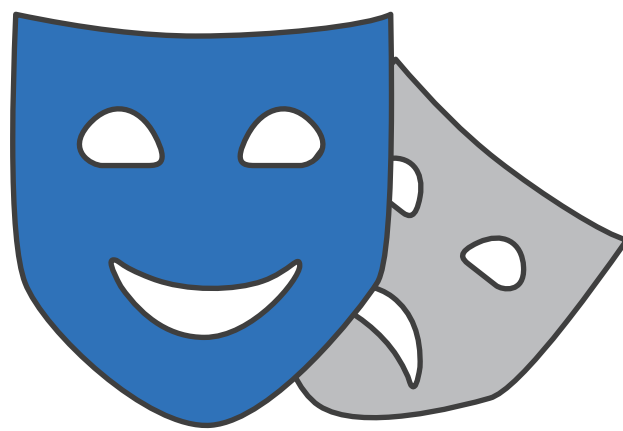


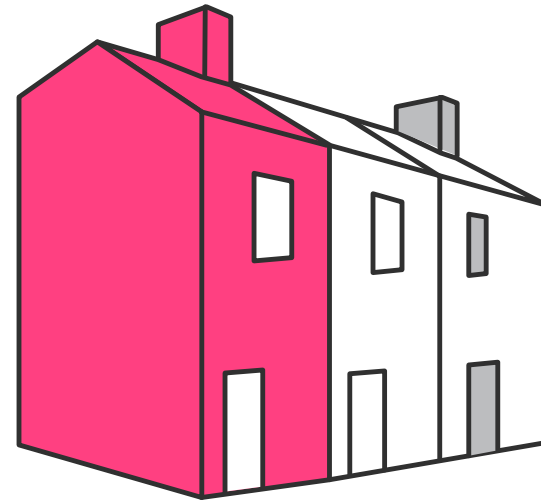
# Why do young people take drugs?

## Enjoyment



- Excitement
- Confidence
- Connection
- Relaxation

## Environment



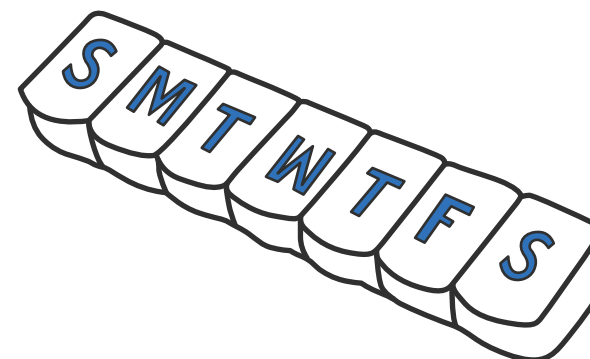
- Boredom
- Poor local services
- High unemployment
- Low quality housing

## Curiosity & Experimentation



- Stimulates conversation
- Curiosity

## Self medication & Defence mechanism



- Forget problems
- Deal with traumatic experiences
- Deal with anxiety, depression or other mental health issues
- Deal with physical health issues such as pain

## Natural rebellion



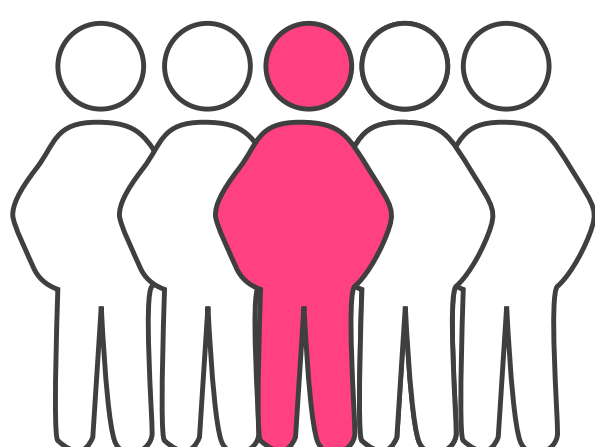
- Defiance
- Belonging to an alternative culture

## Availability, medical use & price



- Drugs, especially tobacco and alcohol, are seen on TV and normalised
- Some prescribed drugs can be misused
- Ordered online
- Can be a cheap way of getting high

## Peer pressure



- Fit in with others
- Hard to abstain when surrounded by others who are using