

Student Evaluations of Patrick Reynolds' Presentations
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Patrick Reynolds presented *The Truth About Tobacco* two times each at Lawndale and Hawthorne high schools in May 2002. The two Lawndale presentations were conducted in the conference room/library and were attended by 12th graders. The two presentations at Hawthorne were conducted in an auditorium and were attended by students in all grades. Attendance was determined by teachers request; teachers were asked if they were interested in having their class attend and those responding positively were invited. The teachers were given a Class Discussion Guide as a follow-up to the presentation.

Six Lawndale classrooms of 12th graders completed presentation evaluation forms. Three classrooms with a total of 58 students were randomly chosen to form the sample reported on below. Seventeen Hawthorne classrooms with 9th through 12th grade students completed presentation evaluation forms. Two classrooms at each grade level were chosen for the sample and, if need be, another was chosen until 40 respondents at each grade level were included. The student responses as percentages are in the tables below.

1. As a speaker, Patrick Reynolds was

	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Fantastic</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	0.0%	6.9%	48.3%	32.8%	12.1%
Hawthorne – all grades	3.8%	18.2%	37.7%	32.1%	8.2%

2. Mr. Reynolds' talk made a difference to me personally.

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>No effect</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	1.8%	0.0%	33.9%	53.6%	10.7%
Hawthorne – all grades	4.4%	3.1%	34.4%	44.4%	13.8%

3. He presented the ideas and facts clearly, and I understood them.

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	0.0%	0.0%	63.2%	36.8%
Hawthorne – all grades	4.4%	4.4%	59.5%	31.6%

4. After seeing this presentation about tobacco, I have decided to --

	<i>Use tobacco</i>	<i>Not use tobacco</i>	<i>Not use tobacco again</i>	<i>Quit soon</i>	<i>Quit when I'm ready</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	1.8%	85.7%	1.8%	7.1%	3.6%
Hawthorne – all grades	0.6%	86.5%	6.4%	3.8%	2.6%

5. I learned facts I did not know before.

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	5.2%	12.1%	60.3%	22.4%
Hawthorne – all grades	4.4%	19.4%	55.6%	20.6%

6. Mr. Reynolds' talk changed my thinking about tobacco products.

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	9.1%	12.7%	49.1%	29.1%
Hawthorne – all grades	7.6%	13.9%	54.4%	24.1%

7. Because of his talk, I will be less likely to use tobacco in the future.

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	1.8%	12.5%	42.9%	42.9%
Hawthorne – all grades	10.2%	8.3%	45.2%	36.3%

8. The overhead slides used in the program were useful.

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	1.8%	0.0%	42.1%	56.1%
Hawthorne – all grades	1.9%	6.3%	52.5%	39.2%

9. When Mr. Reynolds asked if anyone in the audience were worried about the future, I –

	<i>Raised my hand</i>	<i>Did not raise my hand</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	38.2%	61.8%
Hawthorne – all grades	34.4%	65.6%

10. I was inspired by his faith in the future. He helped me feel the future will be okay.

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	5.5%	27.3%	52.7%	14.5%
Hawthorne – all grades	6.3%	17.7%	55.1%	20.9%

11. Because I now have more faith in the future, I will hold on to my health.

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	1.9%	11.3%	45.3%	41.5%
Hawthorne – all grades	2.5%	6.9%	43.8%	46.9%

12. Since the presentation, I have talked to my parents about tobacco use (either their smoking or my own), or I plan to talk to them soon.

	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>My parents are nonsmokers</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	15.4%	25.0%	59.6%
Hawthorne – all grades	11.3%	22.6%	66.0%

13. I would recommend this presentation to other schools and their students.

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>No difference</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
Lawndale –12 th graders	0.0%	0.0%	16.7%	37.0%	46.3%
Hawthorne – all grades	7.3%	2.7%	17.3%	33.3%	39.3%

14. What suggestions would you give to Patrick to make his presentation more successful?

The vast majority of the comments made by respondents were positive and complimentary of the speaker and his slides. Some themes did appear in some of the more critical comments including: feeling that the speaker needed to connect more with audience as teens, some felt that he was lacking in affect, and some were put off by the focus on chewing/spit tobacco and lack of attention to cigarettes.

Conclusions

Patrick Reynolds' *The Truth About Tobacco* presentations were very positively received:

- 73% of the students thought he was a good or excellent speaker
- 93% felt he presented the ideas and facts clearly
- 78% agreed or strongly agreed that they learned new facts
- 78% agreed or strongly agreed that the presentation changed their way of thinking about tobacco
- 93% agreed or strongly agreed that the slides were useful
- 73% agreed or strongly agreed that they were inspired by his faith in the future and that he helped them feel the future will be OK
- 75% agreed or strongly agreed that they would recommend the presentation

In terms of intentions to act and actions taken because of the presentation:

- 86% said they would not use tobacco and 11% said they would quit soon or not use again
- 83% agreed or strongly agreed that they were less likely to use tobacco
- 90% agreed or strongly agreed that because they have more faith in the future they will hold on to their health
- One-third of those with a parent who uses tobacco would talk to the parent about that use