

# Glossary

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## ILLEGAL DRUGS

### A

**anabolic steroid** a synthetic version of the male hormone testosterone that is used to promote muscle development

### C

**club (designer) drug** a drug made to closely resemble a common illegal drug in chemical structure and effect

### D

**depressant** a drug that causes relaxation and sleepiness

**drug abuse** the intentional improper or unsafe use of a drug

### H

**hallucinogen** a drug that distorts perceptions, causing the user to see or hear things that are not real

### I

**inhalant** a drug that is inhaled as a vapor

**intervention** confronting a drug user about his or her drug abuse problem to stop him or her from using drugs

### M

**marijuana** the dried flowers and leaves of the plant *Cannabis sativa* that are smoked or mixed in food and eaten for intoxicating effects

### N

**neonatal abstinence syndrome** drug withdrawal that occurs in newborn infants whose mothers were frequent drug users while pregnant

### O

**opiates** a group of highly addictive drugs derived from the poppy plant that are used as pain relievers, anesthetics, and sedatives

**overdose** the taking of too much of a drug, which causes sickness, loss of consciousness, permanent damage, or even death

**R**

**recovering** the process of learning to live without drugs

**relapse** a return to using drugs while trying to recover from drug addiction

**S**

**stimulant** a drug that temporarily increases a person's energy and alertness