



SADD Campaigns and Activities: Shattered Lives

A New Program to Check Out!!

A unique program by the name of *Shattered Lives* is being offered to chapters nationwide. Originating in Rhode Island, the program has met with much success. Many Rhode Island SADD chapters have used the program and have seen an increase in both SADD membership and SADD activities. It proved to be a very positive activity for those involved and had a significant impact on the communities in which it was presented.

We've all heard the above before regarding activities being offered. Each one claims to be successful and it's difficult to separate which ones are for real and which ones are not. I cannot guarantee the success of *Shattered Lives* for your school--only you can determine if you think your school can use a program like *Shattered Lives*. Obviously, there are a few steps to take first. Let me give you some background on the program, how it works, and why it works. Here goes:

Shattered Lives is a play based on real-life situations we've seen happen. While the story is fictitious, the events portrayed are ones many of us have lived through or are living through. The storyline itself is fairly simple: it centers around a group of seniors, with the emphasis on a central couple, and follows them throughout their senior year. While the play can be captured in a single sentence, there's a lot to the story that cannot be captured in one sentence. The play attempts to portray, as best as possible, the reality of choices that goes on in that time of life. Choices about the future, friends, relationships, social life, *Shattered Lives* delivers a lot in one sitting. And the big thing about it? There's no script--structural improvisation is used, allowing the students to put actual events and feelings into the play. On top of that, the majority of the students who have participated in *Shattered Lives* were students without prior acting or stage experience.

The program is offered in the form of a production packet complete with the materials needed to put on *Shattered Lives* at your own school. The materials of this program include two components: the production manual and professionally taped performance of *Shattered Lives*. The production manual contains all the information, every possible aspect from A to Z, necessary for producing the program at your school. Everything from stage direction to group dynamics is included in the manual. Along with the manual, the taped performance allows you the chance to see if you're on track with your own production and gives you the opportunity to see changes to make.

There are many reasons why schools selected *Shattered Lives* as the program of choice for their school. Some of the feedback given included the following:

- 1 It was a project many students were able to be involved in, at varying levels of activity
- 2 It served to focus the direction of the club (i.e. this is what we'll be doing for the next 6 months)
- 3 Most importantly, it served as a creative outlet for a broad range of students (given the nature of the production, many different talents were needed to pull it off).



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Students themselves enjoyed it because it was something different than the usual campaigns; it allowed them to put their own lives into the play; and finally, they had the unforgettable experience of standing onstage, taking their final bow in front of friends, peers, and the community.

To get a good look at the program, it's highly recommended that you order the *Shattered Lives* Introductory Presentation. If you're serious about taking a closer look, this presentation will give you an excellent overview of the program: excerpts from the play, program explanations, and student and cast feedback. Cost information and ways of funding the program are included—the intent is giving your school viable funding alternatives without impacting your budget. The introductory presentation is being offered free of charge to any interested school. Simply email your request with name, address, and preference of either DVD or VHS format to view. If have further questions, please contact Rob Allen at slfoundation@hotmail.com or call (401) 782-9414.

This program is about choice and helping students realize the effects of how even small choices can affect those around us. It's a message that needs to get to all of us, in whatever way, shape, or form. *Shattered Lives* is a great way to deliver this message. I hope to hear from your school soon!