

Hey, Kiddo Questions

1. The following facts reflect the Opioid crisis in San Luis Obispo County:



- Among people who abuse drugs, 1/3 start with prescription drugs.
- In San Luis Obispo County in 2011, 16% of 11th graders reported having used Rx opioids, tranquilizers or sedatives recreationally at least once in their lifetime and 6% reported having used Rx drugs to get high in the last 30 days.
- From 2010-2013, San Luis Obispo County had a higher number of prescriptions per 1,000 compared to the state of California.
- There were 640 opioid-related emergency room visits among the four local hospitals in 2014.
- San Luis Obispo County had 36 deaths caused by opioid misuse and abuse in 2015, which was double the rate than it was in 2012.
- In 2015, nearly 250,000 opioid prescriptions were written for the estimated 281,000 residents of San Luis Obispo County (estimated 89%).
- Almost 1 in 10 deaths in 2017 in San Luis Obispo County was opioid or sedative related.
- <http://opioidsafetyslo.org>

Do these statistics about SLO County surprise you? Why or why not?

2. What is the central idea discussed in the book? What issues or ideas does the author explore?

3. Do these issues affect your life? How so—directly, on a daily basis, or more generally? Now or sometime in the future?

4. What pictorial evidence does the author use to support the book's ideas? Do the images in this book add to the story for you?

5. What kind of language does the author use? Is it objective and dispassionate? Or passionate and earnest? Is it biased, inflammatory, sarcastic? Does the language help or undercut the author's premise?

6. What are the implications for the future? Are there long- or short-term consequences to the issues raised in the book? Are they positive or negative...affirming or frightening?

7. The author originally wrote his memoir without any mention of his mother's addiction to heroin. How would this have changed the book for you?

8. How controversial are the issues raised in the book? Who is aligned on which sides of the issues? Where do you fall in that line-up?

9. Talk about specific passages that struck you as significant—or interesting, profound, amusing, illuminating, disturbing, sad...? What was memorable?

10. Did this book change your opinion about art education? Why or why not?

11. Talk about your favorite character in the book. Why did you connect to this particular character?

12. What have you learned after reading this book? Has it broadened your perspective about a difficult issue—personal or societal? Has it introduced you to a culture in another country...or an ethnic or regional culture in your own country?