

« Young People – Old Problems »



1. *Nowadays, more and more social problems are associated with being young.*

1) What teens' problems are discussed in this magazine article? While reading find the words in the article that can help you to understand the meaning of the highlighted words. Then find the correct meaning of these words in the column on the right. (*reading for specific information*)

What these words have in common?

violence
poverty
prison
addiction
commit suicide

2) What makes young people do these things? How do different people explain the reasons for teenagers' behaviour?

The Government

The specialists

Adults

Teenagers

say(s)

think(s)

explain(s)

admit(s)

that ...

— Hello, everyone. With me in the studio today I have a guest.

Melanie Stewart is **a social worker** and deals with young people who have **drinking problems**. Mass media reports show that a lot of teenagers suffer drinking problems. Is this really true?

— I'm afraid so. The recent surveys really show that alcohol cases are increasing.

— How awful. But there must be some reasons for that.

— Well, teenagers experiment with alcohol for **a variety of reasons**.

First, a lot of them associate drinking with adulthood.

Curiosity **can be one of the motives** for teens' first try of alcohol.

And most teens told me that nobody had ever warned them of the dangers of regular drinking.

Actually, parents don't pay much attention to what their children do.

And the most powerful influence on young people are their mates.

A lot of teens said that they had had their first glass of alcohol at a friend's party.

— Do you see **any way to help them**?

— A lot of young alcoholic are sent to special hospitals for the treatment.

But sometimes -without any success. The teenager's attitude is very important too.

First, I think there should be much more information about the danger of alcohol provided by mass media, schools. Teachers and parents can help a lot.

Young people must have the feeling that somebody cares for them.

— Thank you for coming. And I would like to say to all teenagers. Remember, we care for you.

Home Task:

- 1) Vocabulary, p. 139 (1-3)
- 2) Ex. 3.1-3, 4), p. 113-115
- 3) Ex. 4, p.115 (VK)