

TAPE FOR WEEK OF APRIL 4

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

DRUG ABUSE IS ONE OF THE MOST SERIOUS HEALTH PROBLEMS WE HAVE TODAY. WHILE LAWS HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENED TO REDUCE THE FLOW OF ILLEGAL DRUGS, THE REAL SOLUTION DEPENDS ON THE EDUCATION OF OUR SOCIETY TO THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF DRUG ABUSE.

THAT IS WHY I HAVE SUPPORTED AN EFFORT TO DESIGNATE THIS WEEK, NATIONAL DRUG ABUSE EDUCATION WEEK.

DRUG ABUSE COSTS THOUSANDS OF LIVES AND MILLIONS OF DOLLARS EACH YEAR IN ADDITION TO THE PAIN AND SUFFERING OF THE INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY AND FRIENDS. ALMOST EVERY AMERICAN WILL BE TOUCHED IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER BY THE EFFECTS OF THIS CRISIS.

WE TRULY NEED TO FOCUS ON THE PROBLEMS OF DRUG ABUSE. WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT CHILDREN ARE FACED WITH AND THE PRESSURE TO USE DRUGS AT A VERY YOUNG AGE.

IT IS TIME TO ATTACK THIS ISSUE IN A REALISTIC AND OPEN MANNER, THEN ALL OF US WILL BE BETTER ABLE TO MAKE RESPONSIBLE DECISIONS ABOUT THE USE OF DRUGS.

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.