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- RealityCheck Instant Drug Test Kits
- RealityLink Donor Processing Program
- Laboratory Testing
- Urine, Saliva & Hair Testing
- Medical Review Services
- Random Selections
- DOT Program Management
- Policy Development
- Training Services
- Background Checks
- WD State Laws

Not Screening Applicants...Risky Business

"If you're a construction industry contractor, the stakes have never been higher when it comes to finding the right employees," says Robert Mather, Security Expert.

Kent Dagg, CEO of the 800-strong Shasta Builders' Exchange in Northern CA, has for years encouraged his members to conduct [drug screenings and background checks](#) on job applicants. Patrick Wallner, an exchange member conducts criminal history, drug, SS# and driving record checks. "It's just not worth taking the chance," Wallner says. "Our 20 employees go into people's homes and have virtually free rein." He adds, "We always do reference checks--the more expensive ones. It's worth the money."

Courts have ruled employers have a general duty to investigate the background of workers who will interface with the public, or who could have a foreseeable opportunity to commit a violent crime against someone in the course of their employment. [It is noted that employers lose almost four out of every five negligent hiring cases, with the average jury plaintiff award being in excess of \\$1.6 million.](#)

\$1.6 million is a stiff price to pay to save a few dollars!

Legal but Dangerous ADHD Drugs -- The Concern

In February 2006, the Journal of Drug and Alcohol Dependence published a report that examined data from a 2002 survey of about 67,000 households. The report estimates that more than 7 million Americans have misused stimulant drugs meant to treat ADHD, and substantial numbers of teenagers and young adults appear to show signs of addiction.

These statistics are alarming because people are using the drugs recreationally or to boost academic and professional performance. Scientists who published the study concluded about 1.6 million teenagers and young adults had misused these drugs during a 12-month period and 75,000 showed signs of addiction.

Recently, the Alliance for Human Research Protection asked the FDA to issue (1) a public advisory; (2) a "dear doctor" letter to every doctor in America to apprise them of the essentially lethal side effects that are being tracked; and (3) to solicit the reporting of any and all adverse events of which they are aware. Allen Jones, speaking as a representative of the Alliance said, "We don't have the luxury of time to wait for the future trials. Children are dying."

Ellen Liversidge, lost her son to side effects of the drug Zyprexa before black box warnings. She spoke on behalf of parents who have lost children due to adverse reactions to prescription drugs, particularly for the 51 known dead of ADHD drugs. Her message to the FDA was that because they know ADHD drugs can cause serious side effects and death, including sudden death, hypertension, myocardial infarction, stroke, and possibly bipolar disorder, these drugs **MUST** have an appropriate black box warning placed on the label immediately.

Some experts have made even stronger statements.

Dr. Fred Bughman, ADHD expert and well-known author, will testify before the Alliance on behalf of the International Center for the Study of Psychiatry and Psychology. "We know these drugs are poisons," Dr. Bughman warns, "and we know they are highly addictive, dangerous and sometimes deadly." He adds, "The main question the FDA needs to answer concerns ADHD, the 'disorder' these drugs are used to treat."

He further states, "The shocking fact of the matter is that it is not a disorder/disease at all. Children said to have it are entirely normal, meaning they bear no objective, demonstrable, diagnosable, abnormality, meaning there is no justification for prescribing these or any other drugs for so-called ADHD--a wholly fictitious, wholly subjective entity."

According to Dr. David Stein, PhD, Professor of Psychology at Longwood University, "the risks of psychiatric drugs in the bodies of children and teenagers is well documented and needs no further elaboration."

Information released by the FDA last month showed that between 1999 and 2003, seventy-eight million prescriptions were written for ADHD drugs in children ages 1 to 18, and more than 14 million prescriptions were written for adults.

The public needs to be aware of the RISKS of ADHD drugs! Safety Drug committee member, Dr. Steve Nissen, said, "If the current warnings were adequate we wouldn't have 2.5 million children and 1.5 million adults taking these drugs."

Source: OpEdNews.com (paraphrased)