



## *Fact Sheet*

### *A Few Facts about Underage Use of Alcohol*

- 32% of 1,525 parents surveyed and 37% of 1,040 teens surveyed indicated that they know of parents who host teen alcohol parties.  
*(Source: "Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking" Evaluation Report, December 2003)*
- 29% of 1,040 teens surveyed indicated that they have attended a party where alcohol is served to underage youth in the past two months; 35% of the 303 youth who had attended a party maintained that they drank alcohol at the party; 2% of the remaining youth who did not attend a party said they would had drunk if they had attended a party.  
*(Source: "Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking" Evaluation Report, December 2003)*
- 64% of 1,525 parents surveyed and 55% of 1,040 teens surveyed said that it is generally easy for underage youth to get alcohol.  
*(Source: "Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking" Evaluation Report, December 2003)*
- An overwhelming number of Americans (96%) are concerned about underage drinking: and a majority support measures that would help reduce teen drinking, such as stricter controls on alcohol sales, advertising, and promotion.  
*(Source: Wagenarr AC, Harwood E, Bernat D. 2002. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 2001. Youth Access to Alcohol Survey: Summary Report. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, Alcohol Epidemiology Program.)*
- Studies reveal that alcohol consumption by adolescents results in brain damage—possibly permanent—and impairs intellectual development.  
*(Source: Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research (Volume 24, Number 2) National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, February 2000)*
- Illegal alcohol consumption by underage youth account for up to \$22 billion a year in sales.  
*(Source: Alcohol Consumption and Expenditures for Underage Drinking and Adult Excessive Drinking, National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, Columbus University, published in JAMA, 2003)*

NY Parents who Host Lose the Most  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-Rochester Area  
A program of DePaul Addiction Services

*Parents Who Host Lose the Most is a program developed by Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth.*

- The consequences of underage drinking are a tremendous expense to the U.S. economy and total more than \$53 billion per year, by far the most costly of all drug problems.  
*(Source: Institute of Medicine, Reducing Underage Drinking-A Collective Responsibility, September 2003)*
- Adolescents drink less and have fewer alcohol-related problems when their parents discipline them consistently and set clear expectations.  
*(Source: Hawkins JD, Graham JW, Maguin E, et al. 1997 Exploring the effects of age of alcohol use initiation and psychosocial risk factors on subsequent alcohol misuse. Journal of Studies on Alcohol. 58(3): 280-290)*
- During the 2001-2002 school year, 30% of Ohio eighth, 52% of tenth and 62% of twelfth grade students said they drank beer within the past year.  
*(Source: PRIDE Survey 2002, Alcohol Tobacco, Illicit Drugs, Violence Related Behaviors, Executive Summary, April 2002)*
- If drinking is delayed until age 21, a child's risk of serious alcohol problems is decreased by 70 percent.  
*(Source: Calculated from information contained in: Grant BF, Dawson DA. 1997, Age at onset of alcohol use and its association with DSM-IV alcohol abuse and dependence. Results from the National Longitudinal Alcohol Epidemiologic Survey. Journal of Substance Abuse 9:103-110.)*

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