SDERA
EDUCATING FOR SMARTER CHOICES

Alcohol and the law

Alcohol is the most commonly used legal drug in Australia and the drug that causes the most harm to young people. Make sure that your teenager understands the laws about alcohol.

- It is illegal for young people under 18 years of age to drink, buy or obtain alcohol in a public place or on licensed premises.

- It is illegal for anyone to drink alcohol in public, such as on the street, park or beach.

- It is illegal for L or P plate drivers or riders to have a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) of more than zero.

- Fully licensed drivers must not drive or ride a vehicle if their BAC is over 0.05.

- Police can issue on the spot fines to young people who break the laws. Police also have the powers to seize any alcohol, open or unopened, in certain situations.

Many parents are concerned about alcohol and the impact that it can have on their child. For under 18's, no alcohol is the safest choice.

Parents are the most common supplier of alcohol to their teenagers. The family home and friend's homes are the most common places for drinking to take place.

Can a young person under 18 years of age be given alcohol in a private home?

Under Section 122A of the Liquor Legislation Amendment Act 2015 (WA), it is illegal to supply alcohol to people under 18 years in a private home without the consent of the parent or guardian. It is an offence to supply alcohol to people under the age of 18 if the parent or guardian giving consent is drunk or otherwise unable to act in a responsible manner. Offenders are liable for a fine of up to $10,000 for each underage drinker involved.

If you are about to have a party for a group of teenagers you might like to read the brochure *Hosting a party for teenagers – facts to consider*
http://www.alcoholthinkagain.com.au/Portals/1/Media/Pdf/Hosting-A-Party-Final.pdf

For more information on alcohol visit the *Alcohol. Think again* website
www.alcoholthinkagain.com.au

For more information on Secondary Supply legislation, head to:
www.druginfo.adf.org.au

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