

Table 2.38

**Teenagers' attitudes toward the main reason kids use drugs**

United States, 1996<sup>a</sup>

Question: "I'm going to read to you some possible things someone your age may get out of using drugs. Please tell me which of the following you think is the main reason kids use drugs?"

| Reason  | Percent |
|---|---------|
| They think they're cool doing drugs                   | 29%     |
| They want to do what their friends do                 | 23      |
| It makes them feel good                               | 20      |
| It relieves stress or boredom                         | 12      |
| They have serious personal problems                   | 6       |
| It's a way of rebelling against being told what to do | 5       |
| There's alcohol or drug abuse in the family           | 4       |
| Nothing at all  | (b)     |
| Don't know/no response                                | 1       |

Note: See Note, table 2.5.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

<sup>b</sup>Less than 0.5%.

Source: National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, **National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse II: Teens and Their Parents** (New York: National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, 1996), p. 57. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.