

Citation:

Hardy, Marcelina. "Teenage Runaways." *LoveToKnow*. LoveToKnow Corp, n.d. Web. 14 Nov. 2012. <http://teens.lovetoknow.com/Teenage_Runaways>.

Summary:

Teenagers usually don't plan on running away from their parents who were supposed to take care of them and love them and becoming homeless. Although this seems like this may deter some teenagers from running away, this does not stop the 1.6 to 2.8 million teens that runaway each year, according to National Runaway Switchboard. Most of these teenagers runaway for comfort in knowing that they will not be abused anymore. These desperate adolescents may have a mental disorder such as depression or oppositional defiant disorder which may cause them to become sad and feel lonely. With this feeling of loneliness the juveniles may contribute to the rise of suicide in teenage runaways.

Quotted Sentence:

"Most runaways return home within 48 hours to a week and will typically stay with friends, according to the National Runaway Switchboard. However, the longer teenagers stay away from home, the higher the risk they have of becoming victims of perpetrators (abuse and assault). Involvement in gangs, illegal activities, and suicide are all possible results of homelessness."

Paraphrase:

Substances such as meth and cocaine can act on the mind a lot like a mental illness would, leading to poor judgement skills and indecision. This may cause many teenagers to run away. Also this may propel them to begin a life of drugs, alcohol, crime and abuse. According to the website, TroubledTeenSearch.com, 71% of surveyed street youths in Los Angeles abused drugs and/or alcohol.

Direct Quotations:

- "Adolescents who run away from home are usually running away from something they can't face. This could be parental separation, sexual orientation, bullying in school and other traumatic events."
- "Remain as calm as possible if your teenager calls. Show that you are genuinely concerned and care for him."
- "It's a very emotional and sensitive time when a runaway comes home. He feels apprehensive about walking in the door because he doesn't know what to expect. Understand that this was as traumatic for him as it has been for you."