



# The Protect Our Children Project



Fentanyl Prevention for Educators

United States Attorney Leigha Simonton

# On Today's Fentanyl Call



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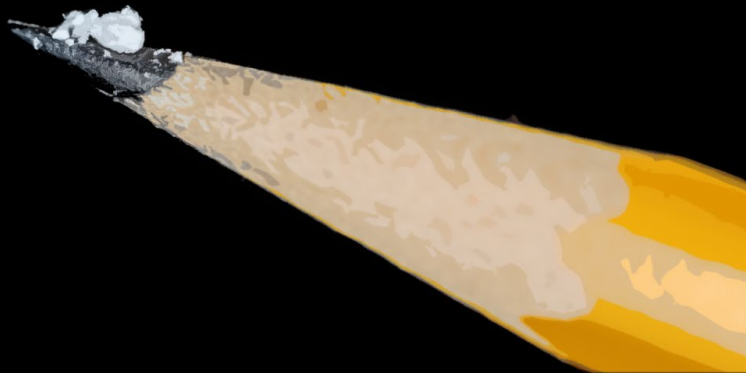
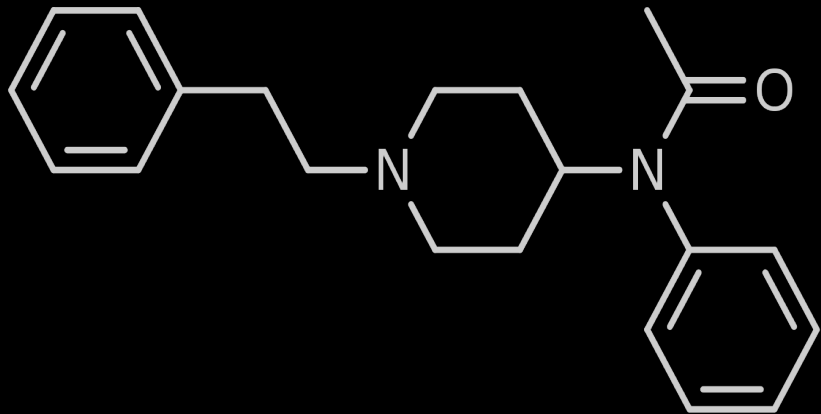
 @ParklandHealth





# [ The “F” Word: Fentanyl ]

- Fentanyl is a schedule II narcotic used for pain relief.
- It is **50 x** more potent than heroin.
- Just **2 mg** – roughly a pencil tip’s worth – can be fatal.
- Unlike pharmacists, the drug dealers who sell fentanyl are often imprecise in their measurements.



# [ SOURCES & FORMS ]

- Fentanyl enters the U.S. from:

 **Mexico** (across the border)

 **China** (via e-commerce)

 **Pharmaceutical diversion**

- Your students may encounter fentanyl as a loose white **powder**, or they may find it pressed into counterfeit **pills**.



# [ HIDDEN KILLERS ]

- Many kids **specifically seek out** pills containing fentanyl.
- Fentanyl can also be pressed into pills that resemble lower-potency prescription drugs like Oxycontin, Percocet, Vicodin, Xanax, or even Adderall.
- DEA's latest research shows that roughly **6** in **10** pills containing fentanyl contain a potentially lethal dose.



POTENTIALLY LETHAL





It's almost **impossible** to tell  
a real prescription pill from a fake one.

# [ HOW TO RESPOND ]

- **No** amount of fentanyl is safe
- What to look for:
  - Slow, weakened breathing
  - Sleepy or difficult to arouse
  - Limp, no muscle tone
  - Cold, clammy skin
- What to do:
  - Call 911 immediately
  - Administer Narcan (naloxone) if you have it
  - Keep the person awake
  - Watch for breathing
  - Administer CPR if 911 tells you to





# [ OVERDOSE ] [ AFTERMATH ]

- In the Emergency Dept.: Narcan  
Supportive care  
(Possible intubation)
- Complications: Stroke  
Pneumonia  
Rhabdomyolysis  
Long-term neurological / brain damage  
Loss of vision or hearing  
Temporary paralysis  
Loss of kidney function  
Trauma, death



# [TEENAGE EPIDEMIC]

- According to the CDC, fentanyl is a factor in **84%** of adolescent overdose deaths.
- Today, roughly **60** kids die of fentanyl overdoses every *month*.  
That's more than **700** kids every *year*.
- Adolescent fentanyl overdose deaths have risen **182%** in the past two years.





# [ HAPPENING HERE ]



*A real fentanyl overdose in the parking lot of a Texas public school caught on security camera. Watch [here](#).*



# [An OUNCE of PREVENTION]

We need schools to help us spread the word to our kids:

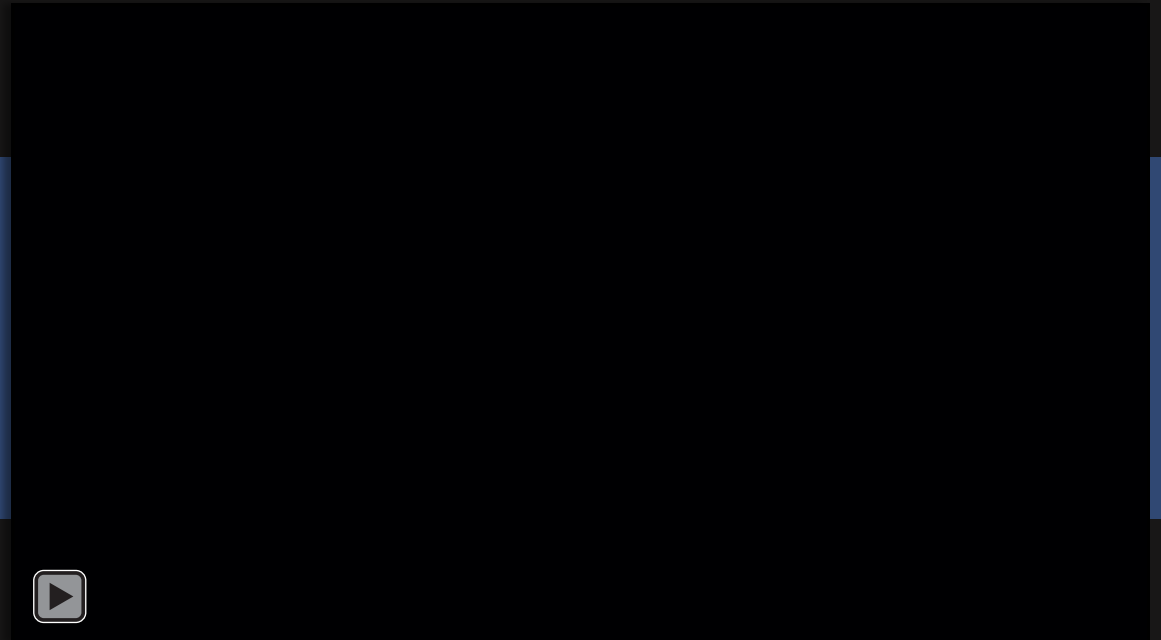
- In class, during home room, advisory, or health periods
- During school assemblies or morning announcements
- On school websites and school social media accounts
- Through parent meetings (in person & webcast in multiple languages)



# MAKE 'EM AWARE



*Not all pills are real. One pill can kill.*  
[www.dea.gov/onepill](http://www.dea.gov/onepill)



*He took one pill, and then he was dead.*  
[www.getsmartaboutdrugs.gov](http://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.gov)



# [ GIVE 'EM EXCUSES ]

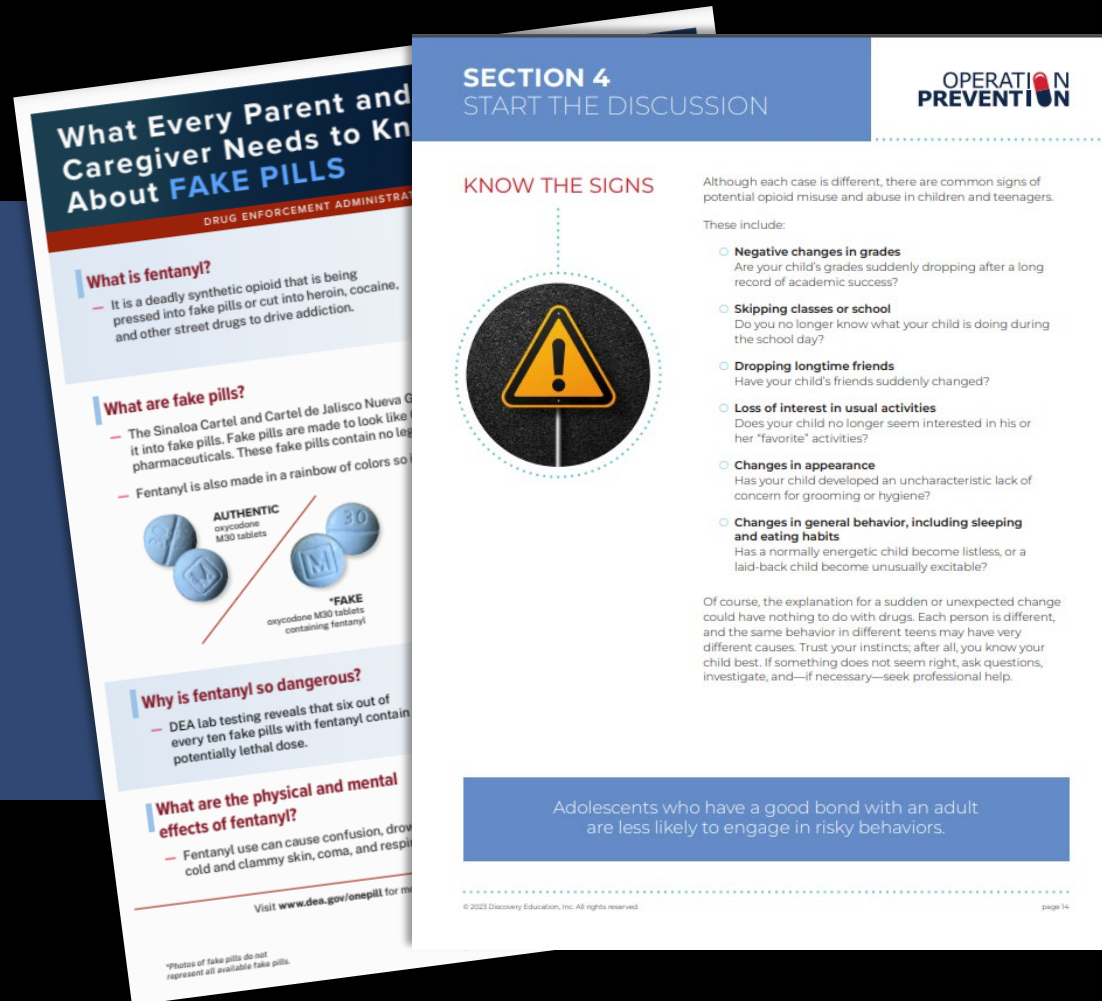
- “Nah, I’m good.”
- “Aw man, I can’t. My job could do a random drug test.”
- “No. My mom [dad] would freak out and I don’t wanna deal with that.”
- “No thanks. I have to go home [work, church] soon and I don’t want to look high.”
- “Dude, no. I know someone who died.”

GET THE FACTS ABOUT DRUGS

**JUST THINK TWICE**

[www.justthinktwice.gov](http://www.justthinktwice.gov)

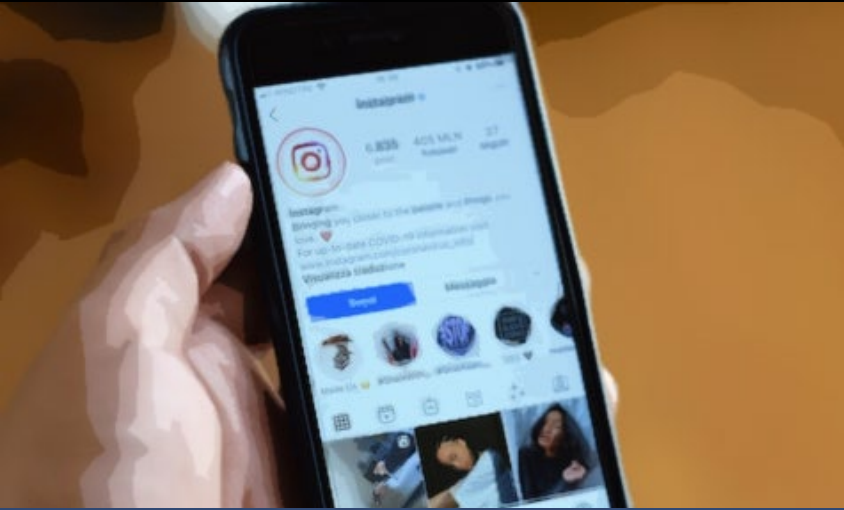
# INVOLVE THEIR PARENTS



*Fake Pills: What Every Caregiver  
Needs to Know*  
[www.dea.gov/onepill/parents-and-caregivers](http://www.dea.gov/onepill/parents-and-caregivers)

*Operation Prevention: Parent Toolkit*  
<https://www.operationprevention.com/>





# [ SHARE INFO ONLINE ]



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[www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/protect-our-children-project](http://www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/protect-our-children-project)

A photograph of a classroom scene. In the background, a person wearing a black and white striped shirt is standing and writing on a large green chalkboard. In the foreground, the back of a student's head and shoulders are visible; they are holding a smartphone in their right hand. The student is wearing blue jeans. The classroom has rows of white desks and chairs. The word "Questions?" is overlaid in white text in the center of the image.

Questions?