



Date aired: 8/25 Time Aired:

Weekly Public Affairs Program

Show # 2019-34

Total running time: 29:30 (with optional exit at 24:00)

1. **Will McCallum**, Head of Oceans at Greenpeace UK, author of *"How to Give Up Plastic: A Guide to Changing the World, One Plastic Bottle at a Time"*

Humans produce over 300 million tons of plastic each year, with 12.7 million tons ending up in our oceans. Mr. McCallum discussed the major impact that plastic and microplastic waste has on marine life and the environment. He said it is not possible to recycle all of the plastics used in our everyday lives. He outlined small changes that anyone can make to reduce the amount of plastic waste in their home or community.

Issues covered:

Length: 9:40

Pollution

Recycling

Consumer Matters

2. **Joanne Lara, M.A.**, autism expert, former special education teacher, Executive Director of the organization "Autism Works Now"

Up to 85 percent of autistic adults are either unemployed or underemployed. Ms. Lara's organization teaches pre-employment and workplace readiness skills to young adults with autism. She outlined the challenges faced by autistic students, and she explained the role that parents, schools and employers play in helping them to secure meaningful employment.

Issues covered:

Length: 7:37

Autism

Employment

Discrimination

3. **Joseph Palamar, PhD**, Associate Professor in the Department of Population Health at the NYU School of Medicine

Prof. Palamar led a study that found that teenagers are more likely to experiment with recreational drugs such as LSD, marijuana, cocaine or ecstasy for the first time during the summer months. He said that the amount of free time on their hands once the school year ends and activities like music festivals are major factors in this risky behavior. He said parents should educate and warn their kids about using recreational drugs, their risks and side effects.

Issues covered:

Length: 4:53

Drug Abuse

Youth at Risk

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