

# RADIO PRODUCTION GUIDE

## Pens down parties

### Boy dies during boozy last matric day party

*"The St Stithians Boys' College in Johannesburg has confirmed that one of their students died last week during a drinking session to celebrate their last day of school ahead of the year-end exams.*

*St Stithians on Tuesday confirmed that Cameron Conlon passed out while he was allegedly drinking with a group of friends after the matric valedictory assembly.*

*The Star reports that Conlon's friends failed to notice that he'd died after he passed out, because they were assisting another friend, who was vomiting.*

*This friend, who is also a St Stithians Boys' College student, was later taken to hospital in critical condition.*

*"It is with a profound and deep sense of sadness that we inform you of the passing of one of our Grade 12 students in the Boys' College, Cameron Conlon, during the night of October 13/14," the school wrote in a statement.*

*"The St Stithians community is in mourning. We keep Cameron's family and friends in our thoughts and prayers on this very tragic day."*

Article extract from: [Boy dies during boozy last matric day party](#)

Other articles:

[After party ends in tragedy for east London learner](#)

[Matric farewell ends in death after bloody shoot-out!](#)

[Three killed matric party](#)

[Fatal stabbings at matric party](#)

\*Statistics show that teenagers who are informed about safe partying are more likely to protect themselves and their friends.

[partying-safely-tips-for-teenagers](#)



CHILDREN'S RADIO  
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### Tips to keep you and your friends safe while partying:

- Know where you're going, how you're getting there and how you're getting home
- Remember that you don't have to use alcohol or other drugs to have fun.
- Eat well before you leave home. A full stomach slows the absorption of alcohol.
- Drink in moderation. Don't let others top up your drinks. Go for low alcohol options wherever possible.
- The best way to avoid drug-related problems is not to use at all. If you do, make sure you know what you're taking and find out how to reduce the risks of overdose or injury.
- Keep hydrated by drinking water. Dehydration makes side effects of drugs and alcohol 1000 times worse.
- Never mix drugs with alcohol or other drugs.
- Trust your own judgement. Don't let peer pressure sway you into doing anything you don't want to do. It's okay to say no.
- Keep your wits about you and stay close to friends you trust.
- Take condoms with you if you think you might end up having sex.
- Don't get into a car with a driver who has been drinking.
- Remember that your judgement may be impaired if you've been drinking or taking drugs – don't take risks you may regret, such as diving into water if you don't know how deep it is or fooling around near swimming pools.
- Leave for somewhere safe if you feel unsafe at a venue or party.
- Your parents and family will appreciate you calling them if you're in trouble, rather than attending to an emergency.

### How to avoid potentially dangerous situations while partying:

- Alcohol and drugs can lead to physical fights and assault. Pace yourself so that you don't lose control as a result of using alcohol or other drugs.
- Decide with friends beforehand to look out for each other.
- Don't get into a verbal argument if someone aggressively confronts you. Walk away.
- Don't go off with a person you've only just met. Stay in the public place. If they interest you, get a phone number.
- Seek help and advice from your doctor, a social worker or alcohol and drug worker if you tend to pick fights when you're drunk or on drugs.

Resource: [Partying Safely: Tips for Teenagers](#)

### Resources: Internet and Youtube links

[Making Tough Choices with Kid President](#)

[Partying Safely: Tips for Teenagers](#)

[Good Kid Mad Peer Pressure](#)

## Where to get help when things don't go to plan:

### ★ Nationwide Emergency Response - 10111

The telephone number 10111 is for any emergency that requires police response and can be dialed from anywhere in South Africa.

A call centre operator will answer the incoming call, take all necessary particulars then assign the emergency to the relevant response team to attend to the incident. This may be a Flying Squad patrol vehicle, or the local police station.

Calls to 10111 made on a landline are free. Calls made from a cell phone are charged at the normal cell phone rates.

### ★ Cell phone emergency - 112

The number 112 can be called from any cell phone in South Africa. It will transfer your line to a call centre and they will route you to the emergency service closest to you.

When this number is dialed, it is followed by an automated menu. But remain calm, because the menu exists as a form of triage (priority of treatment) control and filters out abuse of the medical and emergency system.

A call to 112 on a cell phone is free and is even possible on a cell phone that does not have airtime.

### ★ Ambulance response - 10177

The 10177 number can be used in the case of a medical emergency and can be called in conjunction with both the fire and police department respectively, depending on whether or not there are casualties.

It is advised that you have the following information when making an emergency call:

- The nature of the emergency.
- Exact location of the incident (including nearby landmarks).
- The details about any injuries and possible suspects.
- Your personal information.

It is suggested that you store them on your phone, under 'Emergency', as follows:

- Emergency - Ambulance (10177)
- Emergency - Cell phone (112)
- Emergency - National (10111)

### ★ Counselling

Lifeline national counselling helpline : 0800 322 322

AIDS helpline: 0800-012-322

Resource: **Emergency numbers you should have on speed dial**

"Just remember, there comes a time when the party isn't a party anymore; it's your life."

Author, Doug Cooper



## Preparing for the show

Choose an angle



### Ways to talk about pens down parties:

- ★ Keeping it safe at pens down parties
- ★ Is peer pressure a factor at end of year parties?
- ★ What are the different activities that you can do to celebrate passing the matric exams?



### Different ways to talk about it:

- ★ How can friends look out for each other at parties?
- ★ How can safer pens down parties be organised?
- ★ How can you stand up to peer pressure and make decisions that are best for you?

## Radio formats

### Audio commentary

Audio commentary aim: To get people's opinion about a topic that they care deeply about.  
Who do you talk to: Find a person who did not go to a pens down party and did something else that was positive to celebrate.

### Audio profile

Audio profile aim: To get a first person account of someone's experience and journey.

Who do you talk to: Find a person who can talk about their experiences of partying safely or having a bad experience at a pens down party.

Questions to ask to get the person thinking before they record their profile:

- ★ What did you do to keep yourself safe or what could you have done to feel more safe?
- ★ Does peer pressure play a role at parties?
- ★ Can you have fun without alcohol?

