

When teenagers drink it is to become drunk. Some adults have the misconception that teens drink because of peer pressure, and of course it does have something to do with it. But ask any teen and they will tell you they drink at parties to get drunk. Binge Drinking is defined as consuming five or more drinks in a row for males and four or more for females. When teens become involved in this behavior alcohol poisoning is often the result and in some cases death. Since excessive amounts of alcohol eventually shuts down the autonomic center of the brain, which controls breathing, heart rate, and blood pressure, it stands to reason that death is a potential result.

Binge Drinking and Alcohol Poisoning

- If alcohol is served to minors on your property and the minor is hurt, either while on your property, or after leaving your property, you are liable and may face a minimum of six months in jail or as much as one year in jail. This penalty prevails whether you are home or not, and have given or not given your permission for this event to take place.
- It is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to drink, buy, attempt to buy, possess or transport alcohol. It is against the law to provide alcohol or unscribed drugs to anyone under the age of 21 years of age, including your own child. The consequences for this misdemeanor can result in community service, fines up to \$1,000 and possible charges of "contributing to the delinquency of a minor" which carries a fine of \$2,500 and up to a year in jail.
- Legal Consequences for a Teen's Parent/Guardian

So Your Teen Is Having a Party!

It is important to have a plan when you are having a party. It is necessary to plan for the expected and the unexpected. However, planning well in advance, minimizes many of the unexpected circumstances that can happen.

Before the party

- Decide what part of the house or property will be used and what will be off limits.
- Plan type or theme of party, and send out invitations.
- Discuss ground rules with your teen that are acceptable for the party and consequences for breaking those rules.
- Work out details with teen regarding his/her responsibilities of being a host, discuss ways to handle problems.
- Notify neighbors that there will be a party, indicating date, and time the party will begin and end.
- Make sure your teen knows that there will be no alcohol or drugs at the party, it is against the law.
- Make sure that you are home throughout the party, checking in on the guests, making yourself available.
- Make sure all your alcohol and prescriptions are put away.
- Serve plenty of soft drinks, water and food.
- Keep a guest list, with phone numbers; welcome phone calls from guest's parents, letting them know that there are guidelines for the party.
- Notify parents if their child arrives under the influence or decides to drink or use drugs at the party.
- Don't be afraid to call the police if the party gets out of control.

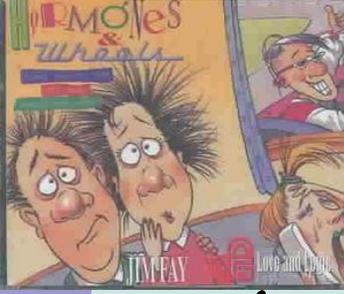
- Dear Parent/Guardian:
- This pamphlet has been put together to help parents/guardians with issues that are complex and essential for you and your teen. Today's teen face more complex issues than ever before in history. Social pressures and messages today tend to be extremely situational which can be confusing to even the most knowledgeable, focused and directed teen. We hope that this guide will assist you in discussing these delicate subjects with your young adult and help to open communication which is too often closed during these difficult, confusing and defining years.
- You will find a heavy emphasis on preventing alcohol consumption in this guidebook. Our hope is that by discussing pertinent information prior to your teen's involvement with drugs and alcohol, it will prevent a tragedy from occurring in your family.
- Each day, 7,000 kids in the United States under the age of 16 take their first drink.
- Almost 20% of 8th-graders, and 42% of 10th-graders have been drunk at least once.
- Alcohol-related traffic fatalities constitute almost 37% of all youth traffic fatalities.
- Driving inexperience and immaturity (teen drivers) are considered to be the main causes of motor vehicle crashes among drivers ages 16 to 20, even when alcohol is not involved.
- DUI related fatalities have risen 32% since 1999.
- Alcohol related crashes are the second leading cause of death for teenagers. The first? Motor vehicle crashes.

Rules Tips for Parent

Binge Drinking

Legal Consequences

Teen Parties



Communication