

# **Deadly Fumes That** Harm Youth

# IT IS ILLEGAL TO SELL BUTANE OR PROPANE IN ANY FORM, TO ANY PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN (18).

# **Get The Facts:**



# What are Inhalants?

Inhalants are a diverse group of substances that include volatile solvents, gases, and nitrates that can be sniffed, snorted, huffed, or bagged to produce intoxicating effects similar to alcohol. Chronic use of inhalants can cause severe, long term damage to the brain, liver and kidneys. Sniffing or huffing can cause an immediate high and irreversible physical and mental damage to the brain.

Sudden Sniffing Death Syndrome can result from first time use of an inhalant even by a healthy young person.

Inhalants are one of the most common drugs of abuse among court involved youth. In 2005, one of four youth from the Department of Youth Affair's (DYA) reported experimenting with Inhalants.\*

# Know the Signs of Inhalant Use:

- Slurred speech
- Drunk, dizzy, or dazed appearance
- Unusual breath odor
- Chemical smell on clothing
- Paint stains on body or face
- Red Eyes
- Runny nose

# **Know Guam's Law On Inhalants:** Public Law 28-25:

- Regulates the sale of Butane, Propane and other Inhalants to minors.
- It is a misdemeanor for any business to sell, or transfer butane gas, butane lighters or butane in any form AND propane gas to any person under the age of eighteen

Current Inhalant Use among high school students on Guam (6.3%) is higher than the United States (3.9%) and surpassed the nationwide rates in 2001 and 2003.\*

Guam Substance Abuse Epidemiological Profile 2006

#### Where to get help:

## Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Drug & Alcohol Branch 475-5438/39

### Sanctuary, Inc. For Adolescents

24-hr Hotline: 475-7100 475-7101

## For Military Families

Air and Family Readiness Center Navy Fleet Family Support Center 333-2056/57

#### Online Resources:

#### **DMHSA-PEACE**

www.peaceguam.org www.healthychoicesguam.org

#### National Inhalant Prevention Coalition (NIPC) www.inhalants.org

U.S. Department of Health & **Human Services and SAMHSA's** National Clearinahouse www.ncadi.samhsa.gov/links

#### National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

www.nida.nih.gov

Parents. The Anti-Drug www.antidrug.com

Partnership for a Drug-Free America www.drugfree.org



