

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Reena Kumar, World Director
E-mail: reenakr24@gmail.com

The **purpose** of the **Education Department** is to make the facts about alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs known to everyone and to offer contests to further this effort.

Dear Education Director,

It is very important that the members of the WCTU know the basic facts about harmful drugs. Then we will be equipped to share this information in churches, schools, and among friends. On our World website, www.wwctu.org there is a [resources page](#) which offers much accurate information. The last two Program Kits, 2010 and 2012 also offer information. In the Program Kit to be mailed near the end of this year there will be specific information on alcohol, FAS, tobacco, and marijuana.

An upcoming event that is to be promoted from this department is **October 2 - World No Alcohol Day**.

What can your Union do on that day to call attention to the problems caused by alcohol?

This is the Resolution passed at World Convention about **World No Alcohol Day**.

WORLD NO ALCOHOL DAY

WHEREAS India proposed to the World Health Organization (WHO) Assembly that October 2 (birth date of Mahatma Gandhi) be declared World No Alcohol Day, and

WHEREAS the resolution failed to gain the support of all 193 member countries,

BE IT RESOLVED that the **WWCTU** a) **continue to observe World No Alcohol Day on October 2 each year**, b) encourage the member countries of WHO to reconsider establishing World No Alcohol Day, and c) thank WHO for the development and implementation of a global strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol (www.who.int/substance_abuse/activities/gsrhua/en/index.html).

Here are facts developed by WHO. Be creative in making your members aware of them and then tell others!

- The harmful use of alcohol results in 2.5 million deaths each year.
- 320,000 young people between the age of 15 and 29 die from alcohol-related causes, resulting in 9% of all deaths in that age group.
- Alcohol is the world's third largest risk factor for premature mortality, disability and loss of health; it is the leading risk factor in the Western Pacific and the Americas and the second largest in Europe.
- Alcohol is associated with many serious social and developmental issues, including violence, child neglect and abuse, and absenteeism in the workplace
- It also causes harm far beyond the physical and psychological health of the drinker. It harms the well-being and health of people around the drinker
- An intoxicated person can harm others or put them at risk of traffic accidents or violent behavior, or negatively affect co-workers, relatives, friends or strangers.

Yours for a drug-free world,

Sarah F. Ward

Convener of Department Directors