

**ILLINOIS STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY**

**Resolution 01.2024-01  
(A-25)**

Introduced by: Joseph M. Couri, MD, ISMS Member  
Subject: Combating Violence in Current Hip Hop “Drill Music”  
Referred to: Council on Communications & Membership Advocacy

---

1           Whereas, hip hop music has become the most popular form of music nationally  
2 and internationally; and

3  
4           Whereas, “Drill Music” has taken over as the predominant form of hip hop,  
5 glorifying guns, drugs, murder and rape<sup>1</sup>; and

6  
7           Whereas, the name “Drill Music” is derived from the act of “drilling” someone  
8 with a bullet; and

9  
10           Whereas, the release of some “Drill Music” albums has raised the murder rate in  
11 Chicago<sup>2</sup>; and

12  
13           Whereas, “Drill Music” has penetrated Peoria from Chicago; and

14  
15           Whereas, the adolescent mind is immature and easily influenced by the  
16 destructive messages of drill music to which they are constantly exposed to by listening  
17 online and by watching videos<sup>3</sup>; and

18  
19           Whereas, all kids are at risk these days, not only in the inner city from gangs,  
20 drugs and guns, but also in the suburbs and rural areas from drugs and they need to  
21 understand the dangers of the messages being promoted in the music<sup>4, 5</sup>; and

22  
23           Whereas, positive music alternatives need to be available to our youth; and

24  
25           Whereas, the “Don’t Start” initiative, with a song and music video, is a powerful  
26 teaching tool with a strong positive message of prevention encouraging our youth to  
27 Don’t Start destructive behaviors, stay in school and be a leader; therefore, be it

28 RESOLVED, that the Illinois State Medical Society condemn the direction into  
29 which hip hop drill music has evolved which promotes destructive behaviors and  
30 violence; and be it further

31

32 RESOLVED, that positive messaging in hip hop music be encouraged and  
33 promoted by the Illinois State Medical Society with “Don’t Start” (see video and more  
34 information at [www.dontstart.org](http://www.dontstart.org)) being a good example to follow; and be it further

35

36 RESOLVED, that the Illinois State Medical Society introduce legislation  
37 denouncing “Drill Music” and its negative effects on human behavior; and be it further

38

39 RESOLVED, that the Illinois State Medical Society create a campaign among  
40 physician’s offices, such as posters for waiting rooms, etc. to encourage parents to  
41 monitor and understand what their children are listening to and the potential negative  
42 effects certain types of music may have on behaviors and violence, as this message needs  
43 to be heard repetitively by our youth.

**References:**

1. <https://www.crestadvisory.com/post/drill-down-drill-music-social-media-and-serious-youth-violence>
2. <https://www.xxlmag.com/chief-keef-says-new-mixtape-will-raise-murder-rate/>
3. Irwin-Rogers, K. and Pinkney, C., 2017. Social media as a catalyst and trigger for youth violence. Catch22.
4. <https://youtu.be/uZWTuivHm3w?si=ybF68QvqTH4PIc5L>
5. <https://youtu.be/16XJbE-DL24?si=wJ8Dbp2qohrp8gMk>

**Fiscal Note:**

n/a

**Existing ISMS policy related to this issue:**

Board of Trustees, in response to Resolution 66 (A-01) which was referred to the Board for decision, adopted the substitute resolution which requested that the Illinois State Medical Society endorse the recommendations made by the Commission for the Prevention of Youth Violence and make these recommendations available to interested parties, upon request. (BOT 2001-OCT)

Board of Trustees approved supporting the ISMSA's actions to remove smoking from youth-rated movies. (BOT 2007-OCT)

The Illinois State Medical Society supports restricting youth access to violent video and computer games because of their potentially negative impact. (HOD 2001; Last BOT Review 2011)

House of Delegates adopted Res. 1 (A-01) which directed the Society to continue to work with the Illinois Attorney General and any other like-minded agencies to educate parents, government and business on the violent content of video and computer games, the rating system for the games and the possible adverse consequences these games may exert on minors; and to commend the Illinois Attorney General and the coalition of organizations working with him for their efforts at safeguarding youth from the potentially destructive effects of violent video games and to commend the AMA for its efforts toward ending violence and encourage the AMA to continue its work on the national level. (HOD 2001)