Remember

Alcohol is a drug

Underage Drinking is AGAINST THE LAW

Resources:

Communities Mobilizing for a Change on Alcohol
www.epi.umn.edu/alcohol

Youth Empowerment Network
www.youthempower.org

MADD Online
www.madd.org/under21

Alcohol & Teen Drinking
www.focusas.com/alcohol.html

NY State Liquor Authority: Alcohol and Your Child, Information Every Parent Should Have
http://abc.state.ny.us/training/alcoholandyourchild.pdf

Teen Parties in your Home

A Guide for Parents

• What are the Legal Risks?
• Tips and Resources

American Academy of Pediatrics
District II, Chapter 2
Committee on Youth and Adolescence
What Parents Should Know

Parents may be criminally or civilly liable if they:

- Organize a party where alcohol is provided to a minor
- Know that alcohol is being consumed by a minor at the home, but do nothing about it
  - Have a party in the house where alcohol is consumed by a minor and as a result:
    » Someone's property is damaged
    » Someone is injured
    » Someone is sexually assaulted
    » Someone gets into a fight
    » Someone leaves and gets into a car accident, is injured or injures someone else
    » Someone dies

Facts About Teen Parties

- Parties get out of control very quickly!
- Teens network – Invitations spread quickly and are sent via online, e-mail, instant or text messaging, or word of mouth
- Teen parties often start late at night and move from house to house
- “Partying” often includes other drugs
- Alcohol impairs judgment
- Drinking often leads to:
  - SEX
  - RAPE
  - INJURIES
  - VIOLENCE
  - AND EVEN DEATH!

Tips for Parents

If you are hosting a teen party:

- Do not allow alcohol (including beer and wine coolers) to be consumed
- Know who the guests will be and limit the number
- A responsible adult should always be present

If your teen attends a party:

- Know where your teen is going and with whom
- Set reasonable curfews
- Arrange safe transportation to and from a party
- Be available, just in case!

In general:

- Discuss ground rules beforehand
- Don’t be intimidated when your teen says “all the other parents let them do it”
- Build a community network of parents, school and community groups to discuss safety issues and substance abuse

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