

Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center

Monthly Resource Alert

December 2007



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Please visit our enhanced website at www.udetc.org for the latest information on underage drinking.

Increased alcohol references found in music

About one in three hit songs include references to alcohol or other drugs, according to researchers at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Medicine. A study of the top 279 songs on the Billboard charts in recent years found that 33 percent included alcohol and other drug references, including 80 percent of rap songs, 37 percent of country songs, 20 percent of R&B/hip-hop songs, 14 percent of rock songs, and 9 percent of pop songs. Rap songs typically included references to alcohol, marijuana, or nonspecific drug use, while country songs were most likely to mention alcohol use. Alcohol and other drug references were commonly associated with partying, sex, violence, and humor, researchers said. Unfortunately youth listen to about 2.5 hours of music daily.

Mixing alcohol and energy drinks causes increased injuries

College students often mix alcohol with energy drinks so that they can drink more and longer, researchers say, but the strategy can lead to more alcohol-related injuries, too. Wake Forest University School of Medicine researchers found that students who mixed alcohol and energy drinks likely had double the risk of being hurt or injured, requiring medical attention, driving with an intoxicated driver, being taken advantage of sexually, or taking advantage of another sexually. A lead researcher explained, "Students whose motor skills, visual reaction times, and judgment are impaired by alcohol may not perceive that they are intoxicated as readily when they're also ingesting a stimulant." Mixing was more prevalent among males, whites, older students, intramural athletes, and fraternity/sorority members and pledges.

Many U.S. High School Seniors Report Driving While Impaired

According to a recent analysis of data from the 2001 to 2006 Monitoring the Future surveys; in 2006, two weeks prior to the survey, 30% of high school seniors reported that they had driven after using marijuana or other drugs, driven after heavy drinking (five or more drinks in a row) or rode in a car whose driver had done the same. While this is a decline from the 35% reported in 2001, most of the decline occurred between 2001 and 2003, with little change occurring in more recent years.

December National Electronic Seminar:

Parental Involvement in Preventing Underage Drinking

Date: Tuesday, December 18, 2007

Time: 3:00-4:15 p.m. EST

Speakers: Maureen A. Sedonaen, Jane Alvarado and Teri Pectol

Alcohol is a drug. Alcohol is also the number one drug of choice for teens. Clearly, parents can play a vital and proactive role in addressing underage drinking. Too often underage drinking is discounted as a "right of passage." Parents can be effective in reducing the use of alcohol by youth under 21 by using a number of environmental strategies, such as preventing access of alcohol to youth, creating clear, consistent no-use messages, as well as partnering with local and state key stakeholders to address the issues related to underage drinking. The presenters on the call will share resources and effective strategies that can be duplicated in your community. Visit www.udetc.org/audioconfregistration.asp to register.

To print a hard-copy of this month's Resource Alert visit: www.udetc.org/documents/ResourceAlerts/ResourceAlert1207.pdf

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Office of Juvenile Justice for Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) or the Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center (UDETTC) and are solely of the author/source.

Quick Fact:

Teens that drink alcohol tend to have opposite-sex friends who do the same, and girls may be particularly vulnerable to the influence of their friends, states a recent report in Science Daily.

Did You Know....?

Some of the most popular gifts for holiday exchange between youth this season may be drinking games aimed at college-age drinkers? They are popular with youth for purchase during the holiday season as they are thought to be fun and are usually inexpensive. Most games are variations on the venerable "beer pong."



National Electronic Seminars Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program

The OJJDP Audio-TELECONFERENCE Series

December 18, 2007 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time
Parental Involvement in Preventing Underage Drinking

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January 24, 2008 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time
A Spotlight on Effective Collaborations/Partnerships to Address Youth Alcohol Access Issues

Margaret Meade once said, "Never doubt that a small, committed group of people with a good idea can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Join us to learn how effective collaborations/partnerships in different communities across the U.S. have mobilized community leaders and organizations to innovatively address underage drinking in unique and proactive ways, resulting in reductions in youth access to alcohol and prevalence of underage drinking.

For audio-conference registration information, please visit www.udetc.org

All programs provide opportunities for presentation, discussion, and sharing information. Telephone dial-in instructions and accompanying materials will be mailed to registrants two weeks before the audio conference.

To register for any of these free electronic seminars by phone, call toll-free 1-877-335-1287 extension 230



Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program

AUDIO CONFERENCE

TOPIC

Parental Involvement in Preventing Underage Drinking

Alcohol is a drug. Alcohol is also the number one drug of choice for teens. Clearly, parents can play a vital and proactive role in addressing underage drinking. Too often underage drinking is discounted as a "right of passage". Parents can be effective in reducing the use of alcohol by youth under 21 by using a number of environmental strategies such as preventing access of alcohol to youth, creating clear, consistent no-use messages as well as partnering with local and state key stakeholders to address the issues related to underage drinking. The presenters on the call will share resources and effective strategies that can be duplicated in your community.



DATE

December 18, 2007

TIME

3:00–4:15 p.m. EST

PRESENTERS

Maureen A. Sedonaen, President and CEO, Youth Leadership Institute
San Francisco, CA
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Jane Alvarado, Director of Prevention Programs, Youth Leadership Institute
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REGISTER

Please register by using one of our automated options:

- **To register on our website**, please visit www.udetc.org and complete the online registration form, or
- **To register by phone**, please call our toll-free number, 1-877-335-1287, extension 230, and follow the prompts.

Telephone dial-in instructions and accompanying materials for the audio conference will be mailed one (1) week before the call.



Internet users will be able to log on to our conference web page to view presentation slides and interact with other participants.