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LETTERS TO EDITOR

Teen drug use more a 'symptom' not a cause

In response to "Sex, Drugs...and School" (Gazette March 6-12), Gulliver Prep's initiative to open dialogue among teens regarding important issues such as substance abuse is a step that more schools, public and private, need to take. However, the

problem of teen drug use should also be discussed and understood as a "symptom" and not a cause of other factors. Experts in the field of adolescent drug use observe that "adolescent angst" or inner emptiness can be expressed in many ways including low self-

esteem and drug use.

Experts suggest that current drug education may be addressed more successfully by efforts aimed at encouraging sensitive and empathetic parenting.

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