

## HELIUM ABUSE EDUCATION KIT

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

202-862-3902



Contact: Sara Stickler

Executive Director, Alliance for Consumer Education

Email: sstickler@consumered.org

Phone: 202-833-7301

Dear Educators and Parents.

Huffing helium, though perceived as a harmless joke, poses a serious risk to our health, and the health of our children and students. Unlike other forms of inhalant abuse, children can be exposed to helium huffing in their day-to-day routines. Whether attending a birthday party, a school function, or watching a funny YouTube video clip, the temptation to huff helium is a reality for children of all ages. Adolescents may be inclined to try it because helium changes the pitch of their voices. However, what they may not know is that helium cuts off the oxygen supply to their lungs, and when inhaled directly from the tank can cause an embolism, stroke, or even death.

Education and awareness are the first steps to keeping kids healthy and safe. You can help us spread awareness and work to prevent helium abuse by educating yourself, and passing that knowledge onto your own children and students. ACE provides valuable resources and tools to make learning about helium easy, interactive, and fun. Below are ways that you can participate and support our efforts.

- 1. Share our helium education video which discusses the dangers of inhaling helium. The video is targeted towards elementary and middle school students. It is available on our website, inhalantabuse.org, as well as our Facebook page @AllianceforConsumerEd.
- 2. Follow ACE on Facebook @AllianceforConsumerEd and on Twitter @consumered and share ACE's educational content across your social media platforms.

We thank you for your continued support.

Sara Stickler

**Executive Director** 

Sara M. Stickler

Alliance for Consumer Education (ACE)



## **Helium Infographic**

Helium is no laughing matter Inhaling helium isn't a funny party trick- it's life threatening.

Huffing from a pressurized tank can cause your lungs to rupture.

## THE DANGERS OF INHALING HELIUM

Inhaling
helium cuts
off your
oxygen
supply

For more information visit: inhalantabuse .org

If inhaled too quickly, helium can cause an embolism, stroke, and death.

Read and follow all labeled instructions to use helium tanks properly.