



PRESS RELEASE

FORMER ADDICT WRITES CANDID MEMOIR ON THE DEVESTATION OF HEROIN ADDICTION

Suburban Junky: From Honor Roll to Heroin Addict

By Jude Hassan

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Student Study Guide Included

It's hard to turn on the television these days without hearing about the opioid crisis that has swept through our nation with an unrelenting efficiency. Middle to upper-class white suburban teens have been the hardest hit demographic, with 90% of first-time users being white. In New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and about a dozen others, opioid related deaths have nearly quadrupled over the past decade. The stories of those within these jaw-dropping numbers are the tether needed to wrap our collective minds around this problem. Author Jude Hassan's memoir, ***Suburban Junky: From Honor Roll to Heroin Addict***, is a personal account of his journey from a smart, well-loved kid with great potential to a fear-filled junkie who stopped at nothing to feed his insatiable appetite for opiates.

In ***Suburban Junky***, Hassan was the last kid anyone would imagine a junkie. He had loving and attentive parents, was an honor roll student, his father was a drug counselor; he knew all he was supposed to know. When his family moved to the suburbs just in time for freshman year, Hassan was lonely, shy and more vulnerable than ever. When a boy his age approached him and offered him drugs, it was all it took. Though he knew better and had all the tools to resist, his desire to make friends and fit in corrupted his judgment and led him down a dark path with no end in sight.

Hassan quickly went from smoking pot to experimenting with other drugs, inevitably landing on heroin. It took an enforced detox in a jail cell and his father's cancer to give him the will to climb out of the deep, dark hole he'd lived in for six years.

Preaching doesn't always work with kids, but personal experiences related sincerely does. ***Suburban Junky*** does that in spades. Hassan, now 35 years old, writes in an honest and emotional voice. If read and shared early on in a teen's life it is a force that may well make a dent in the staggering ranks of adolescent drug users.

Media Contacts

Jude Hassan

(636) 751-3691

jude.k.hassan@gmail.com

Website:

www.SuburbanJunkie.com

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:



Jude Hassan and his wife, Rachel, founded Suburban Junky, Inc., a St. Louis-based organization dedicated to educating teenagers on the perils of drug use. Hassan, in addition to working at a treatment center in St. Louis, travels around the country inspiring teens with his story.

Available at Amazon, Barnes and Noble and through SuburbanJunkie.com