



## Special points of interest:

- > Trend of the month
- > Street Terms for Drugs
- > Synthetic Drugs
- > Pot Popular

## From the Desk of the SRO

### Not so squeaky clean bath salts. January Trend of the Month

You might as well take the lock off the medicine cabinet, Mom and Dad.

Your teenagers already have all they need to get high on the side of the tub. They're stealing your **bath salts** to make the hot new **drug**.

When I first read kids were snorting, injecting, and smoking the salts to get a high comparable to methamphetamine, I did a little snorting of my own. Bath salts? We soak in this stuff, let our skin get all pruney with it. How could it be BAD for our kids?

Here's the thing -- **they're not bath salts at all**. That's just what they're being marketed as to throw the cops (and parents) off the trail. What I found out was enough to make every mom worry about her kid's motives when Junior shows up with a nice "bath salt" gift basket for Valentine's Day this year. Let's break this down:

According to Dr. Richard J.

Geller of the California Poison Control System, the problem is what's inside these so-called salts. The most common ingredient used in bath salts is called 3,4-

Methylenedioxypropylvalerone, also known as **MDPV** (marketed as Ivory Wave and Energy-1). But also commonly found inside that "instant spa at home" is **Mephedrone**, aka 4-Methylmethcathinone, a **compound very similar in structure to Methamphetamine**.

It's marketed with names like Bounce, Bubbles, M-CAT, Mad Cow, and Meow Meow. Other substances Geller says are "implicated" as "bath salts" include 3,4-Methylenedioxymethcathinone (Methylone), 4-Methoxymethcathinone, 4-Fluoromethcathinone, and 3-Fluoromethcathinone. All four are derivatives of **Methcathinone**, also known as Khat, Jeff, and Cat, a drug Geller says is structur-

ally and pharmaceutically similar to methamphetamine. The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has it listed as a "schedule one" drug under the Controlled Substances Act -- the same class as heroin, pot, and mescaline.

Now for the good news. Experts say a traditional bath salt that contains sodium chloride (**sea salt**) or magnesium sulfate (**epsom salt**) is not what the kids are looking for; so if that's in your bathroom, your kids are safe ... until they discover the next homemade high.



### Drug Street Terms (A's)

**ac/dc** - Codeine cough syrup

**adam** - Methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDMA)

**african** - Marijuana

**airhead** - Marijuana user

**al capone** - Heroin

**all lit up** - Under the influence of drugs

**ames** - Amyl nitrite (also known as poppers)

**amp** - Amphetamine

**amped** - High on amphetamines

**amped-out** - Fatigue after using amphetamine

**amping** - Accelerated heartbeat

**amt** - Dimethyltryptamine (also known as DMT a hallucinogen similar to Salvia)

**anadrol** - Oral steroids

**angel** - PCP

**angie** - Cocaine

**apple jacks** - Crack Cocaine

**arnolds** - Steroids

**ashes** - Marijuana

**aspirin** - Powder cocaine

**astro turf** - Marijuana

**atom bomb** - Marijuana mixed with heroin

**author** - Doctor who

writes illegal prescriptions

### Quote of the month:

Sweet are the uses of adversity,  
Which like the toad, ugly  
and venomous,  
Wears yet a precious jewel  
in his head.

**William Shakespeare**

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## Synthetic Drugs

Nearly one in nine high school seniors have gotten high in the past year on synthetic drugs, such as "K2" or "Spice," second only to the number of teens who have used mari-



juana, a new survey shows.

"Monitoring the Future," the nation's most comprehensive survey of teenage drug use, found 11.4% of the high school seniors had used the synthetic substances, often packed as potpourri or herbal incense and sold in convenience

stores, which mimic the effects of marijuana.

"It is astounding," said Rep. Tom Latham, R-Iowa. "I don't think they have any idea how dangerous these synthetic drugs are."

Latham co-sponsored a bill to outlaw 16 synthetic compounds that mimic marijuana and 15 synthetic hallucinogens after an Indiana teen shot himself after taking K2 in July 2010. Latham's bill passed last week. A Senate bill, sponsored by Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, is awaiting action by the full Senate.

K2 and Spice emerged as a problem in 2008, and their popularity appears to be rising. Poison control centers handled 5,741 calls about the drugs in the first

10 months of 2011, nearly double the 2,915 calls received in all of 2010, according to the American Association of Poison Control Centers. People who smoke the chemical-coated herbs may experience euphoria, but bad reactions are common, including convulsions, anxiety attacks, dangerously elevated heart rates, vomiting and suicidal thoughts.

Federal officials became so alarmed that the Drug Enforcement Administration used its emergency powers in March to outlaw the substances. More than 40 states have also passed laws banning them.

"The next survey we do in spring 2012 will tell us a lot about how this ban has worked," said Lloyd Johnston, the survey's principal investigator.

## Pot Popular

Marijuana remains the most popular drug among teens. Marijuana use increased for the fourth year in a row after a decade of decline. Nearly 7% of high school seniors report smoking marijuana daily, the survey found.

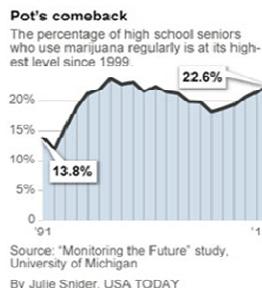
"It's the highest rate we've seen in 30 years, so something is going on," Johnston said. He added that

growing numbers of teens don't see marijuana as dangerous.

"That's a very bad indicator," said Nora Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

"Either we do something to change that, or we will continue to see increases." Gil Kerlikowske, director of the White House Office on National Drug Policy,

said state legalization of marijuana for medical use is influencing teens.



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# From the Desk of the SRO

## Pot Popular cont....

"We're sending young people the wrong message when we call it medicine," he said. Half of high school seniors reported having tried an illicit drug at some time, 40% reported using one or more drugs in the past year, and a quarter said they had used one or more drugs in the past month, the survey found. Among 10th-graders, 38% said they had tried an illicit drug.

Tobacco and alcohol use are at their lowest levels since the survey began in 1975, Johnston said. "Kids con-

sider smoking (cigarettes) to be dangerous. They aren't even trying it," he said. The survey, conducted by the University of Michigan, questions 47,000 students in the eighth, 10th and 12th grades in 400 public and private schools around the nation. It is sponsored by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institutes of Health.

A new federal survey of 47,000 students by Monitoring The Future found that marijuana and prescription drug use is up among teens.

Researchers said they believe the increase of teens smoking marijuana is partly linked to the debate over medical use of the drug.

Links:

<http://monitoringthefuture.org/>

<http://www.abovetheinfluence.com/>

## Next Month....

School Security Drills...Why do we have them? What are they for? Why do we have the same drills all the time? Next month we will be discussing the purpose of School Security Drills and how they came to



be. We will also be discussing the latest trends and what's new from the Desk of the SRO