The Drug Wheel

Adapted from the Drug Wheel from Alcohol and Drug Foundation (2021).

**DEPRESSANTS**
- Alcohol, benzodiazepines, & GHB
- Inhibit function of the nervous system & slow messages between the brain & body
- Side effects: Drowsiness, relaxation, decreased inhibition, & changes in concentration and coordination.

**STIMULANTS**
- Caffeine, nicotine, cocaine, meth, LSD, & ketamine
- Accelerate messages between the brain & nervous system
- Side effects: Feeling more awake, alert, confident, & energetic; hallucinogens have added effect of hallucinations

**CANNABINOIDS**
- Cannabis, nicotine, cocaine, meth, LSD, & ketamine
- Affect brain function responsible for memory, learning, attention, & decision making
- Side effects: Euphoria, memory impairment, lack of concentration & perception, anxiety, paranoia, depression, hallucinations, and delusions.

**OPIIDS**
- Codeine, heroin, oxycodone, morphine, & fentanyl
- Block pain signals between brain & body
- Side effects: Relaxation, euphoria, drowsiness, confusion, slow breathing & heart rate, & vital organ damage.

**RECREATIONAL, MEDICINAL, & SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS**
- Recreational, medicinal, & synthetic cannabinoids
- Block pain signals between brain & body
- Side effects: Relaxation, euphoria, drowsiness, confusion, slow breathing & heart rate, & vital organ damage.