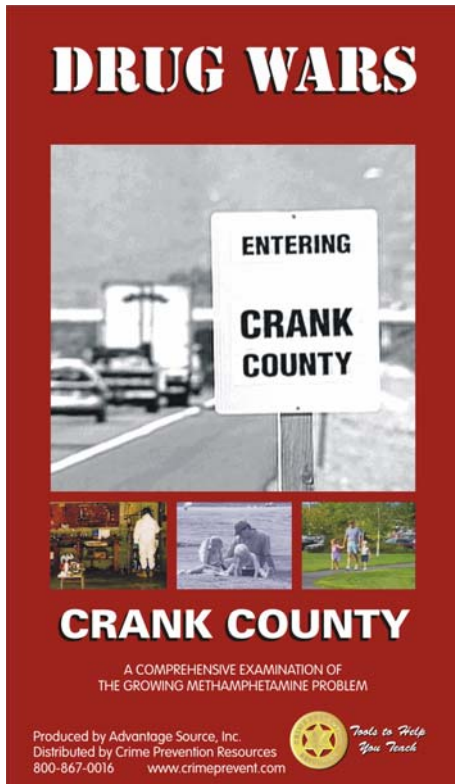


# Instructor Guide

*This CPR Productivity Pack is for use with the video:*

## Drug Wars: Crank County



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## How to Use This Video Package

### What this video is about

“Drug Wars – Crank County” is a 24-minute video production that examines the abuse of methamphetamine. It is a comprehensive examination of a growing and troublesome national phenomenon. Interview-based, it speaks to what meth can do to families and individuals; how it affects the brain; the problems it causes for law enforcement; and how users risk stroke, liver damage, exposure to noxious fumes, and death.

Those interviewed include: law enforcement officials; emergency room personnel; a treatment counselor; former users; clergy; and a member of the judiciary. They paint the whole grim picture of meth abuse, telling of how violent, paranoid, and delusional users can become.

### People who should watch this video

\***DRUG USERS:** Many users are ignorant about the effects of methamphetamine. This video will help drug users learn the facts about meth.

\***PARENTS:** Some parents are in blissful ignorance about dangerous substances children are exposed to. Parents play a pivotal role with their children’s ability to say no to drugs, and this video will help prepare them for a truthful discussion on methamphetamine.

\***COUNSELORS AND TEACHERS:** People in the teaching and helping professions need to operate on the basis of authoritative information. They can’t afford to act on misconceptions about drugs. This program will give them the facts they need about meth.

\***MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:** As with our other *Drug Wars* videos, *Crank County* will educate young people about the dangers of drugs in order to make informed decisions.

\***GENERAL PUBLIC:** Videos such as this one are very good at attracting public interest on the need for better prevention and drug rehabilitation programs.

### What people are saying about this video:

*“My substance abuse group reviewed this film, and it’s a winner. This video is “hard ball” and puts meth in proper perspective...”* Larry Beaty, Director, Associated Addiction Counseling Services, Inc. Kansas City

*“The best informational presentation that I have seen. The film was well paced; the information used was honest and direct and not fabricated with the intent to scare people straight.”* Treatment Counselor, Klamath Falls, Oregon

**METH FACTS:**

Methamphetamines are synthetic amphetamines or stimulants that are produced and sold illegally in pill form, capsules, powder, and chunks. Two such methamphetamines are crank and ice. Crank refers to any form of methamphetamine. Ice is a crystallized, smokable chunk form of methamphetamine that produces a more intense reaction than cocaine or speed. Ice has an appearance that is clear and crystal-like, and resembles frozen ice water.

Methamphetamines stimulate the central nervous system, and the effects may last anywhere from 8 to 24 hours. Crank and ice are extremely addictive and produce a severe craving for the drug.

**SHORT-TERM EFFECTS:**

- increased alertness
- sense of well-being
- paranoia
- intense high
- hallucinations
- aggressive behavior
- increased heart rate
- convulsions
- extreme rise in body temperature (as high as 108 degrees which can cause brain damage and death)
- uncontrollable movements (twitching, jerking, etc...)
- violent behavior
- insomnia
- impaired speech
- dry, itchy skin
- loss of appetite
- acne, sores
- numbness

**EFFECTS ON THE MIND:**

- disturbed sleep
- excessive excitation
- excessive talking
- panic
- anxiousness
- nervousness
- moodiness and irritability
- false sense of confidence and power
- delusions of grandeur leading to aggressive behavior
- uninterested in friends, sex, or food
- aggressive and violent behavior
- severe depression

**LONG-TERM EFFECTS:**

- fatal kidney and lung disorders
- possible brain damage
- depression
- hallucinations
- disorganized lifestyle
- permanent psychological problems
- violent and aggressive behavior
- weight loss
- insomnia
- behavior resembling paranoid schizophrenia
- decreased social life
- malnutrition
- poor coping abilities
- disturbance of personality development
- lowered resistance to illnesses
- liver damage
- stroke
- death

From the Koch Crime Institute [http://www.kci.org/meth\\_info/links.htm](http://www.kci.org/meth_info/links.htm)

**Fact:** Methamphetamine use among high school seniors more than doubled between 1990 & 1996.

**Fact:** The average meth "cook" annually teaches ten others how to make meth.

**Fact:** Every pound of meth produced leaves behind five to six pounds of toxic waste.

**Fact:** Methamphetamine-induced paranoia has led to numerous murders and suicides.

**Fact:** Meth users are the hardest to treat of all drug users.

**Fact:** Meth lab site cleanups can cost up to \$150,000.

**Fact:** Meth use increases risk of child abuse and neglect and domestic violence.

## Discussion Questions based on the video

- 1) What is meth?

**Meth is methamphetamine, an artificial stimulant. These days it is typically made from ephedrine-based, over-the-counter cold medicines.**

- 2) What other names is meth known by?

**Meth is also known as crank, ice, speed, crystal, crystal meth, glass, go, go-fast, jet fuel, crock, batu, tweek, cridium, sketch, wake-up, junk, and cristy.**

- 3) Why is meth dangerous?

**Besides the long list of medical conditions that meth can cause, it is dangerous because of the fact that meth “cooks” produce the drug using various solvents that are extremely poisonous. Among others, cooks have been known to use battery acid, anhydrous ammonia, diesel fuel, formaldehyde, Drano, and even urine.**

- 4) What medical conditions can meth cause?

**Meth use can cause liver damage, brain damage, permanent psychological disorders, sores (known as crank “bugs”), kidney and lung disorders, stroke, coma, and many other problems, up to and including death.**

- 5) What is “tweaking”?

**“Tweaking,” which doctors refer to as “methamphetamine psychosis,” is similar to schizophrenia. The meth user becomes psychotic, paranoid, and delusional. They can also become quite aggressive and dangerous to themselves and others during this stage of meth abuse.**

- 6) Many people think that after they quit using meth they can go back to being the person they were before they started. This is not always true. What kind of permanent damage can meth cause?

**A person’s brain chemistry doesn’t always go back to what it was before their drug habit. Meth can cause permanent psychological problems, such as schizophrenia.**

- 7) What can happen to your body when you suffer permanent neurological disorders caused by meth?

**Your nerves can become damaged causing, twitching, feet shuffling, and loss of control over arm and leg movements.**

- 8) What behaviors do people high on meth exhibit?

**People who use meth can become violent toward anyone. Often, users become delusional thinking someone is after them. After they act out violently toward the person (sometimes even killing them), they don't realize what they have done.**

- 9) What does the term "Crank County" mean?

**This is the term used to describe an area where the sale and use of meth is at or near epidemic levels.**

- 10) What is the most important thing parents can do to prevent their kids from using drugs?

**Educate your children about drugs by talking to them repeatedly.**

## Sample Press Release

Use this release to announce availability of *Drug Wars: Crank County* in newspapers and on TV/radio.

Instructions: Substitute your own information for the material in boldface.

### NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: **January 22, 2004**  
For Immediate Use

Contact: **Ira Lee, 892-1234**  
**Sally Forth, 782-5678**

#### Drug Wars program examines methamphetamine addictions

**[Your agency name]** will offer a special substance abuse prevention program **Tuesday, January 27**. The half-hour-long program will begin at **7:00 p.m. in the YMCA meeting room at 321 May Street**.

The program will look at what our community can do to address the growing problem of methamphetamine abuse, according to **Ira Lee, community resources director**. This program speaks to what meth can do to families and individuals, how it affects the brain, the problems it causes for law enforcement, and how users risk stroke, liver damage, exposure to noxious fumes, and even death.

**Lee** indicated that the presentation will include a new video called *Drug Wars: Crank County*. "It's basically a call to action," said Lee of the video. "It shows us as citizens how we each can play a role in eliminating the scourge of drug abuse."

If you cannot attend the meeting on **Tuesday**, contact **[agency name]** at **782-5678** if you have questions or would like to borrow the video. It is recommended for viewing by students of all ages, parent-teacher organizations, civic groups, and community/neighborhood watch groups.

## Sample Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions (5-10 minutes).
2. Why we're here (5 minutes). Give a brief statement of purpose explaining why methamphetamine use is a local concern. Provide some statistics (use web resources on page 8) and examples of local crimes in which methamphetamine was a factor. Ask audience members to list their questions. Write them on an easel or overhead.
3. Show video DRUG WARS: Crank County (24 minutes).
4. Audience Review (15-20 minutes). Allow audience members to give some reactions to the program. Use the Discussion Questions (pages 4-5) to lead them through a review of the program. Do you plan to ask them for something – such as for help in planning the next meeting or for a commitment to start a Community Watch program? This is the time to bring it up – when the images are fresh in their minds.
5. Break (5-10 minutes).
6. Local experts panel – investigators, rehab counselors, drug enforcement agents, and other authorities with expertise about local issues (20-30 minutes). Bring in a local expert or panel of experts to talk about the solutions presented in the video and to answer questions from the audience. If you don't have a panel, continue the discussion by asking audience members to brainstorm about how you can get the word out to the entire community about the need for local drug prevention efforts. List their ideas and find out who is willing to follow up.

## Web Resources

Join Together Online

<http://www.jointogether.org>

617-437-1500

Drug Wars USA

<http://www.drugwars.com>

Crime Prevention Resources

<http://www.crimeprevent.com>

800-867-0016

Drug Abuse Resistance Education

(D.A.R.E.)

<http://www.dare-america.com>

Natl. Clearinghouse for Alcohol &  
Drug Information

<http://www.health.org>

800-729-6686

Natl. Institute on Drug Abuse

<http://www.nida.nih.gov>

Web of Addictions

<http://www.well.com/user/woa/>

Minnesota Institute of Public Health

<http://www.miph.org/>

National Drug Prevention League

<http://www.ndpl.org>

410-385-9094

Drug Enforcement Agency

<http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/>

Partnership for a Drug Free America

<http://www.drugfreeamerica.org/>

Drug Strategies

<http://www.drugstrategies.org>

Crime Prevention Resources

info: 541-779-0016

orders: 800-867-0016

fax: 541-772-8239

e-mail: [tmonson@advantagesource.com](mailto:tmonson@advantagesource.com)

Life or Meth

<http://www.lifeormeth.org>

Stop Drugs

<http://www.stopdrugs.org>

916-322-2796

For further information contact:  
Crime Prevention Resources, Inc.  
600 N. Grape St., Medford, OR 97501  
Phone: 1-800-867-0016 Fax: 1-541-772-8239  
Email: [kowens@advantagesource.com](mailto:kowens@advantagesource.com)  
Web site: [www.crimeprevent.com](http://www.crimeprevent.com)