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# Strategies To Reduce Underage Alcohol Use: *Typology and Brief Overview*



Prepared by

**Pacific Institute**  
FOR RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

in support of the  
**OJJDP *Enforcing the  
Underage Drinking Laws Program***

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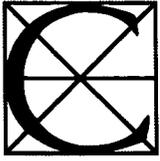
## About This Guide

This document provides a conceptual framework for understanding the array of strategies available to prevent underage alcohol use. It also provides a simple assessment of the level of effect that might be expected from each strategy, based on existing research and evaluation. The information provided here can be used to

- Suggest new strategies,
- Set funding priorities,
- Set priorities for strategy implementation,
- Suggest effective combinations of strategies,
- Assess State and community plans and proposals, and
- Provide support for State and community plans.

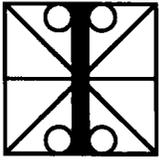
The document also includes a list of research, implementation, and Web site resources. These can provide more detailed guidance for selecting and carrying out strategies. They can be used to

- Provide specific research support for strategy selection,
- Illustrate the experience of other States and communities that have used these strategies,
- Provide detailed instructions for carrying out selected strategies, and
- Suggest useful contacts in other organizations and agencies that are working to prevent underage alcohol use.



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## Introduction

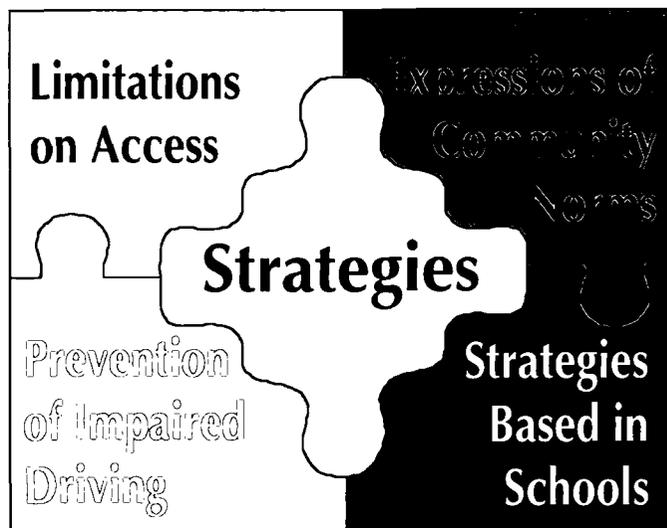
Every State, community, neighborhood, and family should be concerned about the use of alcohol by minors and should be involved in actions to reduce underage drinking. It is sometimes helpful to be reminded that:

- Alcohol is the drug most commonly used by youth—more than tobacco and *far* more than marijuana or any other illicit drug (Johnston, O'Malley, & Bachman, 1998).
- Alcohol is one of the most common contributors to injury, death, and criminal behavior among youth (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1992).
- Underage use of alcohol can have immediate and potentially tragic consequences as well as long-range harmful consequences, such as increased risk for chronic alcohol addiction (Grant & Dawson, 1997).

There is no doubt that underage alcohol use is an extremely serious problem. But it is also a problem that we know how to deal with. Many effective strategies can be adopted to prevent underage alcohol use and related problems.

These strategies can be applied in all sectors of the Nation, State, and community—in all areas of the social systems that produce, distribute, promote, and consume alcohol. These strategies include important roles for governmental and nongovernmental agencies and organizations, as well as concerned individuals and youth themselves.

The strategies are of several types that can be seen as interrelated pieces of the prevention puzzle. These include limitations on access to alcohol, expressions of community norms against underage use, and strategies specifically designed to reduce underage drinking and driving. In addition, strategies based in schools or youth organizations are particularly well suited to reaching the target



population. Each of these strategy types is described below. The level of research evidence regarding the effectiveness of each strategy varies. All can make a contribution, but it is important to emphasize those strategies that have the greatest evidence of the most powerful effects on underage drinking and problems. Table 1 summarizes the level of research evidence on the effectiveness of each strategy and suggests a priority based on the evidence (see page 9).

Many communities approach the implementation of strategies through a community coalition. This is often a very effective mechanism for improving policies and the general climate in a community. A coalition, of course, can only be as effective as the strategies it promotes and supports.

Communities often use the media as a vehicle to bring about changes in community practices, programs, and norms. Various forms of media attention can also be very helpful in strengthening and augmenting effective strategies. Like coalitions, though, use of the media is not necessarily an effective strategy on its own, but rather is a tool that can be used to promote and support effective strategies.

## Limitations on Access

Strategies that limit access to alcohol by youth—or by the population in general—are some of the most powerful and well-documented approaches to reducing underage drinking and related problems. Some of the strategies listed below have extremely strong evidence of effectiveness; others do not yet have research to support them specifically but are based on well-established prevention principles. Strategies that limit access include the following:

### **Enforcement of minimum purchase age laws**

Enforcement of minimum purchase age laws should be the cornerstone of any underage drinking prevention effort. Laws establishing 21 as the minimum purchase age have been shown to be extremely effective in reducing alcohol consumption and consequences (Wagenaar, 1993). More than 17,000 lives have been saved through reductions in alcohol-related traffic crashes (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1998). There have also been reductions in other injuries, homicides, suicides, and other problems involving alcohol (Jones, Pieper, & Robertson, 1992).

In general, the most effective and efficient strategies are aimed at retailers who, after all, are licensed and presumably responsible adults who should be obeying the law (Mosher, 1995). In order to be maximally effective, communities should place primary emphasis on the vigorous enforcement of the laws prohibiting sales to minors.

Enforcement aimed at retailers includes the following key elements:

- Vigorous use of compliance checks,
- Application of appropriate sanctions to violating merchants,
- Education of merchants regarding techniques and responsibilities,
- Development of community support for enforcement, and
- Dram shop (civil) liability for sales to minors.<sup>1</sup>

Some enforcement strategies are also aimed at youth, and some have shown some promise of effectiveness.

Enforcement aimed at youth include:

- Use/lose laws,<sup>2</sup>
- Special police “party patrols” to contain underage parties and ticket both minors and any adults who provide alcohol to them,
- Penalties applied to the use of false identification, and
- “Cops in Shops” and similar programs that allow police to ticket minors attempting to purchase alcohol.

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<sup>1</sup> Laws that allow alcohol outlets to be sued if they serve alcohol to a minor who later causes injury.

<sup>2</sup> Laws that allow for the suspension of the offender’s drivers license even when the offense did not involve driving, e.g., minor in possession.

## **Strategies aimed at reducing social availability of alcohol**

Young people get alcohol from many sources (e.g., Preusser, Ferguson, Williams, & Farmer, 1997; Wagenaar et al., 1996). In all too many cases, they can simply buy it, but they also obtain it through other means such as theft (from stores or parents), at parties, from older siblings and friends, and from adults whom they persuade to buy for them. This area is less well researched, but strategies have been developed to reduce the social availability of alcohol to minors. Some of these strategies include

- Keg registration laws,<sup>3</sup>
- Enforcement of laws against buying alcohol for minors,
- Sales displays that discourage shoplifting, and
- Special enforcement campaigns to prevent parties where alcohol is served to minors.

## **Improvement of laws related to minimum purchase age**

Minimum purchase age laws vary from State to State in ways that can make implementation and enforcement more or less effective. One key way of reducing youth access to alcohol is to strengthen the existing laws. Laws can be strengthened to

- Improve laws regarding minors in possession of alcohol,
- Require sellers of alcohol to be at least 21 years old,

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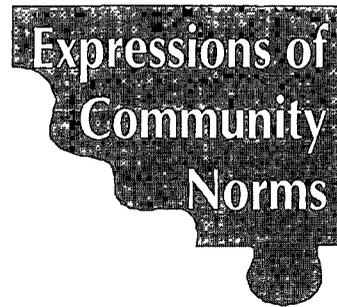
<sup>3</sup> Laws that require purchasers of kegs of beer to be identified and matched to an identity tag on the keg.

- Make the manufacture or purchase of false identification a crime,
- Make the provision of alcohol to minors an offense,
- Prohibit minors from entering bars, and
- Make alcohol outlets liable for harm that occurs as the result of providing alcohol to minors.

### **Controls on availability in general**

The general availability of alcohol in a community can affect the level of consumption and related problems among all age groups, including youth. Communities can reduce youth access to alcohol by controlling access in general. Strategies for controlling availability include

- An increase in price through excise taxes,
- Conditional use permits for alcohol outlets,
- Controls on outlet location and density, and
- Controls on hours of sale.



Strategies designed to express a community norm against underage use (or against alcohol abuse in general) are less well supported by specific evaluations but are thought to be powerful approaches, especially as adjuncts to other efforts. Some of these strategies include

- Prohibitions or controls on alcohol use at community events or in public areas (e.g., at county fairs, in parks, or at beaches), which can also be seen as a control on access;
- Prohibition of alcohol sponsorship of public events (e.g., a beer company sponsoring a boat race);
- Media campaigns, media advocacy, and counteradvertising;
- Controls on alcohol advertising (especially on billboards, sides of buses, and in other public areas);
- Community sponsorship of alcohol-free activities for youth; and
- Parent coalitions to reduce alcohol use by their children (Safe Homes coalitions).



## Strategies Based in Schools

Some prevention strategies usually applied in schools have been shown to have some effect on underage drinking. These include

- School policies regarding alcohol use on school property or at school-sponsored events. (These policies are especially important in colleges and universities, as well as in junior high and high schools.)
- Media literacy programs to make youth more sophisticated about the manipulative techniques of advertisers.
- Prevention curricula. Sometimes the content of these or similar curricula are delivered in other venues, e.g., youth clubs.



## Prevention Impaired Driving

One of the most serious and immediate consequences of underage drinking is traffic crashes that result from impaired driving. Young drivers, who are less experienced and less mature, are especially vulnerable to the effects of even low levels of alcohol. The combination of drinking and driving for this group is too often fatal. Fortunately, there are a number of highly effective strategies to reduce impaired driving. While these strategies have not been shown to affect drinking per se, they are extremely important (and effective) in reducing the negative consequences of underage drinking.

- Establishment and enforcement of “zero tolerance” laws for drivers under 21;<sup>4</sup>
- Sobriety checkpoints for impaired drivers (especially important as a method of enforcing zero tolerance laws);
- Vigorous and well-publicized enforcement of impaired driving laws in general, as well as other traffic enforcement (e.g., speeding, running red lights); and
- Responsible beverage service techniques that can reduce sales to minors as well as reduce sales of alcohol to intoxicated persons.

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<sup>4</sup> Laws that make it illegal for anyone under 21 to drive with any amount of alcohol in their blood.

# Comprehensive Approaches



Sometimes a single strategy implemented in isolation can have a measurable, lifesaving effect. For example, the passage of zero tolerance laws, even in the absence of other strategies, has been shown to reduce traffic crashes among young people (Hingson, Heeren, Howland, & Winter, 1991). No State or community should be discouraged or believe that if they can't do everything, it isn't worthwhile to do *anything*. It is often true, however, that adopting two or more strategies at once can result in synergistic effects that are greater than the effects of a single strategy. For example, the passage of a zero tolerance law *combined with* a public information campaign about the law results in a much greater effect on crashes than the law by itself (Blomberg, 1993). Combined strategies can reinforce and strengthen each other. For example, enforcement of laws against sales to minors is extremely important, but it is more likely to occur and to be sustained if community norms against underage drinking are strengthened and publicized. In planning an overall approach to preventing underage drinking, States and communities should be alert to opportunities for synergy and select strategies that are likely to complement and amplify each other.

## Summary

The problem of underage drinking is extremely serious. We have at our disposal, however, a wide variety of proven effective and promising strategies for prevention. States, communities, agencies, and organizations concerned about youth, as well as parents and other caring citizens, can all play a role in implementing these strategies. The most proven and powerful strategies should receive the greatest emphasis. A variety of resources are available to help implement these strategies.



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## Table 1. Strategies To Reduce Underage Alcohol Use: Effectiveness and Priority

Table 1 summarizes the strategies and briefly describes the research evidence for each. Each strategy is assigned a priority based on the level of evidence and the likely impact of the strategy. Some specific strategies have not been fully researched and evaluated. Their level of effectiveness is not yet known. In most cases, however, these strategies are based on well-established prevention principles or are similar to other strategies that do have research evidence of effectiveness. These strategies are therefore considered promising.

The priority assigned to each strategy is based on a combination of the strength of research evidence, the degree of promise based on prevention principles or similar strategies, and the potential power of the effects.

Strategy	Priority	Level of Effectiveness
<b>Limitations on Access</b>		
<b>Enforcement of minimum purchase age laws</b>		
<b>Enforcement aimed at retailers:</b>		
• Vigorous use of compliance checks	very high	This strategy has been repeatedly demonstrated to reduce sales of alcohol to minors. <sup>1</sup>
• Application of appropriate sanctions to violating merchants	high	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated. It is an important adjunct to compliance checks.
• Education of merchants regarding techniques and responsibilities	high	This strategy has sometimes been found to have some effect alone. It is most important as an adjunct to compliance checks. <sup>2</sup>
• Development of community support for enforcement	high	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it can be an important strategy for supporting and sustaining the use of compliance checks.
• Dram shop liability for sales to minors	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated in reducing sales to minors. Similar laws have been found to be effective in reducing impaired driving crashes. <sup>3</sup>

Table 1—Continued.

Strategy	Priority	Level of Effectiveness
<b>Enforcement aimed at youth:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use/lose laws and other penalties applied to violating youth</li> </ul>	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it can be part of a general community expression that youth should not use alcohol.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special police “party patrols” to contain underage parties and ticket both minors and any adults who provide alcohol to them</li> </ul>	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated but is consistent with the general finding that well-publicized enforcement reduces violations of the law.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Penalties applied to the use of false identification</li> </ul>	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it may be a way of reducing access.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Cops in Shops” and similar programs that allow police to ticket minors attempting to purchase alcohol</li> </ul>	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it can be part of a general community expression that sales to minors are not acceptable.
<b>Strategies aimed at reducing social availability of alcohol</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keg registration laws</li> </ul>	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated but is consistent with general finding that reducing access reduces use.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enforcement of laws against buying alcohol for minors</li> </ul>	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it may be a way of reducing access.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sales displays that discourage shoplifting</li> </ul>	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it may be a way of reducing access.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special enforcement campaigns to prevent parties where alcohol is served to minors</li> </ul>	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it may be a way of reducing access.

Strategy	Priority	Level of Effectiveness
<b>Improvement of laws related to minimum purchase age</b>		
• Improve laws regarding minors in possession of alcohol	high	States with more stringent laws have been found to have lower rates of sales to minors. <sup>4</sup>
• Require sellers of alcohol to be at least 21 years old	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it may be a way of reducing access. <sup>4</sup>
• Make the manufacture or purchase of false identification a crime	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it may be a way of reducing access. <sup>4</sup>
• Make the provision of alcohol to minors an offense	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it may be a way of reducing access. <sup>4</sup>
• Prohibit minors from entering bars	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it may be a way of reducing access. Also, it expresses community norms against underage drinking more clearly. <sup>4</sup>
• Make outlets liable for the harm that occurs as the result of providing alcohol to minors	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated in reducing sales to minors. Similar laws have been found to be effective in reducing impaired driving crashes. <sup>3</sup>
<b>Controls on availability in general</b>		
• Increase in price through excise taxes	very high	Increased taxes have consistently been found to reduce alcohol consumption and problems, especially among youth. <sup>5</sup>
• Conditional use permits for alcohol outlets	high	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it may be a way of reducing access.
• Controls on outlet location and density	high	Higher density contributes to increased alcohol-related problems. Lower density reduces alcohol-related problems. <sup>6</sup>
• Controls on hours of sale	high	Effects on youth have not been specifically evaluated, but, in general, controls on availability reduce alcohol-related problems. <sup>7</sup>

Table 1—Continued.

Strategy	Priority	Level of Effectiveness
<b>Expressions of Community Norms Against Underage Use</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibitions or controls on alcohol use at community events or in public areas (e.g., at county fairs, in parks, or at beaches), which can also be seen as a control on access</li> </ul>	high	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it can be a strong expression of community norms and can reduce alcohol access.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibition of alcohol sponsorship of public events (e.g., a beer company sponsoring a boat race)</li> </ul>	high	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it can be a strong expression of community norms.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media campaigns, media advocacy, and counteradvertising</li> </ul>	high	<p>Media campaigns have been found to be very important components of enforcement efforts, greatly magnifying their effectiveness.</p> <p>Counteradvertising has been found to be effective in reducing use of tobacco; similar campaigns may be effective for alcohol.<sup>8</sup></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controls on alcohol advertising (especially on billboards, sides of buses, and in other public areas)</li> </ul>	medium	Exposure to alcohol advertising has been found to have an effect on attitudes toward alcohol and intentions to use. <sup>9</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community sponsorship of alcohol-free activities for youth</li> </ul>	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it can help to establish community norms against underage use.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent coalitions to reduce alcohol use by their children (Safe Homes coalitions)</li> </ul>	medium	This strategy has not been specifically evaluated, but it can be an expression of community norms.

Strategy	Priority	Level of Effectiveness
<b>Strategies Based in Schools and in Other Youth Organizations</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School policies regarding alcohol use on school property or at school-sponsored events (These policies are especially important in high schools, but are even more important in colleges and universities.)</li> </ul>	high	This strategy has been found to reduce substance use problems. <sup>10</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Media literacy programs to make youth more sophisticated about the manipulative techniques of advertisers</li> </ul>	medium	Some effects on attitudes have been found. <sup>11</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevention curricula (Sometimes the content of these or similar curricula are delivered in other venues, e.g., youth clubs.)</li> </ul>	low	In general, research and evaluations have found that these programs have weak and inconsistent effects on alcohol use. <sup>12</sup>
<b>Prevention of Impaired Driving</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment and enforcement of "zero tolerance" laws for drivers under 21</li> </ul>	very high	All States now have these laws. They can be very effective in reducing alcohol-related traffic crashes (as much as 50-percent reductions), especially if well publicized and enforced. <sup>13</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sobriety checkpoints for impaired drivers (especially important as a method of enforcing zero tolerance laws)</li> </ul>	very high	This strategy can be very effective in reducing impaired driving and crashes. Specific effects on youth have not been evaluated. <sup>14</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vigorous and well-publicized enforcement of impaired driving laws in general, as well as other traffic enforcement (e.g., speeding, running red lights)</li> </ul>	high	This strategy has a strong effect on impaired driving. Specific effects on youth have not been evaluated. <sup>15</sup>
<p>Responsible beverage service techniques that can reduce sales to minors as well as reduce sales of alcohol to intoxicated persons</p>	medium	Some studies have shown improvements in ID checking as a result of training. Stronger effects have been shown on reducing service to intoxicated patrons, especially when combined with enforcement. <sup>16</sup>

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- McKnight, A. J. (1991). Factors influencing the effectiveness of server-intervention education. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 52*(5), 389-397.
- Wolfson, M., Toomey, T. L., Forster, J. L., Wagenaar, A. C., McGovern, P. G., & Perry, C. L. (1996). Characteristics, policies and practices of alcohol outlets and sales to underage persons. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 57*(6), 670-674.



resources

## Related Research Articles

Alvarez, M. R., Twitchell, L. E., & Trock, Y. (1995). Minors and alcohol. *Journal of Juvenile Law, 16*, 229–241.

This article discusses the outcome of court cases involving youth access to alcohol, social host liability, and the enforcement of liquor laws. The first two cases involve the theory of social host liability. In an Illinois case, an adult host was found liable for providing alcohol to a minor who was subsequently injured. In the other social host liability case, a Pennsylvania court found that the theory of social host liability was not relevant when a minor host serves alcoholic beverages to minors. Another case addresses the constitutionality of the use of underage decoys to enforce liquor laws. The California Supreme Court found that the use of decoys did not violate a merchant's right to due process and is not entrapment. In the final case, the Hawaii Supreme Court found a breach of tort duty by a liquor merchant. The merchant illegally sold alcohol to a minor, who then gave the alcohol to a second minor. The second minor was permanently injured when in an accident while the first minor was driving.

Braun, B. L., Wolfson, M., Jones-Webb, R., & Wagenaar, A. C. (1997). Civic participation by 18- to 20-year-olds as a predictor of support for alcohol control policies: The Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol project. *Contemporary Drug Problems, 24*, 39–56.

This study examines young adult support for alcohol control policies. The data presented in the article were collected as a part of the baseline data collection for the Communities Mobilizing for Change on

Alcohol project. The article presents the data related to the levels of support for specific alcohol control policies in a sample of 18- to 20-year-old men and women to evaluate the relationship between participation in community organizations and support for alcohol control policies. The results found that levels of support varied for certain alcohol control policies. In general, new policies were less well supported than existing policies, and there was less support for policies directly penalizing 18- to 20-year olds.

Chaloupka, F. J. & Wechsler, H. (1996). Binge drinking in college: The impact of price, availability, and alcohol control policies. *Contemporary Economic Policy*, 14(4), 112–124.

This study addresses the effects of alcohol control policies on drinking by college students with particular focus on how these policies affect binge drinking. The data analyzed in this study was obtained from the 1993 Harvard College Alcohol Study, a nationally representative sample of students at 140 U.S. colleges and universities. The results indicate that raising excise taxes on beer could reduce binge drinking among female college students, but not male college students. Other results found that other policies may contribute to binge drinking, including controls on the availability of alcoholic beverages and strong impaired driving policies.

Lewis, R. K., Paine-Andrews, A., Fawcett, S. B., Francisco, V. T., Richter, K. P., Copple, B., & Copple, J. E. (1996). Evaluating the effects of a community coalition's efforts to reduce illegal sales of alcohol and tobacco products to minors. *Journal of Community Health*, 21(6), 429–436.

This study investigated the effectiveness of a community coalition intervention aimed at

retailers selling alcohol and tobacco products to underage youth. Members of the coalition, both adults and minors, issued citations to clerks in supermarket stores, convenience stores, and liquor stores who were willing to sell alcohol and tobacco products to minors. In addition, commendations were issued to clerks who refused to sell. The study found a marked decrease in alcohol sales to minors in stores that received citizen surveillance. The intervention did not appear to be effective in reducing tobacco sales to minors.

Little, B., & Bishop, M. (1998). Minor drinkers/major consequences: Enforcement strategies for underage alcoholic beverage law violators. *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*, 67(6), 1–4.

This article reviews law enforcement techniques for enforcing underage drinking laws. Discussion is included on sting operations, "Cops in Shops," party patrols, and walkthroughs.

Preusser, D. F., Ferguson, S. A., Williams, A. F., & Farmer, C. M. (1997). Underage access to alcohol: Sources of alcohol and use of false identification. *Alcohol, drugs and traffic safety-T'97: Volume 3. Proceedings of the 14th International Conference on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety, Annecy, 21 September–26 September 1997 Annecy Cedex, France: Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches en Medecine du Trafic*, pp. 1017–1025.

This study examined minors' sources for alcohol in samples from two States with contrasting underage laws. One sample was drawn from New York, which has relatively weak underage laws because possession of alcohol by a minor and the use of false identification are not prohibited. The other sample was from Pennsylvania, which is a liquor control State and has strong sanctions for youth possession of alcohol and use of

false identification. The results found that across both States, the most popular source of alcohol for minors was "friends." In addition, almost half of all surveyed had attempted to purchase alcohol, and almost one third had used false identification at some time. Frequent drinking, purchase attempts, and use of false identification was more common among males, New York students, and college students.

Preusser, D. F., Williams, A. F., & Weinstein, H. B. (1994). Policing underage alcohol sales. *Journal of Safety Research*, 25(3), 127-133.

This study evaluates an intervention aimed at enforcing minimum purchase age laws. The program involved performing a series of sting operations at randomly selected grocery, convenience, liquor, and drug stores. Stores that sold alcohol to minors were subject to fines and beverage license suspensions. The sting operations were repeated four times in a 10-month period. The sales rate dropped from 59 percent in the baseline attempts to 26 percent in the final.

Smart, R. G., Adlaf, E. M., & Walsh, G. W. (1996). Procurement of alcohol and underage drinking among adolescents in Ontario. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 57(4), 419-424.

This study surveyed underage students in Ontario about their drinking patterns and sources for alcohol. The results showed that alcohol is readily accessible to underage drinkers. Other results showed that obtaining alcohol from parents or having someone older purchase it were both more common sources than minors purchasing alcohol themselves. The study identified four types of underage drinkers: bar drinkers, frequent purchasers, frequent obtainers, and infrequent obtainers.

Frequent self-purchasers and infrequent secondary purchasers have the highest levels of consumption and problems. Bar drinkers had low levels of drinking and few problems.

Wagenaar, A. C., Finnegan, J. R., Wolfson, M., Anstine, P. S., Williams, C. L., & Perry, C. L. (1993). Where and how adolescents obtain alcoholic beverages. *Public Health Reports*, 108(4), 459-464.

Sources of alcohol were studied through focus groups in a sample of midwestern youth. Results indicate that alcoholic beverages are easily accessible to underage drinkers. Results show that sources of alcohol varied by age: early teens obtained alcohol from parent's supplies or from older siblings and friends; mid-teens commonly obtained alcohol at parties where beer was available; and older teens purchased alcohol from alcohol outlets. Other results show that alcohol was more likely to be sold to female buyers and sold by male sellers, by young sellers, and by convenience store outlet clerks.

Wagenaar, A. C., Toomey, T. L., Murray, D. M., Short, B. J., Wolfson, M., & Jones-Webb, R. (1996). Sources of alcohol for underage drinkers. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 57(3), 325-333.

This study surveyed underage youth in 15 midwestern communities to assess sources of alcohol for early, middle, and older teenagers. Results show that across all ages the most common source of alcohol was an adult over age 21. The second most common source was commercial outlets among 18-20 years olds and a person under the age of 21 years for 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Other factors, such as perceived availability, binge drinking, and several demographic characteristics, were found to be independently related to the source of

alcohol used. Results also found gender differences in sources of alcohol.

Wolfson, M., Toomey, T. L., Forster, J. L., Wagenaar, A. C., McGovern, P. G., & Perry, C. L. (1996). Characteristics, policies and practices of alcohol outlets and sales to underage persons. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 57(6), 670–674.

This study explored the relationship between the policies and practices of alcohol outlets and the illegal sales of alcohol to minors. This study surveyed alcohol outlets in which purchase attempts were conducted in a previous study [Forster, J. L., McGovern, P. G., Wagenaar, A. C., Wolfson, M., Perry, C. L., & Anstine, P. S. (1994). The ability of young people to purchase alcohol without age identification in northeastern Minnesota, USA. *Addiction*, 89(6), 699–705.]. Data from the outlet survey and the alcohol purchase attempts were merged. The study found that factors in bars affected alcohol sales to minors, but no characteristic or practice in liquor stores was associated with the purchase rate. Overall, bars were less likely to sell to minors. In addition, other factors in bars were associated with fewer alcohol sales to minors, such as the presence of a manager on the premises and formal server training.

Wolfson, M., Wagenaar, A. C., & Hornseth, G. W. (1995). Law officers' views on enforcement of the minimum drinking age: A four-state study. *Public Health Reports*, 110(4), 428–438.

Indepth interviews with law enforcement officers in four States were conducted to learn officers' attitudes about underage drinking and the enforcement of minimum purchase age laws. The interviews found that officers perceive an attitude of acceptance of underage drinking in the community and that they do not receive

encouragement from the community to increase enforcement efforts. Officers listed obstacles to law enforcement as limited resources, effort involved in processing paperwork, and evidentiary and procedural challenges. Officers also made recommendations to reduce underage drinking: increased penalties for merchants that sell to minors, community-service penalties to underage drinking violators, penalties to parents of underage drinkers, and beer keg registration.

## Published Materials

***Alcohol Compliance Checks: A Procedure Manual for Enforcing Alcohol Age-of-Sale Laws***, Alcohol Epidemiology Program, University of Minnesota, 1998.

This manual begins by discussing the reasons for conducting compliance checks and examining the evidence of their effectiveness. It then provides a step-by-step guide to planning and implementing the checks, including the review of existing ordinances; the selection of appropriate sites, merchandise, and buyers; and communicating with merchants and the community. Several model forms, sample letters, and publicity materials are included in the appendixes. This resource is relevant to strategies for enforcement aimed at both retailers (e.g., use of compliance checks, education regarding techniques and responsibilities) and youth (e.g., penalties applied to violating youth).

This item is available from the Alcohol Epidemiology Program, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, 1300 So. Second St., #300, Minneapolis, MN 55454-1015. Phone 612-624-3818.

***Community Action Guide to Save Lives! Strategies to Reduce Underage Access to Alcohol and Save Lives in Your Community, Join Together, n.d.***

This guide begins with a brief discussion of key factors for building community support: organization, effective use of media and public events, and advocacy. It then presents five recommendations for reducing youth access, possible action steps, success stories, and additional resources. The five recommendations address BAC for drivers under age 21, an increase in the Federal excise tax on alcoholic beverages, liability for supplying a minor with alcohol, mandated air time for counteradvertising, and systematic assessment of youth access to alcohol by local governments. This guide will be of interest to those investigating such strategies as enforcement aimed at retailers and reducing the social availability of alcohol (e.g., liability), controlling availability in general (e.g., tax increase), expressing community norms (e.g., counteradvertising), and preventing impaired driving (e.g., BAC for drivers under age 21).

This item is available from Join Together, 441 Stuart St., Boston, MA, 02116. Phone 617-437-1500. E-mail: [info@jointogether.org](mailto:info@jointogether.org)

***Environmental Approaches to Reducing Underage Drinking***, by A. J. Treno & H. D. Holder, *Juvenile Justice*, 5(2), 20-27, 1997.

This article reports findings from the Community Trials Project (CTP). The CTP used five environmental approaches to reduce alcohol-involved injuries. Those approaches were similar to some of the strategies to reduce youth access to alcohol. They included community mobilization,

improved enforcement of the minimum drinking age through responsible beverage service, increased enforcement for DWI and increased perception of the risk of being caught for DWI, reduced retail availability of alcohol for minors, and the use of zoning and other local ordinances to control alcohol outlet density. The article highlights the synergistic effect of a multicomponent strategy for reducing the availability of alcohol.

This item is available from the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse/NCJRS, P.O. Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20849-6000. Phone (toll free) 800-638-8736. Fax 301-519-5212. E-mail: [puborder@ncjrs.org](mailto:puborder@ncjrs.org) The complete issue is publication number NCJ 173425. The issue can also be viewed online at <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles/173425.pdf>

***Graduated Licensing: A Blueprint for North America***, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) & Traffic Injury Research Foundation, n.d.

This resource on graduated licensing supports many of the concepts discussed in the NHTSA report described above, including the use of three stages of driving privileges. It also provides specific recommendations for the central components of such a licensing process.

This item is available from the IIHS, 1005 N. Glebe Road, Suite 800, Arlington, VA 22201. Phone 703-247-1500. Fax 703-247-1588. The Web site for IIHS also hosts an informative Q & A page about graduated licensing. It can be viewed at <http://www.hwysafety.org/qanda/qagrad.htm>

***Hospitality Resource Panel: Finding the Right Balance***, by J. E. Peters, 1997.

This report clearly outlines the process, outcomes, challenges, and future strategies for the three major goals of a project in El Cajon, CA, intended to address issues regarding the sale and service of alcoholic beverages by businesses and community organizations. The broadly representative Hospitality Resource Panel examined ways to assist licensees in complying with existing laws and norms. A Hospitality and Community Policing Program provided increased enforcement (e.g., "Cops in Shops"), retailer training, and community education through media advocacy. The project also sought to make the gains achieved during the term of the program sustainable.

This item is available from the Responsible Hospitality Institute, 4113 Scotts Valley Drive, Scotts Valley, CA 95066. Phone 408-438-1404.

***Keeping Alcohol Away from Underage Youth: Policy Solutions***, Pratt, L., Rothstein, C., Meath, J., & Toomey, T., 1997.

This report contains a series of model policies to address alcohol accessibility. Each policy has a definition, which is accompanied by discussions of why the policy is important for the community, factors to consider when attempting to implement the policy, how the policy fits into the broader context of alcoholic beverage control, brief case histories, and additional resources. The report includes public policies such as alcohol restrictions in public places and at community events, beer keg registration, compliance checks, minimum age of seller, bans on home delivery of alcohol, restrictions on alcohol

sponsorship, administrative penalties, and the use of alcohol warning posters; merchant policies, including checking age identification; and institutional policies, such as responsible beverage service training. This resource is relevant to most of the strategies for limitations on access.

This item is available from the Alcohol Epidemiology Program, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, 1300 So. Second St., #300, Minneapolis, MN 55454-1015. Phone 612-624-3818. Each policy can also be obtained from links at the following Alcohol Epidemiology Program Web site: <http://www.epi.umn.edu/alcohol/POLICY.HTML>

***Model Guidelines Concerning Compliance Checks for Underage Alcohol Sales***, Department of Revenue, Liquor Enforcement Division, 1997.

This short pamphlet reflects the cooperative effort of law enforcement, local and county governments, the liquor industry, and the legal profession to create a practical guideline for conducting compliance checks or sting operations. The guidelines address why a compliance check should be conducted, the characteristics of the underage purchaser, identification, general procedures for the purchaser and law enforcement, notification of the licensee, suggested penalties, and re-checks.

This item is available from the Department of Revenue, Liquor Enforcement Division, 1375 Sherman St., Denver, CO 80261. Phone 303-205-2300.

***1997 Youth Fatal Crashes and Alcohol Facts***, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 1998.

This resource is a regularly updated series of graphs, charts, and statistics about fatal crashes involving drivers ages 15 to 20. The figures that deal with alcohol-involved fatalities will be of interest to those advocating for increased enforcement of existing DWI laws as well as those seeking to improve enforcement of laws restricting alcohol availability to youth.

This item is available from NHTSA, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. Phone (toll free) 800-424-9393 or 202-366-0123.

***Preventing Youth Access to Alcohol from Commercial Sources***, Strategizer No. 28, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA), n.d.

This CADCA Strategizer summarizes the key policies that can be enacted to reduce youth access to alcohol. The summary includes compliance checks, administrative penalties, and age identification policies. The guide also discusses the benefits of beer keg registration and regulations on home delivery. It also lists strategies that merchants can implement, such as responsible beverage training and warning signs about the consequences of alcohol use.

This item is available from CADCA, 901 North Pitt Street, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA, 22314. Phone (toll free) 800-54-CADCA.

***Promising Approaches in the Prevention of Underage Drinking: Case Studies of State Activities***, National Association of Governors' Highway Safety Representatives (NAGHSR). National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors. National Highway Traffic Safety

Administration. Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, 1995.

This report profiles 10 State programs that address underage drinking from several perspectives. Policy-oriented programs of note include an effort in Massachusetts to train servers and sellers; the Alcohol Awareness Seminars exemplify strategies for enforcement aimed at retailers, such as merchant education and civil liability for sales to minors. A Virginia-based program tackles enforcement aimed at minors through a Dual Agency Task Force to Combat Fraudulent Identification Use. Penalties for the use of false identification, along with those for DUI, are part of the youth enforcement focus of a media campaign in Ohio entitled None for Under 21. This program also employs strategies to reduce the social availability of alcohol by reminding parents and other adults of their potential liability.

This item is available from NAGHSR, 750 First Street, NE, Suite 720, Washington, DC 20002-4241. Phone 202-789-0942.

***Retail Oriented Best Practices for Underage Drinking Prevention: An Exemplary Selection of Retail Oriented Programs and Practices Aimed at Reducing Underage Drinking and Related Drinking and Driving***, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1997.

A 38-page book profiling programs across the Nation that address drinking and driving, enforcement, false identification, seller training, compliance, and assistance. To be included in the book, a program had to meet nine criteria established by the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association and pass an expert review panel. The resulting profiles identify a

target audience, describe the program and any special features or evaluation, and indicate why the program is effective and when it was established. Information on the legal basis for the program, as well as its distribution, funding, and supporting data is included. The profiles also provide contact information. This resource is particularly relevant to the strategy of enforcing minimum purchase age laws, both with retailers (e.g., seller training, compliance checks) and youth (e.g., false identification, "Cops in Shops").

This item is available from NHTSA, Attn: TSP Resource Center Orders, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. Phone (toll free) 800-424-9393. Fax 202-493-2062. Publication No. DOT HS 808 618.

***Saving Teenage Lives: The Case for Graduated Driver Licensing***, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1998.

This report outlines the strategy of graduated licensing in clear detail. It begins with a discussion of teen drivers and accident statistics. It then explains the stages of graduated licensing (learner's permit, intermediate license, full license) and the eligibility criteria, core components, and recommended components of each stage. The report also includes sections on the effectiveness of graduated licensing, case histories from various States and countries that employ the strategy, and the support for its broader implementation. A model law, current State licensing laws, statistics, and a resource list comprise the appendixes.

This item is available from NHTSA, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. Phone (toll free) 800-424-9393 or 202-366-0123. Publication No. DOT HS

808 801. The report can also be viewed online at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/newdriver/SaveTeens/Index.html>

***Student Activist Training: Putting Your Passion into Action***, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), n.d.

A guide intended for use by youth and community groups. The document defines youth advocacy, presents stories of successful campaigns, and discusses important traffic safety issues, including impaired driving. It then outlines the steps for launching a campaign. Chapters address topics such as researching the issues, understanding State and local governments, organizing and mobilization, and making an effective presentation. Worksheets at the end of each chapter facilitate planning an advocacy campaign. This resource will be useful to those attempting to clarify community norms against underage use (e.g., conducting media campaigns) or those wishing to involve youth directly.

This item is available from MADD, P.O. Box 541688, Dallas, TX 75354-1688. E-mail: [program@madd.org](mailto:program@madd.org). For more information, visit the Web site for the guide at <http://www.madd.org/UNDER21/satp.shtml>

***Teen Drinking Prevention Program***, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, 1995.

This resource is actually a series of booklets, each with a different focus, on preventing underage drinking. The Guide to Program Materials introduces the series. The Teen Action Guide addresses strategies to deal with community norms and media literacy, encouraging teens to become informed about the effects of alcohol, to

raise awareness, to sponsor alcohol-free activities, and to learn about the messages that the alcohol industry imparts to youth. The Community Risk Assessment Guide and Community Action Guide examine many of the same issues on a broader level. The Event Action Guide continues this focus on community norms by encouraging organizers to look at the role of alcohol and alcohol sponsorship in special events. The Communicator's Guide contains sample advocacy materials and suggestions on how to develop and implement an effective media campaign. The Law Enforcement Action Guide describes enforcement strategies aimed at retailers (e.g., compliance checks, merchant training) and at youth (e.g., use/lose laws, keg registration, party patrols), as well as barriers to drinking and driving enforcement. Success stories and a resource list are also included.

These items are available from the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI). The order number for a shrink-wrapped set of the materials is PHD710. Materials may be ordered from NCADI via mail, fax, telephone, or E-mail. Phone (toll free) 800-729-6686 to speak to an Information Specialist, or write to The National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345. Fax 301-468-6433. E-mail: [info@health.org](mailto:info@health.org)

***Youth & Generation X Planner: Campaign Safe & Sober***, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1998.

This planner, a component of the larger Campaign Safe & Sober, addresses the traffic safety needs of teens and young adults in their twenties and thirties. Many of the sample press releases, ad slicks, and

awareness materials pertain to general safety concerns, such as seatbelt use and speeding. Specific to impaired driving are articles on drug-impaired driving, promoting zero tolerance, and alcohol poisoning. The entire planner is a useful example of the tools needed to engage the media and change community norms.

This item is available from NHTSA, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. Phone (toll free) 800-424-9393 or 202-366-0123. Publication No. DOT HS 808 675. The report can also be viewed online at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/outreach/safesobr/15qp/web/index.html>

***Youth DWI and Underage Enforcement***, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1997.

This resource is a practical manual, intended for police officers and others in law enforcement. It provides information on forming partnerships within the community and tips on enforcement aimed at retailers (stings at both stores and hotels) and youth (third-party sales, party patrols). A section entitled "Enhancers" suggests additional strategies for reducing youth alcohol involvement, including creating a network of cooperating individuals or informants within the community, parental notification when a youth has been cited, and the use of an alcohol and drug hotline for anonymous tips about violations.

This item is available from NHTSA, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. Phone (toll free) 800-424-9393 or 202-366-0123. It is item number 4P0068 from the Traffic Safety Materials Catalog. It can also be ordered online at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/outreach/media/catalog/material.cfm>

## Web sites

### The Century Council

<http://www.centurycouncil.org>

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The Century Council supports a variety of initiatives that advance strategies to reduce underage drinking and youth access to alcohol. The Council's Web site has pages devoted to enforcement efforts, such as "Cops in Shops" and the Front Lines program (promotional materials for minimum purchase age awareness and enforcement). The site further describes the Council's involvement in efforts to pass zero tolerance laws and legislation allowing administrative license revocation for the prevention of impaired driving. Educational programs for parents, teens, and college students are also featured at this Web site.

### FACE: Truth and clarity about alcohol

<http://faceproject.org>

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The FACE (Facing Alcohol Concerns through Education) Web site describes the organization's focus on media development, training, and advocacy. Links to the product catalog and order form provide access to videos, commercials, outdoor advertising, and print materials that address the health and safety risks associated with alcohol. These media and FACE training sessions as well, are of particular interest to those working in the area of community norms.

### Join Together

<http://www.jointogether.org>

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The Join Together Web site compiles news, feature stories, funding information, and resources from a variety of sources. A "Quick Search" interface, available on each page within the Substance Abuse section, allows easy access to items addressing many of the strategies to reduce underage alcohol use: enforcement (e.g., compliance checks, keg registration), social availability (e.g., parties), tax increases, community norms (e.g., advocacy,

counteradvertising), and DWI prevention, to name a few. While not specific to underage alcohol use, the Take Action section of the Web site also provides tips on advocacy and media relations.

### Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

<http://www.madd.org>

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The MADD Web site features a number of resources, statistics, and news related to impaired driving. In addition, the web site provides access to policy resources, such as the MADD Guide to Congress. MADD also addresses issues related to underage drinking. MADD's Youth In Action initiative supports eight anti-drinking programs and helps teens take the lead to change the social, legal, and economic environment in which young people make decisions about alcohol.

### Reducing Underage Drinking through Coalitions

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#### Home page

<http://epihub.epi.umn.edu/alcohol/coalition/>  
This Web site is one on the many links from the Alcohol Epidemiology Program home page (see above). It explains the mission of the Reducing Underage Drinking through Coalitions project: to raise public awareness of the benefits of reducing underage drinking, to develop effective action plans targeting the problem in their regions, and to implement effective local strategies for solutions. The project is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The site also gives brief descriptions of the member groups and contact information.

#### Coalitions with Web sites or an intention to develop a Web site:

- **Connecticut Coalition on Youth and Alcohol**  
<http://www.ctclearinghouse.org/coalitn.htm>  
This Web site describes the Coalition's mission, which includes reducing youth access to alcohol, influencing policies and norms that contribute to youth alcohol use, increasing enforcement of current laws, reducing the influence of alcohol

advertising, using media to raise awareness of underage drinking problems, and involving youth in these efforts. The site provides a few specific examples of how the Coalition intends to realize its mission. A page on zero tolerance, for example, describes the existing law, links to some of the media the Coalition has created in response to zero tolerance, and encourages visitors to become involved in their communities. Pages on youth activities and the Youth Congress similarly testify to the Coalition's effort to involve youth.

- **Georgia Alcohol Policy Partnership (GAPP)**

<http://www.gapp.org>

The Alcohol Policy section of this Web site discusses GAPP's two major intervention initiatives: increasing awareness regarding illegal provision of alcohol to youth, with an emphasis on responsible server training; and increasing awareness regarding alcohol outlet density.

- **Indiana Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking (ICRUD)**

<http://www.prevention.indiana.edu/underage/wel.htm>

ICRUD's Web site explains several of the strategies for reducing youth access to alcohol, including requiring identification on all alcohol purchases, compliance checks, mandatory responsible beverage server training, raising the minimum age of seller, increasing administrative penalties, keg registration, regulations on home delivery, and raising the excise tax on alcohol. In addition to advocacy efforts on behalf of these policies, ICRUD also coordinates a "Hands off Holidays" program and a college initiative. These projects are further described at the ICRUD Web site.

- **The Minnesota Join Together Coalition to Reduce Underage Alcohol Use**

<http://www.miph.org/mjt>

Minnesota Join Together focuses its energy on three policies: illegal commercial sales, adult providers of alcohol, and local control of alcohol ordinances. The Coalition's Web site provides

brief definitions of the policies. Links to an educational postcard campaign illustrate one way in which the Coalition is advocating for change in community norms on these issues. Other links at the site share information about staff and board members, as well as legislative updates. The Minnesota Join Together Newsletter is also accessible at this site.

- **Missouri's Youth/Adult Alliance Against Underage Drinking (MYAA)**

<http://www.myaa.org>

Missouri's Youth/Adult Alliance uses its Web site to clearly outline the organization's goals and objectives for reducing underage drinking and to share progress toward those goals. The policy section on MYAA's site is currently under construction, but it appears that the organization will focus its attention on keg registration, .08 BAC, and zero tolerance. Of interest to those who seek to involve youth in solutions to underage drinking, MYAA devotes a section of this Web site to introducing its Youth Advisory Board and emphasizes youth participation in its goals.

- **National Capital Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking (NCCPUD)**

<http://www.nccpud.org>

NCCPUD's Web site outlines the coalition's goals and coalition members. The coalition is working to reduce alcohol availability, alcohol marketing, impaired driving through youth advocacy and policy training, public awareness campaigns, conferences, and newsletters.

- **The North Carolina Initiative to Reduce Underage Drinking**

<http://www.initiative.org>

The North Carolina Initiative strives to educate the public on the effects of alcohol advertising, easy access to alcohol, casual adult attitudes about drinking by young people, and general cultural assumptions about prevalence of alcohol use. Its Web site helps in this effort by providing access to statewide news about underage drinking, as well as articles and statistics about alcohol promotion.

Other sections of the site exhort visitors to get involved in alcohol policy issues by engaging the media and voicing opinions with lawmakers.

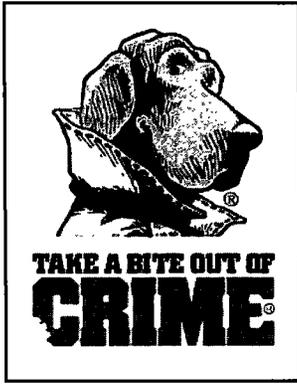
- **The Oregon Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking (OCRUD)**  
*OCRUD's Web site is currently under construction.*
- **Pennsylvanians Against Underage Drinking (PAUD)**  
<http://www.lcb.state.pa.us/edu/community-paud.htm>  
PAUD's Web site details the organizational structure of the coalition. Since PAUD intends to emphasize youth leadership, a number of school, college, and community groups are being invited to join in the effort to reduce alcohol availability to youth, marketing and promotions that target youth, and impaired driving. PAUD hopes to use a public education and media plan to achieve these goals.
- **Texans Standing Tall**  
<http://www.tst.citysearch.com>  
Texans Standing Tall (TST) supports local coalitions and individuals in efforts to change norms, regulations, and availability. Regional steering committees of youth and adults lead activities to broaden understanding of environmental policy change and to promote public and institutional policy for prevention of underage drinking. Its Web site outlines two of the coalition's policy strategies, restricting alcohol advertisements impacting youth and improving responsible alcohol service and sales. In addition, other pages include Hot Topics, Action Alerts, Related Links, and a TST scrapbook.

**University of Minnesota  
Alcohol Epidemiology Program**  
<http://epihub.epi.umn.edu/alcohol/default.htm>

This Web site briefly describes the work of the Alcohol Epidemiology Program, including focal points of ongoing research and sources of funding. The major content for the Web site links from the home page, with separate sections on alcohol policy reviews, ordinances and legislation, compliance checks, and research, as well as staff and their projects, articles, and presentations. The material on policies and legislation addresses many of the strategies for reducing underage alcohol use. (See the Resources section for more information on the policy reviews and compliance check procedures manual.)

**Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control**  
<http://www.abc.state.va.us/>

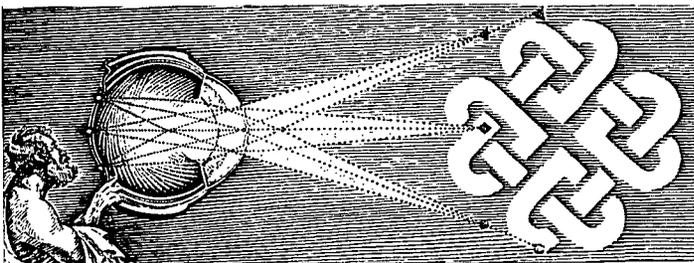
The Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control's Web site contains a section on preventing underage sales of alcohol and tobacco. This section features the State's measures at enforcing underage purchase laws, including a public service announcement series and changes in drivers licenses. The site also provides a full-text version of the State's licensee guide, which includes all ABC laws. It delineates the underage drinking laws and highlights how the law is implemented through a series of "questions and answers."



National Crime Prevention Council



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The Underage Drinking Enforcement  
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