

**PARENTS**  
**WHO HOST**  
**LOSE**  
**THE MOST**



Don't be  
a party to  
teenage  
drinking.

It's against  
the law.

A program of: **DFAA**  
Drug Free Action Alliance

# Facts about Underage Drinking



- 32% of parents and 35% of teens know of parents who host teen alcohol parties
- 23% of teens have attended a party where alcohol is served to underage youth, while parents thought the number was closer to 12%
- 68% of parents and 63% of teens believe 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, January 2008

# Some Parents Think...



I'd rather my kids drink at home than in a car.

I did it when I was their age and I turned out just fine.

I let them drink now and again at home so they won't go crazy when they go off to college.

**BUT...**

# Students mixed over parties lots of drinking

Rachel Hutzel  
COUNTY PROSECUTOR

## Teen parties: Adults must also show responsibility

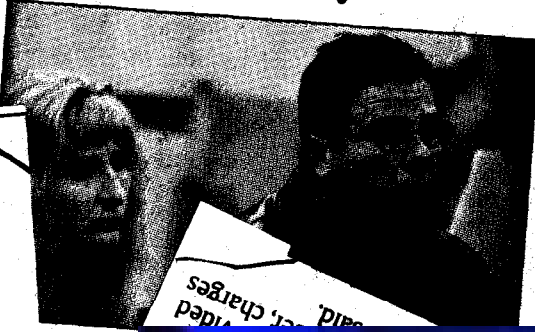
PARENTS WHO HOST PARTIES for their underage children who are alcohol drinkers... they are doing the right thing... they think that they are being a "cool" and to their teens. Or they think that they are providing a "safe place" for them to drink. They could not be more wrong — both legally and socially.

The law clearly prohibits parents from providing beer, wine, or liquor to their children. The law also clearly prohibits parents from allowing underage minors, other than their own children, to consume beer, wine, or liquor in their homes. Parents who violate this law face criminal penalties of up to 180 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine for each separate violation. Teenagers caught consuming alcohol also face criminal penalties and can be sent to the county jail or the juvenile detention center.

These laws have been vigorously enforced in the past, and my office will continue to vigorously enforce this law.

## Man charged for underage party

A New Philadelphia man was charged with one count of furnishing alcohol to minors after New Philadelphia police received an anonymous call about a party at his house Friday. Jacques T. Bailey, 32, of 307 Beaver Ave. NE, will have an initial appearance in New Philadelphia Municipal Court on Thursday. Fourteen youths were taken to the police station and released to their parents but were not charged.



Laura and William Brunnett were

## Mother of girl who suffered alcohol poisoning helps sway judge's sentence

By Gina Mace  
Special to the Beacon Journal

**CUYAHOGA FALLS:** As part of a Twinsburg couple's sentence for allowing underage party guests to drink at their home — one to the point of unconsciousness — Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court

speaks about their experience to community groups.

But that was before Coates read the file on Laura Brunnett, 43, and her husband, William, 44, and before she heard an emotional statement from an anguished mother who nearly lost her 16-year-old daughter to alcohol poisoning.

party on Oct. 12.

Police were called to the rick Road home twice that night — the first time in response to a complaint of loud music and the second time after a guest reported feeling dizzy. The girl had alcohol poisoning and was taken to a hospital.

## HOME OWNERS CHARGED



RONALD SWIGGETT



CATHY SWIGGETT

Beer party... Twenty-six juveniles with underage alcohol were taken into rooms at the hotel following a March 19 party held in two rooms at the hotel. The juveniles were released to their parents, was charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor. The juveniles were released to the delinquency of a minor. David Silverman, 18, of Lyndhurst, Ohio, was charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor. David Silverman, 18, of Lyndhurst, Ohio, was charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor. David Silverman, 18, of Lyndhurst, Ohio, was charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor. David Silverman, 18, of Lyndhurst, Ohio, was charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

# A Unified Message

- Parents play a major role in their children's choices about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs
- Most teenagers appreciate when their parents set boundaries and fairly enforce expectations
- Adults hosting underage drinking parties:
  - Send a mixed message about the acceptability of drinking
  - Show students that they don't have to obey laws
  - Contribute to the misperception that all youth drink



# Know the Risks

- Taking away the car keys does not solve all of the problems related to underage drinking
- 6 people under 21 die every day from non-driving, alcohol related accidents, such as drowning, falls and suicide



# Know the Risks



- Unwanted sex and delinquent behaviors increase with underage drinking
- Underage alcohol use has been reported to be involved in 36% of homicides, 12% of male suicides and 8% of female suicides
- Young people seem to be aware that using alcohol influences their decisions about sexual behavior: 29% of 15-to-17 year olds and 37% of 18-to-24 year olds said that alcohol or drugs influenced their decision to do something sexual

# Know the Risks



If your child drinks alcohol, it is likely that alcohol will affect the development of his brain.

- During adolescence, brain organization and function enters a unique period of flux. It takes about 21 years for the human brain to build the necessary foundation on which all future development will depend.





# Know the Risks

If your teenager drinks alcohol, he will be at greater risk of having alcohol problems as an adult.

- Of adults who began drinking before age 15, approximately 40% report signs of alcohol dependence, which is four times higher than for adults who did not drink alcohol until 21.



# What Parents Should Know



- Providing Alcohol to Minors: 2C:33-17
  - a. *Anyone who purposely or knowingly offers or serves or makes available an alcoholic beverage to a person under the legal age for consuming alcoholic beverages or entices or encourages that person to drink an alcoholic beverage is a disorderly person.*

# What Parents Should Know

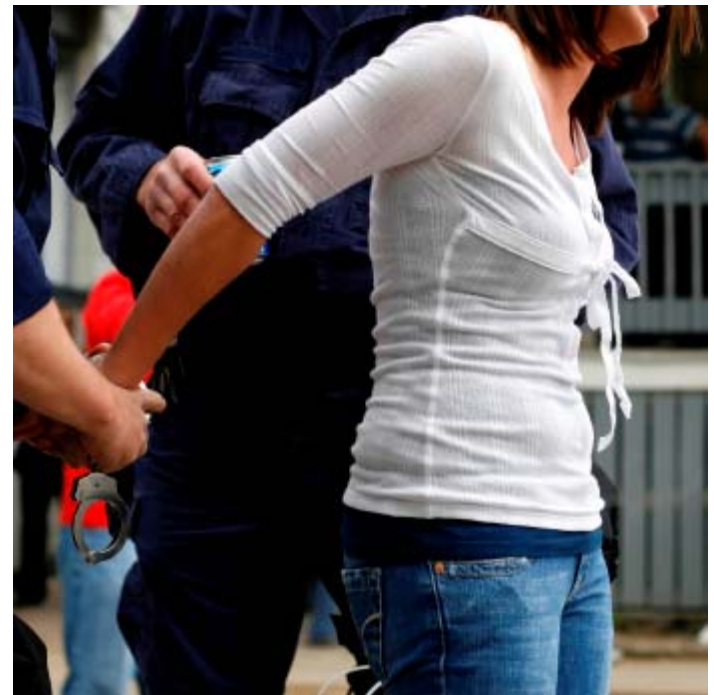


*This subsection shall not apply to a parent or guardian of the person under legal age for consuming alcoholic beverages if the parent or guardian is of the legal age to consume alcoholic beverages or to a religious observance, ceremony or rite.*

*This subsection shall also not apply to any person in his home who is of the legal age to consume alcoholic beverages who offers or serves or makes available an alcoholic beverage to a person under the legal age for consuming alcoholic beverages or entices that person to drink an alcoholic beverage **in the presence of and with the permission of** the parent or guardian of the person under the legal age for consuming alcoholic beverages if the parent or guardian is of the legal age to consume alcoholic beverages.*

# If You Break the Law

- You can face a maximum sentence of six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine
- Others can sue you if you give alcohol to anyone under 21 and they, in turn, hurt someone, hurt themselves or damage property
- A permanent criminal charge on your record if convicted.



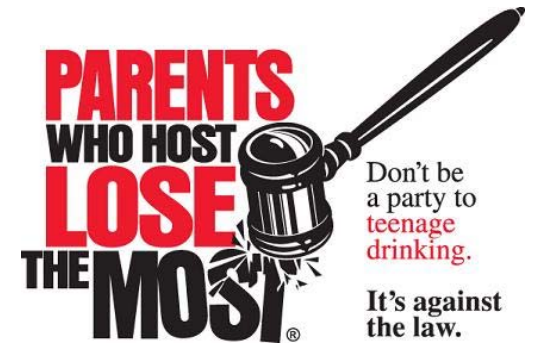
# Things Parents Can Do:



- Host safe, alcohol free activities and events
- Refuse to supply alcohol to anyone under 21
- Be at home when your teen has a party
- Make sure that alcohol is not brought into your home or property by your teen's friends
- Talk to other parents about not providing alcohol at other events your child will be attending
- Create alcohol-free opportunities and activities in your home so teens feel welcome
- Report underage drinking to local law enforcement



**For parent resources,  
including how to host an  
alcohol and other drug-free party visit  
[www.DrugFreeActionAlliance.org](http://www.DrugFreeActionAlliance.org)**



# Questions

A large, 3D red question mark is positioned to the right of the word "Questions". The question mark has a slight shadow and a reflection on the surface below it.