

# DOH conducting survey of adolescents

## Youths to be questioned about drugs, alcohol use

The Department of Health's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division is currently conducting the Year 2000 Hawaii Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Use Survey in private and public schools across the state. The survey is part of the department's work assessing drug use, treatment needs and factors related to substance abuse among Hawaii's youth population.

The survey is being administered to sixth,

eighth, 10th and 12th graders. The Department of Health (DOH) would like to remind all parents with children in these grades to sign and return the bright yellow consent card sent home with their child so they can participate in the survey.

"Your child's participation is very important," said Health Department Director Bruce Anderson. "The results of these studies are used to solicit and allocate funding for adolescent drug prevention and treatment programs. So if you haven't already done so, sign and return the card today.

The Year 2000 project follows alcohol and drug use surveys conducted by the Department of Health in 1996 and 1998. The 1998 results showed that prevalence rates decreased or leveled since 1996 for most substances. However, the rates were still higher than the 1993 survey findings and indicate that substance use continues to be a problem affecting Hawaii's youth.

For information on the Year 2000 Hawaii Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Use Survey, call the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division at 692-7530.

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