



An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Perspectives on Prevention Principles, The Irish Context and the DoH Drug Prevention and Education Programme.

Citizens' Assembly on Drug Use

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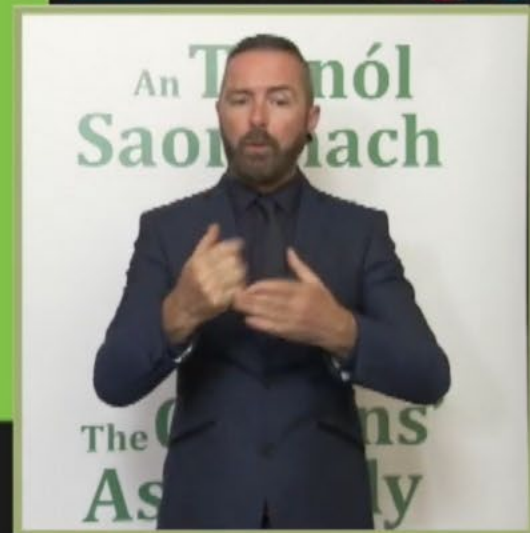
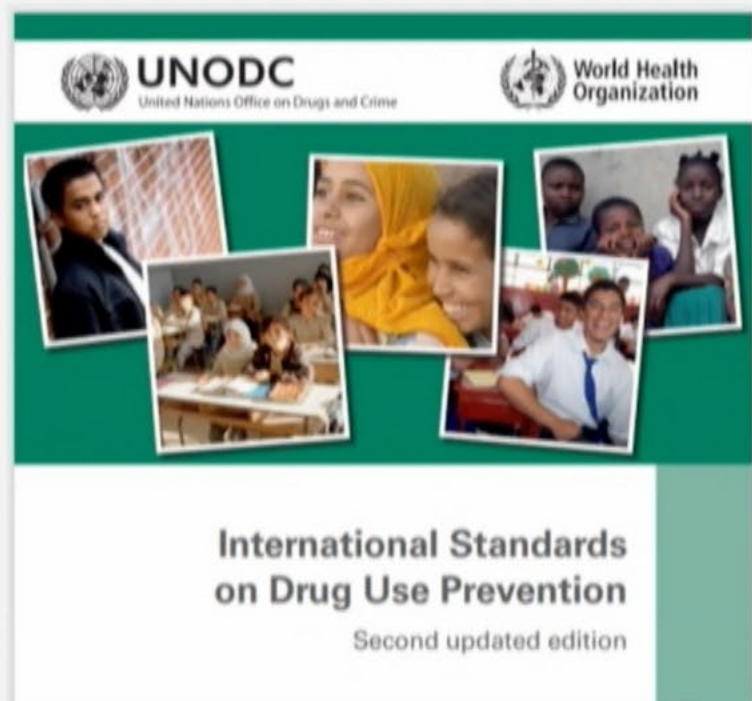
29th Sept 2023

**OST
Rehab
Treatment
Family Support
Harm Reduction**

Prevention



Support the healthy and safe development of children and youth through evidence-based prevention



Stem the flow



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

MANUALS EN

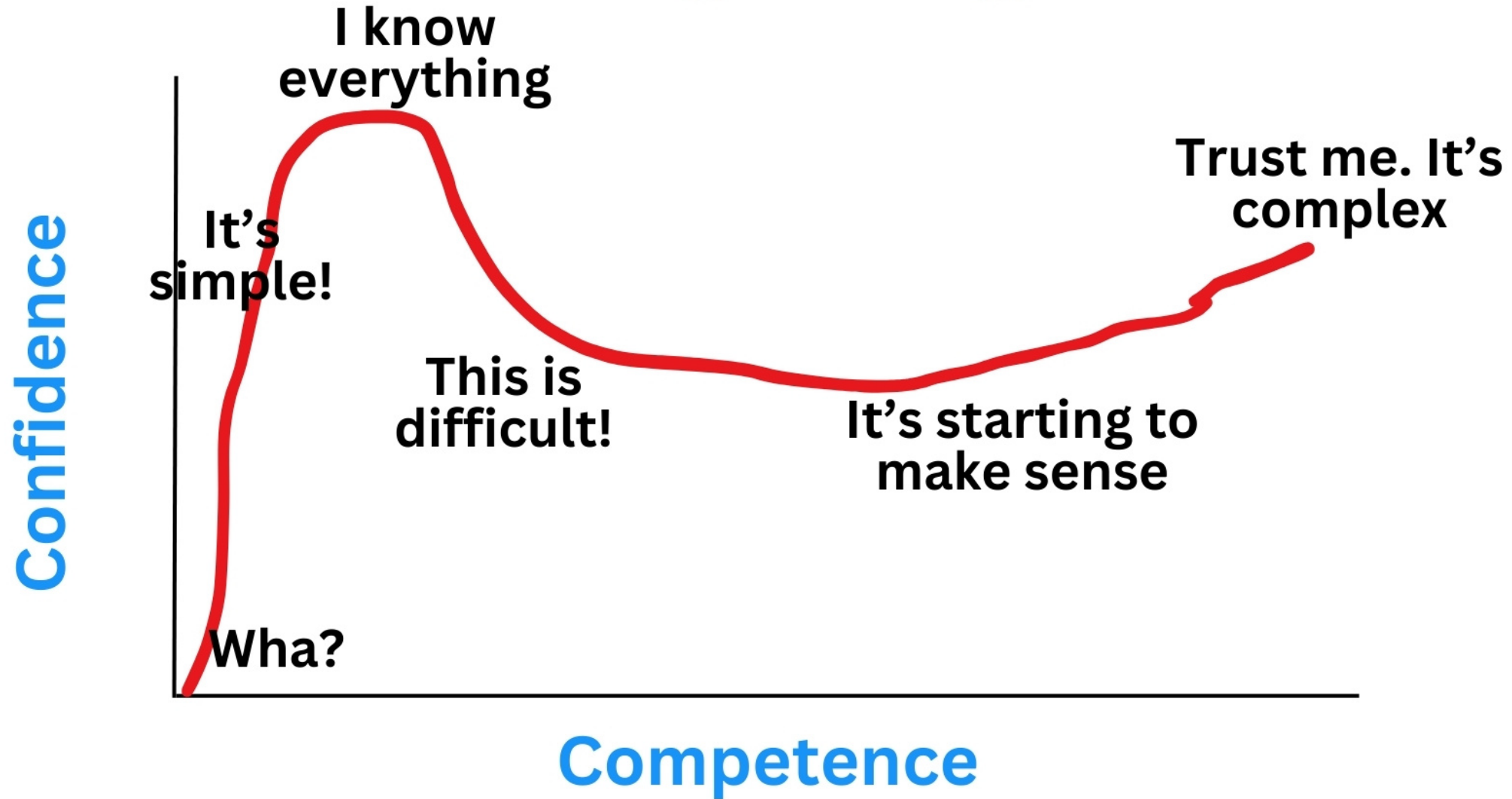
European Prevention Curriculum

A handbook for decision-makers, opinion-makers
and policy-makers in science-based prevention
of substance use

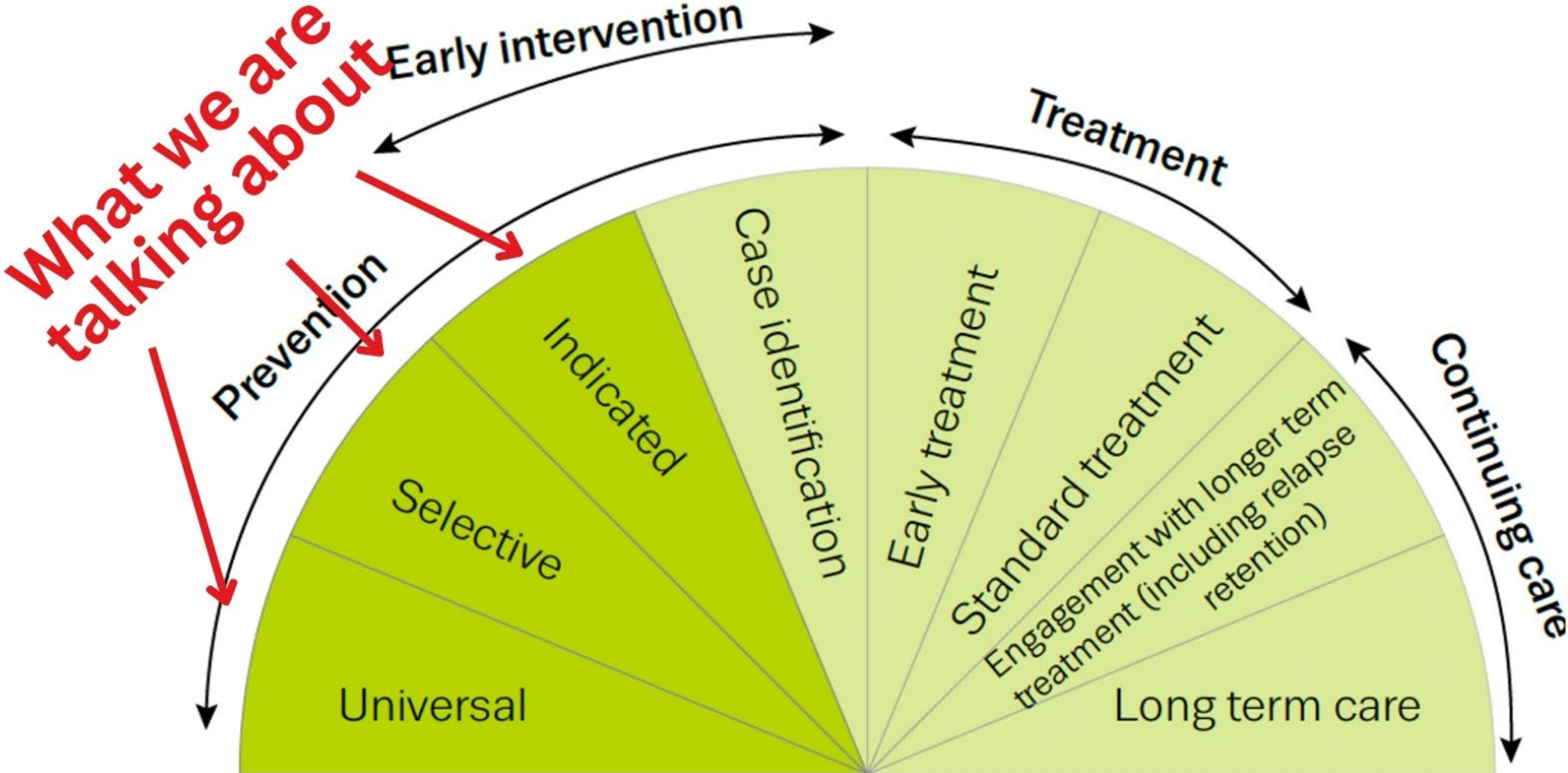
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The Dunning Kruger Effect



Diversity in responses to substance use problems





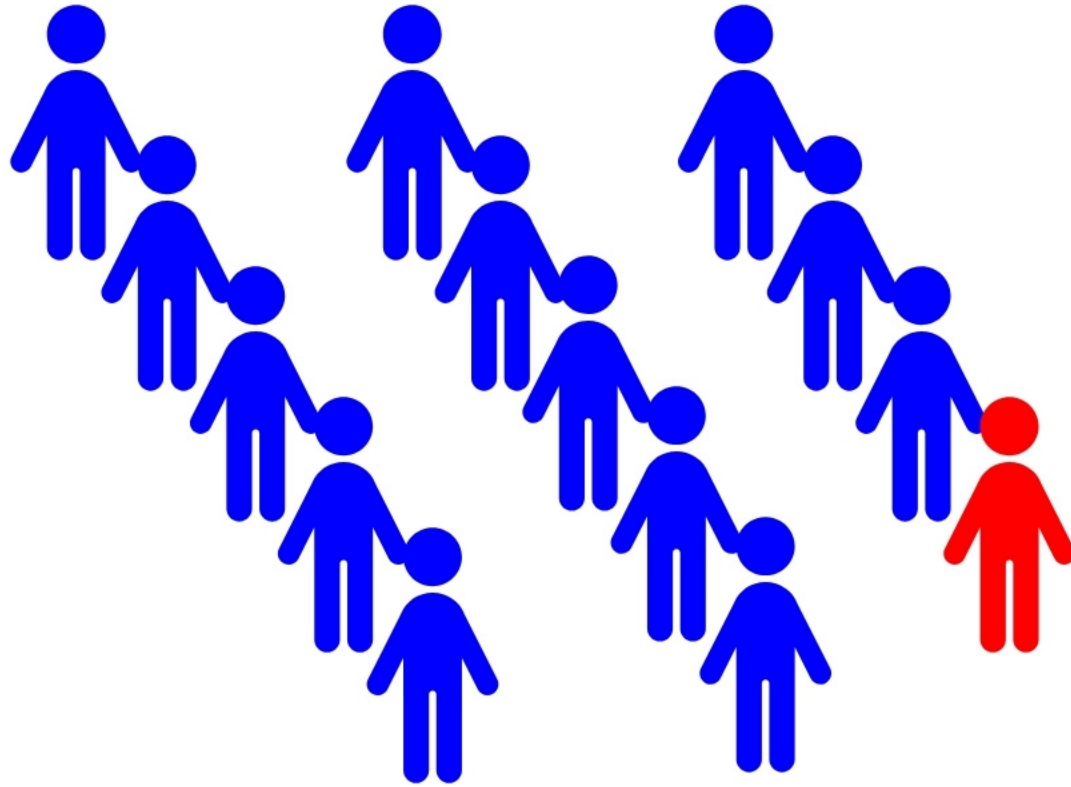
Rush Bottom
CYCLE TRACK
Open: Sat
07:00 - 12:00
Sun 10:00 - 18:00
MON - SAT

recof.com

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The 2019–20 Irish National Drug and Alcohol Survey



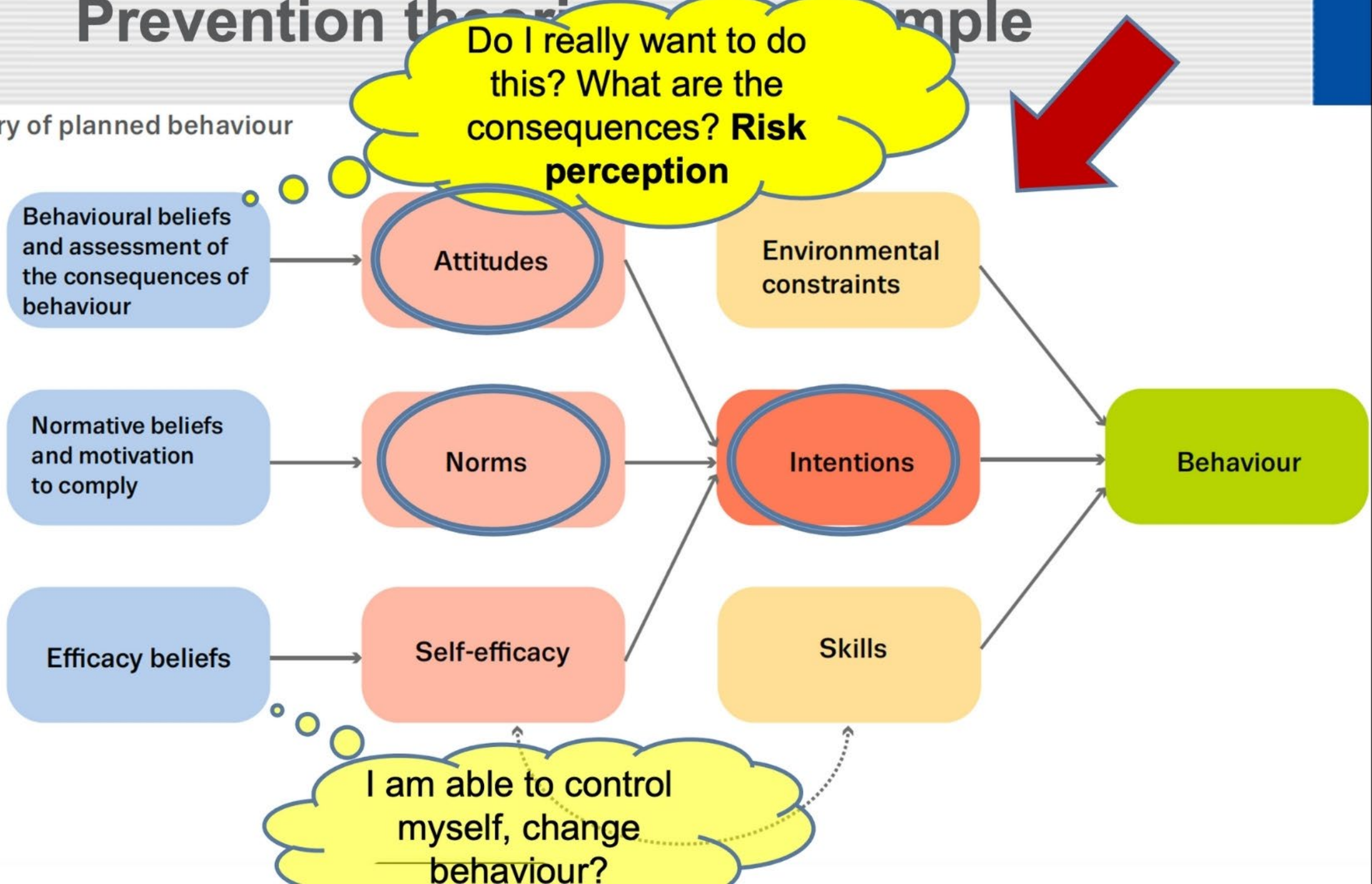
93%
didn't
use
illicit
drugs

Why?

Drug use Prevalence - Past Year

Prevention theory example

Theory of planned behaviour



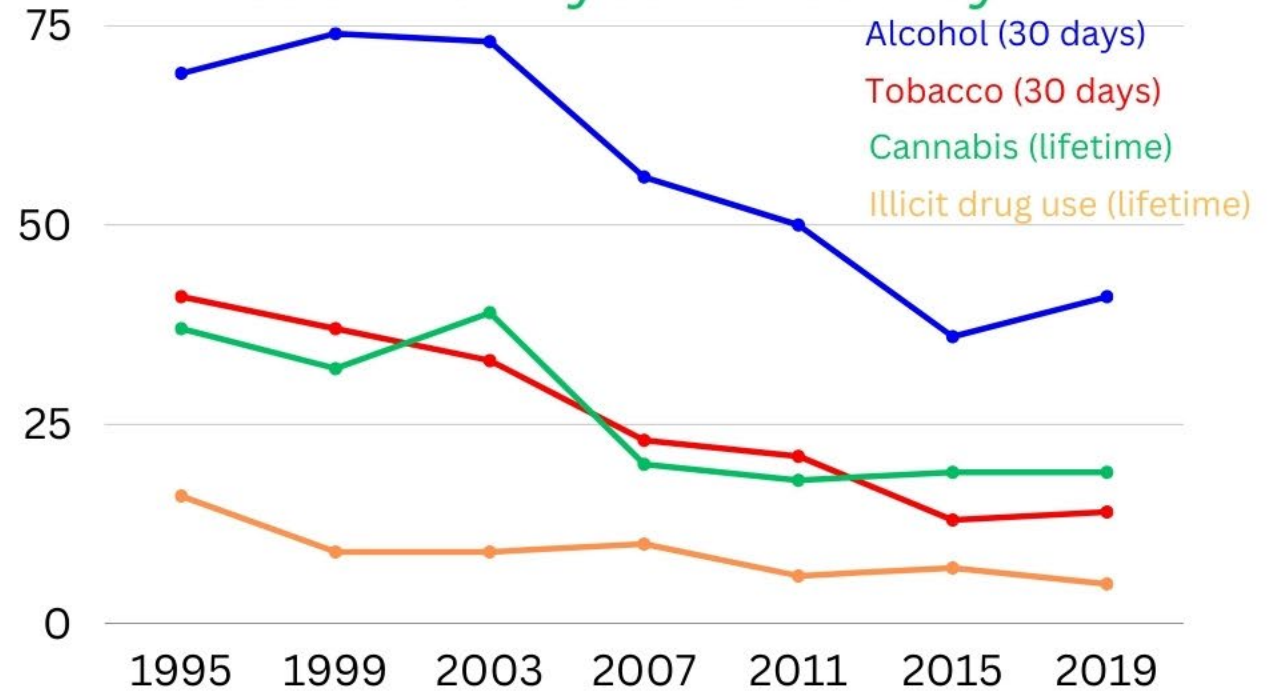
ESPAD Report 2019

Results from the European
School Survey Project on
Alcohol and Other Drugs

The ESPAD Group

Ireland 1995 - 2019

Reach 16 in year of survey



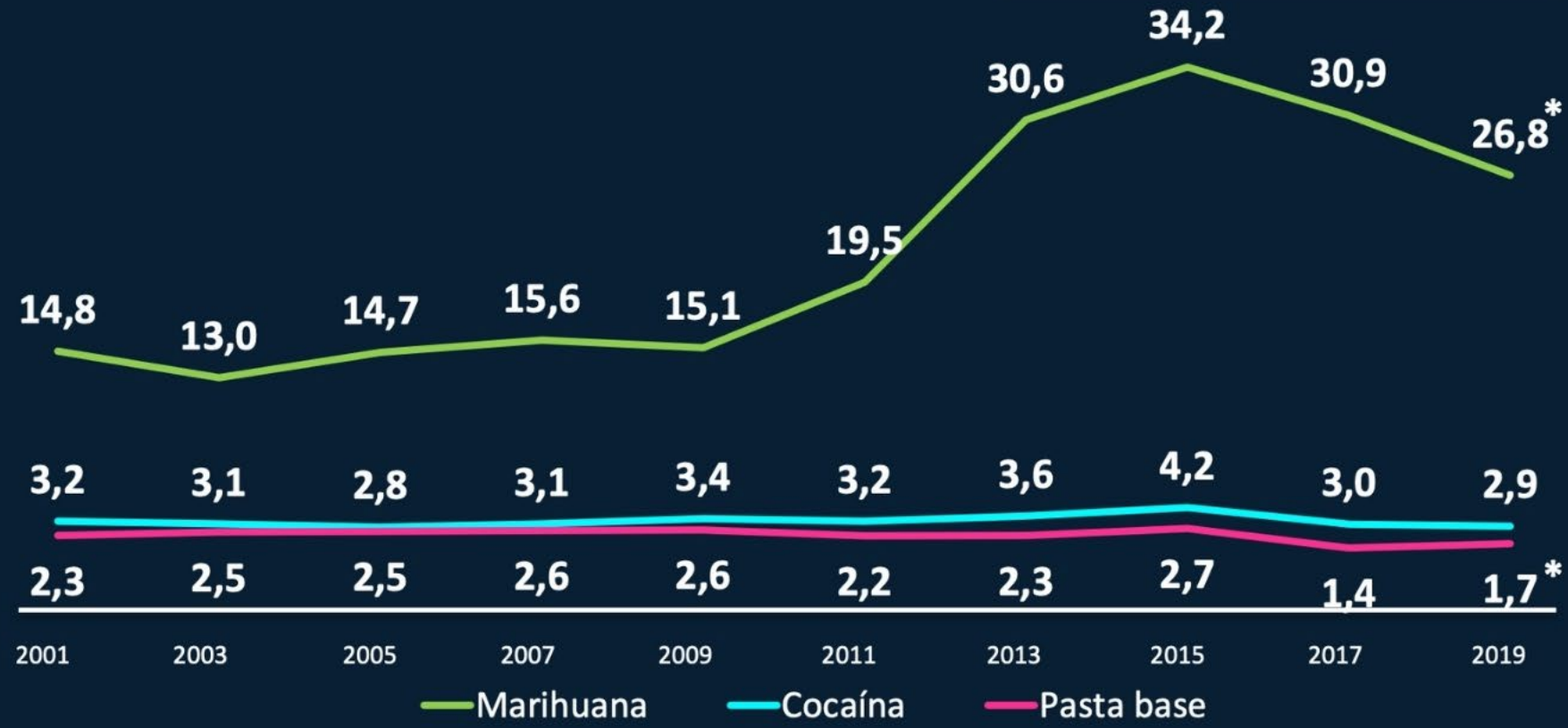
“Selected policies do have an impact on the prevalence of experimentation and non-frequent users, with those depenalising cannabis possession increasing it and those raising penalties causing a reduction.” *Sabrina Molinaro, ESPAD Coordinator*

Evolución de la prevalencia consumo **marihuana, cocaína y pasta base** último año (%)



Total país, 2001-2019

El consumo de marihuana
desciende en 13,3%
(2017-2019).



Chilean 13th National Study of Drugs in the Population

14-18 Year Olds

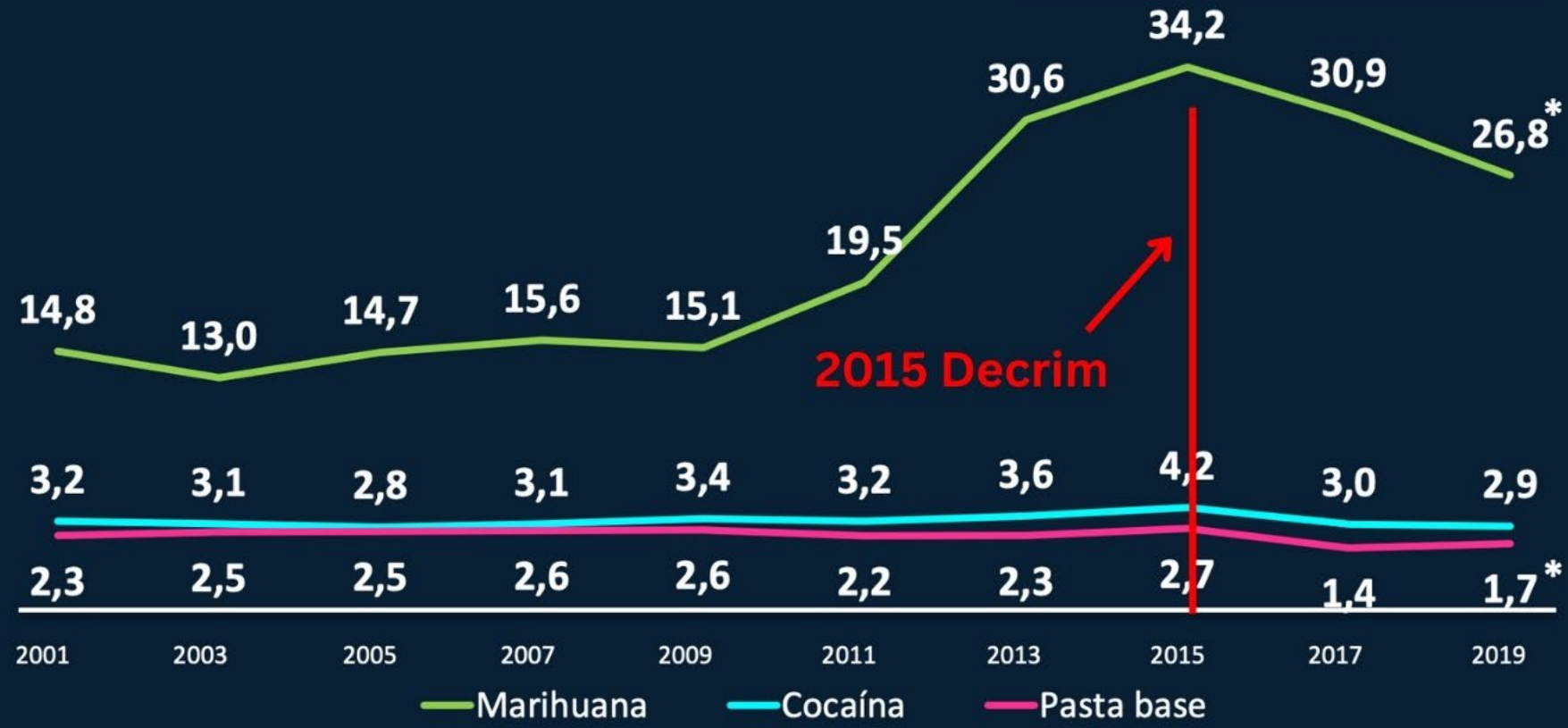
n=46,628

* Variación estadísticamente significativa respecto al estudio anterior

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The Unplugged program in Chile ("Yo Sé Lo Que Quiero") for substance use prevention among early adolescents: study protocol for a randomized controlled trial

[Jorge Gaete](#) , [Saray Ramírez](#), [Sofía Gana](#), [Daniela Valenzuela](#) & [Ricardo Araya](#)


[Trials](#) **23**, Article number: 76 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)

1432 Accesses | 2 Citations | [Metrics](#)

- **Unplugged** - 7 European Countries (+ Clondalkin!)
- **38%↓ drunkenness & 26%↓ cannabis use last 30 days**
- Aimed at **12-14** year olds in school
- Focus on social influence, lifeskills and correction of normative beliefs

Effects of the Universal Prevention Curriculum for Schools on Substance Use Among Peruvian Adolescents: A Randomized Trial

Mallie J. Paschall¹ , Fernando Salazar Silva², Zili Sloboda³, Christopher L. Ringwalt⁴ , and Joel W. Grube¹

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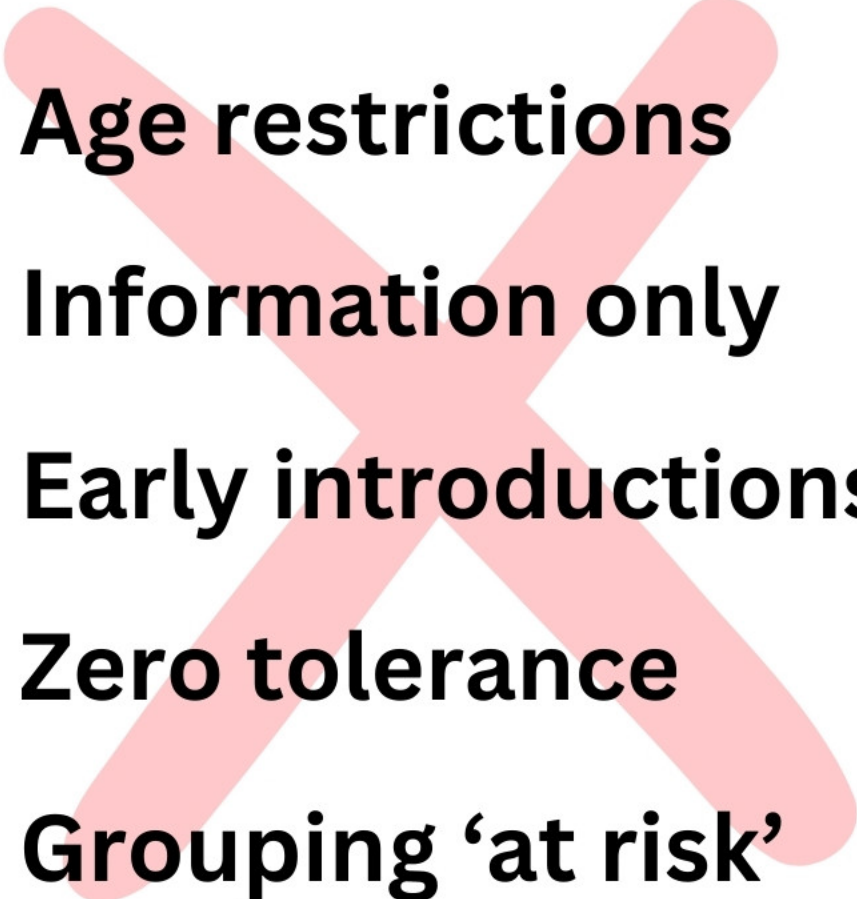
28 Secondary Schools in Peru (n=24,529)

Intervention Group - Unplugged + UPC

Control Group - Unplugged only

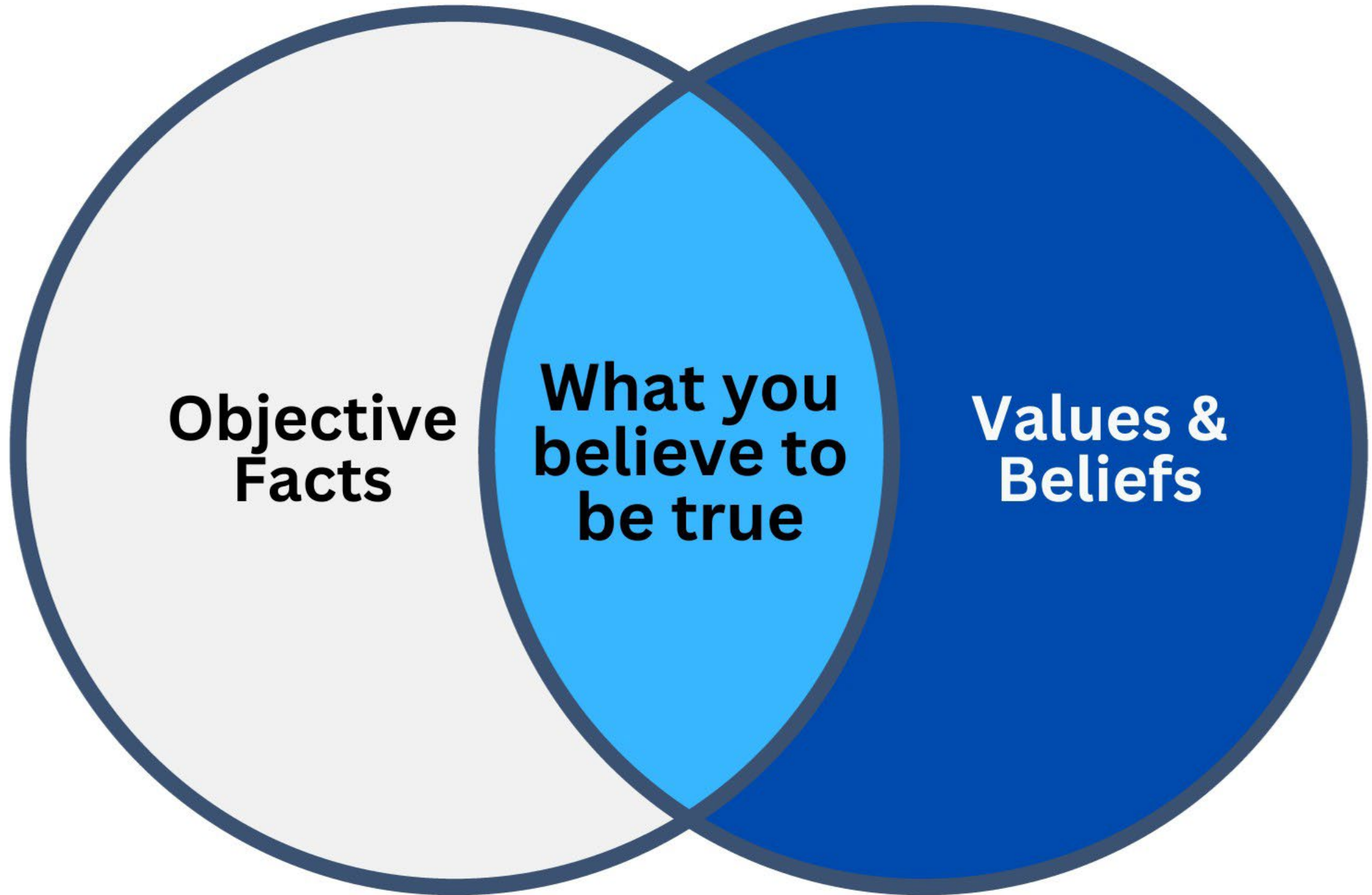
Multi-level analyses indicated significant reductions in past-year and past-month smoking, friends' substance use, and problems related to substance use and in general at intervention relative to control schools. Significant increases were found in intervention vs. control schools related to students' awareness of school substance use policies, perceived likelihood of getting caught for smoking, and school bonding

Ineffective

- Talks/Scare Tactics
 - Age restrictions
 - Information only
 - Early introductions
 - Zero tolerance
 - Grouping 'at risk' youth
- 

Effective

- Environmental improvements
 - Price, availability, promotion
 - Positive norms
 - Goals & Structured leisure time
 - Xchange Registry.
- 

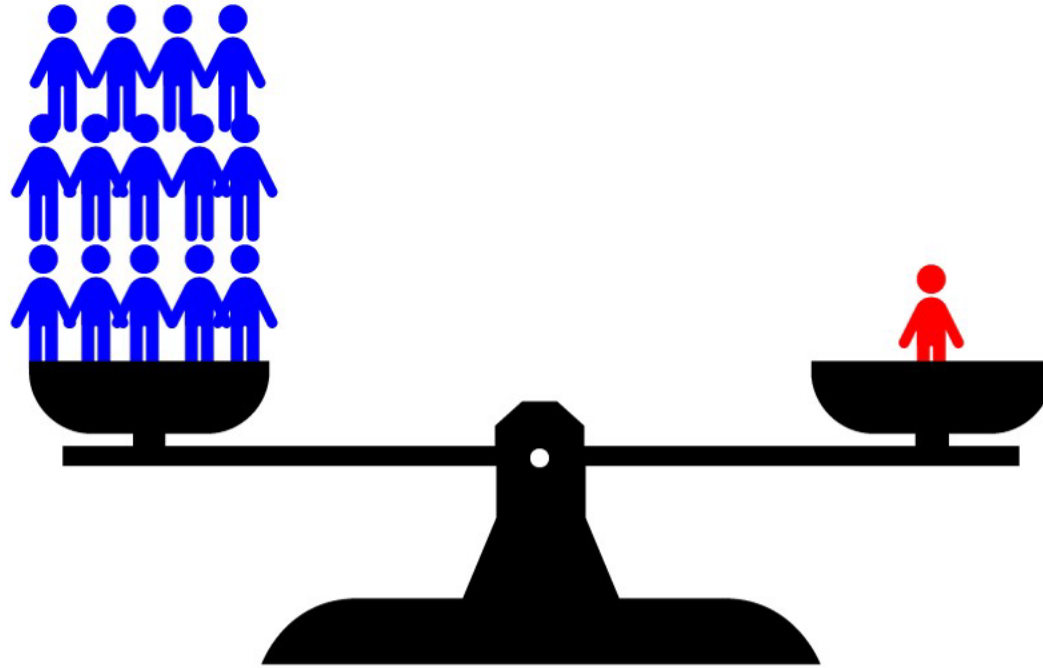


**Objective
Facts**

**What you
believe to
be true**

**Values &
Beliefs**

How do we ensure our interventions don't **create more** drug users whilst also being **compassionate** towards drug users?





RECOMMENDED

- **Resource** rollout of **EUPC training & Frontline Politeia**
- **Unify funding** streams for drug prevention
- Office with **responsibility** for drug prevention
- **Sláintecare** - 96 HP&IOs with drug prevention remit
- **Implement** 'Beneficial' or 'Likely to be Beneficial' interventions as per **Xchange Registry**

Policy Rationale



Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery
*A health-led response to drug and alcohol use in
Ireland 2017-2025.*

Strengthen the prevention of drug and alcohol use and the associated harms among children and young people



Drug Prevention Programme



Demonstration Projects



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Know the Score:

Substance Use Resource Materials
for Senior Cycle SPHE



UCC

University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh



Alcohol Forum Ireland



Clondalkin

Drug & Alcohol Task Force



Better Prevention



- Evidence Based
- Guidance Framework
- EUPC
- EUSPR





•Go raibh míle maith
agaibh