



Call (888) 843-8222 to anonymously report underage alcohol violations.
www.thosewhohost.org

Texas' Underage Drinking Laws

What adults and teens need to know:

- As an adult, you cannot give alcohol to anyone under the age of 21 under any circumstance, even in your own residence, even with their parent's permission unless they are visibly present.
- You cannot knowingly allow a person under 21, other than your own child, to remain in your home or on your property while consuming or possessing alcohol.
- Your residence ... your responsibility.

If you break the law:

- You face a sentence of up to a year in jail and a \$4,000 fine.
- Your driver's license can be suspended for 6 months.
- You can be sued if you give alcohol to anyone under age 21 and they, in turn, hurt someone, hurt themselves, or damage property.

Things you can do:

- Refuse to supply alcohol to youth.
- Actively supervise parties when youth will be attending.
- Make sure alcohol is not brought into your home or onto your property by underage youth.
- Talk to other adults about not providing alcohol at events youth will be attending.
- Create alcohol-free opportunities and activities in your home so youth will feel welcome.

WHY 21?

- Alcohol kills 6 ½ times more young people than all other illegal drugs combined.
 - Youth who drink alcohol are 7 ½ times more likely to use any illicit drug, more than 22 times more likely to use marijuana, and 50 times more likely to use cocaine than youth who never drank.
 - An adolescent's central nervous system and brain are not yet fully developed and are especially sensitive to alcohol and other drugs. Addiction happens much faster—in as little as 6-18 months.
 - Underage drinking is the leading cause of adult alcoholism.
 - National data reveals more than 16,500 traffic deaths have been averted since states started raising the minimum drinking age to 21.
 - Youth who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than youth who wait until 21.
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