

Think about ...



Peer Pressure/ Going with the Crowd

If in
doubt -

DON'T

Don't be
afraid to
live your
life your
way

Being part of a team
made me feel part of
something important!

YOU
SHOULD
BE ABLE
TO SAY
"NO" TO
A FRIEND

Never
be afraid
to say
NO!

Think
carefully
about how
the choices
you make
affect **your**
life

I wear what I like not what
other people think is cool

Think about ...



Peer Pressure/ Going with the Crowd

Everyone wants to fit in and be liked. Sometimes we worry about what others think about us. Peer pressure can be a good thing and it can have a positive effect on you. If you are part of a sports team, a youth club or school society it can encourage you to give of your best. Giving into negative peer pressure

can make you behave in ways you wouldn't normally do. You could find yourself bullying or harassing others,

experimenting with alcohol, cigarettes and drugs, stealing or engaging in anti social behaviour such as vandalism.

Giving in to negative peer pressure can impact on your education, job prospects and you could get a criminal record.

It can be difficult to go against the crowd and say **"No"** when you feel under pressure.

You might want to appear "grown up"- you don't know

how to refuse - you want to be popular - you are afraid of being teased or made fun of.

It is important that you be yourself and take care of

yourself. If you are worried about negative peer pressure talk to someone you can trust - a close relative, a youth worker or your school counsellor.

Sources of Support

Helplines:

Childline 0800 1111

Samaritans 0845 790 9090

Lifeline 0808 808 8000

Useful Websites:

www.mindingyourhead.info/young-people/friends - gives some information about friendship and peer pressure

www.bbc.co.uk/radio1/advice/factfile_az/peer_pressure - looks at how to cope with peer pressure

www.childline.org.uk/Explore/Friends/Pages/Peerpressure.aspx - advice on what to do if you are feeling pressured

www.bbc.co.uk/health/physical_health/child_development/teen_peer.shtml - how to deal with peer pressure

www.spunout.ie/health/Relationships/Friends/Peer-pressure - more about how to deal with peer pressure