who either have overly restrictive parents, or parents that never enforce rules, are the most likely candidates for substance abuse. So if parents **set down ground rules**, and **set down consequences**, and follow through with that, their children are much more resistant to substance abuse. And one of the best ways is to set up a **contract** with your child. You draw up the rules, they know ahead of time, and you draw up the consequences, and you all sign it. ///.

///// The contract makes a very good excuse for them to fall back on and their peers will accept if they give a reason.

Julian pg. 5: Just don't go to the parties because you're going to be pressured and they're going to keep pressuring you and keep pressuring you until you eventually do use.

Shenee pg. 3: the bad side of it is the high don't last forever/////you're not the happy and your problems just come back, and the problems multiply more /////

Anthony pg. 5: I'm not going to force you to not do it, but I'm warning you, you could be ruining your life right now. ///Think about it before you do it.

Julian pg. 5 ...if you're friends are pressuring you to use the drugs, get away from them, make new friends. Make friends that are doing good, make honor student friends. Don't try to hang around with the cool kids just 'cause you think you'll be cool because if they're using drugs, they're not cool anyway.

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IF WE HAVE ENOUGH VIDEO transition here into autopsy room..static shots and the following as a VO

Janey Lynn pg. 4 bottom

Knowing where they are. That's another biggy. You know, knowing what's going on in their life and who they're with is another one. So just being aware, you know. Knowing what's going on.

Undercover Cop pg. 4 top middle

Because for as much as you don't pay attention to your kid and you don't parent your kid, there's some drug dealer, some thug out there that's going to welcome them with open arms and give them everything they're missing ////.

Transition back to autopsy room with some nat sound and static shots

Then we HEAR

Jeff Nine pg. 14

One of the hardest thing to deal with is the surviving family members that come in of these kids. //// a lot of times have family members come in and they're in such states of grief that you really don't know what to say to them. Obviously we did an autopsy and we found out their child died of drug use or whatever and almost always the family says, I didn't know he was doing that. You know, I didn't know he was using //////. But yea, that's got to be the hardest dealing with the surviving parents and family members.

Tim pg. 4: VO

./././only you can make yourself do what you want to do. Nobody else can make you do that. It's your own decision on what you do.

End with static shots of autopsy room with no one in it.

Credits roll (if time is needed, roll credits over Dr. Nine's last bite)