NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US

Boston Users Union
Mass Ave **IS** a Consumption Space, but it’s far from safe.

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Safe Supplies

Safe Consumption Spaces provide sterile supplies

Boston: Harm Reduction programs provide sterile supplies
Consumption

SCS’s provide sanitary and safe conditions for people to consume substances

Boston: People use in unsafe and unsanitary conditions all over the city
Safe Consumption Spaces

Unsafe Consumption in Boston
Safe Consumption Spaces

Unsafe Consumption Spaces in Boston
Safe Consumption Spaces

Unsafe Consumption spaces in Boston
Chill Space/Drop In Space

Safe Consumption Space: “Chill Room”

Boston: AHOPE, Engagement Center, SPOT Program
Social Services/Access to Treatment

Safe Consumption Spaces: access to treatment, case managers, housing assistance etc.

Boston: PAATHS, AHOPE, Faster Paths, Shelters etc.
Outcomes from Insite

Improve Community Health & Safety

Research shows that SIFs reduce:

- overdose deaths
- discarded needles in the streets
- HIV & Hepatitis C
- public drug use
- arrests & crime

$3.5 MILLION

Estimated Tax dollars saved per year for one 13-booth SIF in the USA

60% of Canadians living or working near a SIF reported feeling that it had a positive impact on public order.
A Women’s Perspective

- For many women on the street, it is safer to run with a man than it is to be alone.
- However, many women make compromises and are taken advantage of by their male running partners:
  - Women are pimped out to support men’s habit and cash flow.
  - Men hold the drugs and control women through withholding drugs.
  - Coerced sex/transactional sex.
  - Some women, especially young girls, don’t know how to inject, rely on male partner for injection.
- Women aren’t able to control their environment.

SCS’s can:

- Give women more control over their health and safety.
- Provide information and support around safe injection.
- Decrease a woman’s need for an unsafe relationship on the street.
- Create an avenue for women to seek and receive services in a safe environment.
How many more deaths will it take?

#YESstoSCS
BOSTON USERS UNION

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