

Don't be a party to underage drinking.

Avoid Problems With the Law...

The County of San Diego and each of the cities in the Sheriff's service area has enacted laws to protect youth from the many problems associated with drinking alcohol.

Anyone hosting a party is required to:

- 1) Verify the age of guests
- 2) Control access to those under 21
- 3) Supervise minors

Anyone allowing minors (under 21) to drink alcohol will be held accountable and may be:

- Cited / arrested
- Fined up to \$1,000 or more
- Serve up to 6 months in jail
- Billed for enforcement services

YOU can be part of the solution!
Report underage drinking parties to:

Sheriff's Department (858) 565-5200
or
Crime Stoppers (888) 580-8477



San Diego County
Sheriff's Department
William D. Gore, Sheriff

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Why is underage drinking a problem?

- Underage drinking is a factor in nearly half of all teen car crashes, the leading cause of death among teenagers. (American Medical Association)
- Hosting at home doesn't change the facts or lessen the dangers
 - alcohol poisonings
 - brain damage
 - chronic alcohol addiction
 - car crashes
 - property damage
 - community disturbance
 - risky sexual behavior and sexual assault
 - fighting
 - accidental injuries due to falls or poor judgement

Isn't underage drinking already illegal?

Yes, state law prohibits minors under age 21 from purchasing, possessing or consuming alcohol. All too often, home is a teen's source for alcohol. A study from the American Medical Association shows:

- 2 out of 3 teens said it was easy to get alcohol
- 1 in 3 said it was easy to get alcohol from their own consenting parents
- 2 out of 5 said it was easy to get alcohol from a friend's parents
- 1 in 4 said they'd attended a party where under 21s were drinking in front of parents

Social Host Ordinance assigns responsibility to those who knew or should have known a drinking party was occurring on their property.

What is a "Social Host?"

A "Social Host" is anyone who knowingly hosts underage drinking parties on property that they own, lease or otherwise control.

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