

BOMBED!

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Special Thanks To
City of Daytona Beach
Daytona Beach Police Department

Dr. Lucien Cardinal
and the Staff of Mount Vernon Hospital

Megan

WESH Channel 2, Orlando, Florida

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INTRODUCTION

Binge drinking is defined as consuming large amounts of alcohol in a brief time span. This type of drinking is notable not only for the quantity of alcohol consumed, but also because young people who binge intentionally set out to drink themselves into a stupor. This purposeful, dangerous behavior is not limited to a small segment of adolescents. In recent years, the phenomenon of literally “partying ‘til you drop” has become wide-spread.

A 1993 study done by the Harvard School of Public Health revealed that:

45% of all males ages 16-21 consider themselves binge drinkers

39% of all females ages 16-21 consider themselves binge drinkers

86% of college fraternity residents are binge drinkers

80% of college sorority residents are binge drinkers

More than 90% of all college students use alcohol regularly

68% of all high school students use alcohol on a regular basis

The social costs of binge drinking can be immense: drunk driving, physical violence, property destruction, date rape, police arrest, lowered academic performance, and acute alcohol poisoning.

Why are today’s adolescents so keen on this kind of excessive, destructive consumption? Unfortunately, most teenagers regard alcohol as a mandatory rite of passage towards adulthood. It’s easy to see where teens have acquired their faulty views. Magazines, television, and feature films are full of happy-go-lucky men and women driving fast cars, getting the perfect tan on a tropical beach—all as a result of the brand of beer they drink! These immature fantasies do nothing to discourage young minds from wanting to try “the high life.”

Drinking alcohol is not a mandatory part of growing up—just as vomiting or passing out are not proof of a young person’s self-worth. So why, then, do teenagers think that getting bombed is fun?

INTRODUCTION

continued

Many teens today look to older siblings and friends who are at college as their role models. Teens are convinced that the binge-drinking college crowd is living it up. What they don't know is that alcohol is taking its toll on the students who abuse it. Sadly, these college students—who are rushed to the hospital for alcohol poisoning or get behind the wheel to become drunk drivers—are the primary role models for today's teens. Fraternities and sororities often participate in activities where members or pledges are pressured to drink, sometimes literally to death. Even outside of the campus environment, teens need only turn on MTV to watch their peers participate in "chugging" contests where they hold a funnel to their mouth while their friends pour beer after beer into the funnel's opening.

The terrible irony is that these "role models," who pride themselves on their drinking above all else, often end up as tomorrow's shameful statistics:

Alcohol use has been reported in 67% of all homicides.

Alcohol intoxication is common in rape cases. Nearly 75% of assailants and 55% of their victims were under the influence of alcohol at the time of the attack.

Between 25-36% of suicide victims were using alcohol shortly before their deaths.

More than 50% of all fatal car crashes are alcohol-related.

Alcohol is responsible for more than 38% of drowning deaths each year.

Nearly 6,000 people under the age of 25 die in alcohol-related car crashes each year.

Bombed! is a powerful, informative documentary that speaks straight to all teens who mistakenly believe that drinking alcohol is "cool." The dramatic stories presented in this video will expose the dark side of drinking and help viewers realize the full, gory truth: that binge drinking is *not* fun—it is a destructive impulse that can lead to damage, addiction, and even death.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After witnessing the actual events in this documentary and working on the student assignments in this Teacher's Resource Book, your students will:

- ✓ learn that it is acceptable to decide *not* to drink.
- ✓ become aware of the many dangerous effects that alcohol has on the mind and body.
- ✓ have a more accurate understanding of what it means to drink and get drunk.
- ✓ recognize the symptoms of problem drinking.
- ✓ learn new reasons why teenagers should make the decision not to drink.
- ✓ improve their ability to deal with situations where there is pressure to drink.
- ✓ understand the responsibilities and risks that are a consequence of drinking alcohol.
- ✓ discover ways of helping a friend or loved one who needs help because of an alcohol related problem.
- ✓ appreciate a number of healthy, fun alternatives to drinking.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Bombed! opens with the terrifying image of an unconscious teen named Jason being wheeled into the emergency room of a New York hospital. As Dr. Lucien Cardinal explains to viewers, Jason is in an almost comatose state because he consumed a large amount of alcohol in a very short period of time while he was out drinking with friends. As Dr. Cardinal states, “He was to the point where he was actually almost comatose and then brought by his friends to his parents’ house.” Frightened when Jason would not revive, they rang the doorbell and quickly left the scene. Jason’s mother has brought him to the hospital after finding her son passed out on her doorstep. As the doctors work on her son, she is frantic and confused about her son’s condition.

Many of the young students who travel for spring break end up like Jason—in hospitals with alcohol poisoning. Each year, thousands of high school and college students flock to sunny cities like Daytona Beach to enjoy their spring break. They come to sunbathe, to dance, to laugh, to party—and to drink. ***Bombed!*** takes a look at the police officer’s side of this party town. The Daytona Beach Police Department has a clear, pro-active policy in order to maintain order and stability in their community: when a law (such as consuming alcoholic beverages on the sidewalk) is being broken, police officers make a few visible arrests in plain sight of a large group of people. As Commander John M. Power explains, “It’s amazing what impact just that one event has on that two or three hundred people who witnessed it.” In other words, the police officers seek to discourage illegal behavior before it can really begin.

Commander Power recognizes that the under-aged students who are drinking alcohol do not really think that they are hurting anyone. “They feel they’re committing a victimless crime.” Yet there are victims. In his twenty-five years of duty in Florida, Commander Power has seen the catastrophic results of excessive drinking. People have jumped from the balcony of their hotel room, aiming for the pool but plummeting into the cement below. Others have walked out of bars into the street and misjudged the distance of the car racing towards them because of alcohol-impaired vision. Alcohol affects the judgment so that young drinkers “feel invincible, they feel they can’t be hurt, they feel they’re King Kong or Superman.” But as Commander Power says, “Death is final. You don’t get to come back after death.”

PROGRAM SUMMARY

continued

Next, the video introduces Megan. An 18 year-old living in Indianapolis, Indiana, she relates how her habits of alcohol and drug abuse started. “My family was really strict, my parents kept good tabs on me. That made me rebel more and do more drinking.” Eager to be accepted by her peers, Megan started to drink alcohol at school—during lunch and even during class—until her abuse started spiraling out of control. One event characterizes this period for Megan. During her freshman year she learned that if she forced herself to throw up, she could drink more without passing out. Today Megan lives in a Halfway House which enforces a very structured lifestyle. She tells us that the Halfway House teaches you “how to have a life, how to work, to do what you’re supposed to do, taking care of responsibilities that you weren’t taking care of before, and how to be an adult.” Megan matter-of-factly states that “I really don’t want to grow up but I wasted my time before so I have to.”

Bombed! returns to Jason in the hospital. The doctor has made the decision to pump Jason’s stomach for his own safety. Dr. Cardinal explains the danger that Jason still faces as a result of his binge drinking. Consuming a large amount of alcohol diminishes the reflexes that protect the lungs. If the drinker vomits—as often occurs in cases of excessive drinking—it is possible for some of the vomit to fall into the lungs. If this happens outside of a hospital, it can result in death. Indeed, the risk is serious enough that even the care of an Emergency Room physician cannot ensure that Jason won’t be left with a severe inflammation of his lungs.

Bombed! returns to Daytona Beach. Sergeant V. Miles is on patrol. She explains that many students “come down unsupervised. They know that the alcohol is unlimited but they don’t know how to handle it.” The Sergeant speaks bluntly to the teen who has become ill on the sidewalk. “Do you want me to call your mother to come pick you up in a body bag?” she says. As the young man is taken into custody, it becomes clear that these officers will not sit back and tolerate alcohol abuse without taking some sort of protective action.

Again viewers hear from Megan, who seems stunned by her own story of descent into addiction. She recognizes now that alcohol was a gateway drug for her. While drinking, she began to also smoke marijuana laced with

PROGRAM SUMMARY

continued

crack. In time, this led to her moving onto harder drugs such as crack and heroin. She admits that she would do whatever was necessary—even sleep with men for money—in order to procure these drugs.

Dr. Cardinal leaves the audience with two pieces of advice from Jason’s hospital room: First, “if someone has been drinking, they have no business getting in a car. Greater than 50% of automobile accidents are related to alcohol. Second, if you have a friend who is intoxicated to the point of becoming confused, is vomiting and can’t walk properly, get [your friend] to a safe environment.” There are several options: take your friend home, to a responsible adult, or to a hospital. They could be in danger.

According to Daytona police officer Sergeant Richard S. Lukens, the spring break crowd “assume that there are no rules and they can do whatever they want.” He outlines the three most common alcohol-related problems that plague his city: drunk drivers, drunk people walking out in front of drunk drivers, and those who start drunken brawls. “Those with that reaction,” he warns sternly, “will go to jail.”

Megan also gives her final thoughts on alcohol abuse. She states that “it’s selfish to drink because you don’t think about anyone else but yourself.” She realizes now how much of her life she has wasted with alcohol. She has alienated her family and friends. Her brother “didn’t want anything to do with me, my parents didn’t want anything to do with me...Even I didn’t want anything to do with me. I was lost.” Megan has realized that she still does not know who she is, because “part of the drinking and drugging was avoiding the question ‘Who am I?’”

ANSWERS TO REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. *What is Jason's condition and how did he become so sick?*

Jason was out drinking with a group of friends. He drank a large amount of alcohol in a very short period of time. He passed out. His friends, frightened at his almost comatose state, brought him to his parent's house, where they left as soon as they rang the doorbell.

2. *What do the Daytona Beach Police officers do in order to discourage illegal behavior?*

The police make a few visible arrests in a group of two to three hundred people. By making these very visible arrests, the officers believe that they not only "educate the two or three you take out of that crowd but it's amazing what impact that one event has on that two or three hundred people who witnessed it."

3. *What are some things that happen to people who are drinking in Daytona Beach?*

According to Commander Power, intoxicated people have jumped from their hotel balconies aiming for the pool below but misjudge the angle and plummet to their death instead. Others have been so drunk that they have walked out in front of speeding cars. When they are drunk, they "feel like they're invincible" and can do anything. This feeling leads them to taking needless risks which can lead to injury and death.

4. *Why did Megan start drinking?*

Megan says, "My family was really strict. That made me rebel more and do more drinking. She began to drink during high school in order to gain acceptance.

5. *What does the Halfway House teach its inhabitants?*

Megan is now provided with a very structured lifestyle. The Halfway House teaches her "how to have a life, how to work, to do what you're supposed to do, taking care of responsibilities that you weren't taking care of before, and how to be an adult."

ANSWERS TO REVIEW QUESTIONS

continued

6. *What kind of regrets does Megan express?*

Megan regrets the fact that she has to grow up now because she wasted her time on drugs and alcohol. She missed a large part of her childhood, her graduation and other important events. She also alienated her family, especially her younger brother.

7. *What is one of the dangers of consuming too much alcohol that Dr. Cardinal discusses?*

Dr. Cardinal warns that alcohol can relax the protective reflexes of the lungs. If this occurs, it is possible for vomit to enter the lungs leading to suffocation and death.

8. *What are Dr. Cardinal's two pieces of advice?*

Do not allow someone who has been drinking to drive a car. Also, if a friend becomes extremely intoxicated, get him or her to a safe place.

9. *What are the three most frequent alcohol related problems in Daytona Beach?*

The three most frequent problems related to alcohol are: (1) drunk driving, (2) drunk pedestrians who walk out in front of drunk drivers, and (3) drunk people engaging in fist fights.

10. *Why does Megan say it is selfish to drink?*

Drinking is selfish because "you don't think of anyone but yourself." She alienated her family, lost her friends and lost many of her opportunities. At this point, she doesn't even know who she is.

11. *Why can Megan not answer the question "Who am I?"*

Part of the self-defeating life that Megan pursued was in order to avoid answering the question, "Who am I?"

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ROLE PLAYS

Copy and distribute to your students the four **Role Play** sheets on pages 37-43.

Select actors for each scenario.

Ask one student to read the scenario aloud. Once you are sure the actors have understood the scene's premise, let them act it out by themselves.

If class time permits, have more than one group of students act out each role play scenario in order to allow new voices into the experience.

After each role play has been concluded, ask the class to discuss the role plays. Sample questions include:

- ✓ Which arguments were most persuasive? Why?
- ✓ What emotions were the characters showing?
- ✓ What emotions do you think the characters were hiding from each other?
- ✓ What other endings could this scenario have had?
- ✓ How did alcohol contribute to the characters' emotions?
- ✓ Do you think they would have had the same reactions if alcohol had not been involved?
- ✓ Did body language add or detract from the message that the actor was trying to send?
- ✓ Did you notice any other non-verbal cues from the actors?

NOTE TO THE TEACHER

The videotape *Bombed!* begins with this advisory message:

The following events are real.

Although the drinking of alcoholic beverages is shown in this program, the producers do not condone its use.

It is illegal for minors to purchase or drink alcohol.

Some situations relating to the negative effects of alcohol use may be disturbing to young viewers.

Discretion is advised.

Student Sheets

RESEARCH TOPICS

Choose a topic from the list below. Write a 2-3 page research paper in which you discuss your findings. Use a Resource Tracker sheet to organize your resources.

Causes of Alcoholism

Some scientists feel that alcoholism has a genetic origin, while others believe that psycho-social and environmental factors play a large role in the development of the disease. Research at least two different theories concerning the roots of alcoholism. Which theory do you support? Why?

Help for Problem Drinkers

There are many places that a person with an alcohol abuse problem can go to receive help. Research three to four groups and describe their purpose and their procedures. What are they like? How do they differ? Which one do you think would be most helpful to teens?

Blood Alcohol Content

Investigate and explain Blood Alcohol Content (BAC). How is it measured? What is its importance? How do police use BAC? As BAC levels increase, what physical effects occur in the drinker? What are the penalties for driving while intoxicated (DWI)? Driving with ability impaired (DWA)?

International Views on Alcohol Abuse

The United States is not the only country concerned with alcohol abuse problems. Research other country's views on drinking and alcohol abuse. How do other countries deal with alcoholism? You may want to include some statistics in your report.

The Emotional Impact of Alcohol

Alcohol is a depressant drug. What is a depressant? What short-term effects does alcohol, acting as a depressant, have on the mind and body? What long term effects? How does alcohol affect the personality?

RESOURCE TRACKER

Title of book or article:	Title of book or article:
Author(s):	Author(s):
Published by:	Published by:
Copyright date:	Copyright date:
Subject covered:	Subject covered:
Quote:	Quote:

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is Jason's condition and how did he become so sick?

2. How do the Daytona Beach Police officers discourage illegal behavior?

3. List some of the dangerous things that happen to people who are drinking in Daytona Beach.

4. Why did Megan start drinking?

5. What does the Halfway House teach its inhabitants?

6. What kind of regrets does Megan express?

7. What is one of the dangers of consuming too much alcohol that Dr. Cardinal discusses?

8. What are Dr. Cardinal's two pieces of advice?

9. What are the most frequent alcohol-related problems in Daytona Beach?

10. Why does Megan say it is selfish to drink?

11. Why can't Megan answer the question "Who am I?"

DEBATE 1

Some states are planning to make special license plates that will be placed on the cars of convicted drunk drivers. This is to provide the community with awareness that the driver may be a hazard to others, based on past experience. Would these new license plates violate the driver's rights? Why or why not?

YES	NO
<p>✓ A person's history should not be a matter of public embarrassment. A "drunk driver" license plate invites the community to make prejudiced opinions on a driver without knowing the entire story, only the ending. It also implies that a past mistake will inevitably be repeated.</p>	<p>✗ People within a community have a right to know whether or not they may be in danger. Anyone who has been convicted of drunk driving has given up the right to be protected from scandal. By driving under the influence, an individual has proven him/herself to be a threat to others.</p>
<p>Add your own reasons here:</p> <p>✓</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Add your own reasons here:</p> <p>✗</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>✓</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>✗</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>✓</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>✗</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

DEBATE 2

Recent legal decisions in cases involving alcohol have expanded the idea of legal liability. For example, a bartender may be prosecuted for selling alcohol to a patron who later becomes involved in a drunk driving accident. These laws distribute liability not only to the intoxicated person, but to other individuals who may have contributed to the person's alcohol abuse. Should other people be penalized for the actions of an intoxicated person?

YES	NO
<p>✓ Alcohol is a serious mind-altering drug. It is also a profitable business for bars and liquor stores. Those who sell liquor should be held accountable for any damage caused by the drinker.</p> <p>Add your own reasons here:</p> <p>✓</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>✗ We are all responsible for ourselves. Individuals causing harm should be punished—not others. Why punish a bartender or liquor store clerk for obeying a customer's request?</p> <p>Add your own reasons here:</p> <p>✗</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>✓</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>✗</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>✓</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>✗</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

DEBATE 3

For decades, manufacturers of hard liquor have voluntarily agreed not to advertise their products on television. It is only beer, wine and wine coolers who still advertise on the television. In 1996 Seagram's broke this tradition by broadcasting a television commercial for its products. Should Congress pass legislation to outlaw liquor manufacturers from television promotions? Why or why not?

YES	NO
<p>✓ Television is a very influential medium. Impressionable people might receive the wrong messages from televised ads depicting alcohol as a "fun" thing to drink and not be informed of alcohol's dangers.</p>	<p>✗ Legislation banning the televised alcohol ads would simply be a violation of freedoms. It would limit the industry's right to free speech and it would violate the consumer's right to free choice.</p>
<p>Add your own reasons here:</p> <p>✓</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Add your own reasons here:</p> <p>✗</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>✓</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>✗</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>✓</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>✗</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

DEBATE 4

We have all read about celebrities, rock stars and athletes being treated for drug and/or alcohol abuse problems. Sometimes these same celebrities are paid millions of dollars to promote a particular brand of sneaker or blue jeans. Should celebrities with a history of drug and/or alcohol abuse problems be prohibited from becoming spokespeople for advertisements? Why or why not?

YES	NO
<p>✓ By using spokespeople who have had drug or alcohol problems, the advertisers are promoting the image that it is acceptable to abuse drugs and still remain a role model.</p>	<p>✗ Society has no right to limit a person's potential earnings. No one can determine the future actions of a person simply because they have abused alcohol or drugs in the past.</p>
<p>Add your own reasons here:</p> <p>✓</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Add your own reasons here:</p> <p>✗</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>✓</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>✗</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>✓</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>✗</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

RESPECT

Step 1: List ten qualities that you respect in yourself and/or in others:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Step 2: Think of a time when someone you know got drunk. (This may be yourself, a close friend, or a relative.) From your list of qualities above, circle all those that applied to that person when he or she was “bombed.”

Looking at your answers above, what can you say about people who get “bombed”?

What is it about getting “bombed” that teenagers find so cool? Be specific.

What is the difference between drinking alcohol responsibly and getting bombed? Explain your answer.

Think of someone you respect. Does that person’s use (or non-use) of alcohol have an impact on your respect? How and why?

THE "OLD" DAYS

Use the questions below to interview three people. You may want to photocopy this page, or write your answers on a separate sheet of paper. Try to interview one person in each of the following age groups:

	25-40 years old	40-55 years old	55-75 years old
What alcohol was most popular among teenagers when you were a teenager?	_____	_____	_____
How did your parents and your community treat teenage drinking in your town?	_____	_____	_____
What sort of drinking customs were popular when you were a teenager?	_____	_____	_____
How would you rank today's teenage drinking as compared to when you were a teenager?	_____	_____	_____

In the space below, invent an additional two questions to ask during your interviews.

Question 1: _____

Question 2: _____

After you have completed your interviews, write a brief report summarizing what you have learned. Have teens changed their drinking habits? Are parents different? What has improved? What has grown worse?

THE NEXT GENERATION

Someday you will be a parent whose task it is to persuade your child that alcohol is a dangerous drug. For this exercise, pretend that you are the parent of Nita (age 12) and Otis (age 16).

In the space below, write down at least five rules for Nita and Otis concerning alcohol use in your house. For example: *Nita and Otis will not drink any alcoholic beverages in my house until they are of a legal age.*

Rule 1

Rule 2

Rule 3

Rule 4

Rule 5

How will you explain your rules to Nita and Otis?

How would you react if you caught Nita and Otis drinking?

ROLE PLAY 1

You went to a party with your best friend, Patrice. Patrice knows you have a really strict curfew. As the time approaches for you to leave the party, you find Patrice involved in a chugging contest. You begin to panic because you have to be home in five minutes. Patrice speaks to a friend and walks away with a set of car keys. Patrice says to you, "Don't worry, I'll get you home before your curfew." You know Patrice has had a lot to drink and probably should not be driving. On the other hand, you know that you will get into a lot of trouble with your parents if you arrive home late.

ROLE PLAY 2

One of your friends has invited you to a house party. The secret love of your life has also been invited. You make sure that you are dressed to impress and act so sophisticated that Jaime will not be able to resist you. At the party, Jaime offers you a drink. You have decided that you do not want to drink alcohol, but Jaime makes it sound like the soda in your hand is a baby's bottle. You have had a crush on Jaime for a really long time but you don't want to drink and wish Jaime would respect your decision.

ROLE PLAY 3

It is your sister's wedding day. Everyone is feeling fine at the reception. You have decided that you are only going to have two drinks because you have an important test tomorrow and do not want to overdo it. One of your cousins has challenged you to a drinking contest. When you refuse, your cousin goes around declaring what a coward you are. You know that you will not hear the end of this teasing unless you drink your cousin under the table.

ROLE PLAY 4

You are at a fraternity party with your friend Kailie. You don't like going out with Kailie when she gets drunk because she always wanders off with a guy for most of the night. She has promised you not to get drunk tonight, but an hour into the party you see her leaving with a guy you both have just met. You know that Kailie is going to hate herself in the morning. How do you deal with her in the fraternity house? How do you tell her how angry you were that she broke her promise the next day after she's sobered up?

How to Make a Trooper Cry

Dear Anne: Another terrible accident last night. My husband, a state trooper, was so sick when he came home he had to go to bed. Please print the enclosed column again.

Dear Ohio: Thanks for asking. Here it is.

Want to see a state trooper cry? Would you like to see him bury his face in his hands, bawl like a baby and slam his fist into the side of his patrol car? It's easy. Start by refusing to listen when your wife suggests that she drive. Don't be a wimp. Assert yourself. Let her know who's boss. Say, "Aw, heck, I can drive the car better with a few beers under my belt than you can cold sober."

Show her who's boss. Twenty minutes later, you are standing in the dark, on the side of the highway, with broken glass and spilled gasoline all around. Your wife is screaming, pinned beneath jagged edges of twisted metal. Your two-year old daughter is silent. Your six-year-old son is sprawled face down 30 feet away. The highway trooper smelled alcohol on your breath when you tried to explain, and he's not very gentle as he pushes you into the rear of the patrol car and tells you to shut your mouth.

Then he pauses for a moment to wipe away his tear before he turns his attention to what is left of your car and your family. Congratulations. You've made a trooper cry.

What legal penalties should be taken against a drunk driver like this one?

Do you think a person like this should be permitted to continue driving? Why or why not?

What do you think is the most effective way to keep people from driving after they have been drinking alcohol?

Campus Sex Assaults Triggered by Alcohol

May 8, 1995—

The alleged gang sexual assault at the University of Massachusetts in May 1995 was similar to occurrences reported with increasing frequency on college campuses across the nation. Both the victim and the perpetrators were drinking.

National studies on campus sexual assault indicate that at least 75 percent of assailants and 55 percent of victims were under the influence of alcohol at the time of the assault. Another study found that alcohol

was present at 90 percent of campus rapes.

Veronica Reed Ryback, director of Beth Israel Hospital's rape crisis intervention program, stated, "People often focus on the woman drinking and decide she's at fault, instead of on the fact that when men drink, they become more aggressive."

Experts agree that three factors are generally present in campus rape: alcohol, peer pressure, and all-male groups such as fraternities or sports teams.

** Reprinted with permission from the Boston Globe*

How does alcohol play an important role in violent acts such as rape?

Do you think the number of violent crimes would be reduced if alcohol were not so easily available? Why, or why not?

Should there be restrictions on campus fraternities and sororities? Why or why not?

Should there be restrictions on how many stores can sell alcohol within a neighborhood? Why or why not?

HOW DO YOU USE ALCOHOL?

Read the following questions and answer them honestly. The purpose of this sheet is to give you a chance to think about the ways in which you use alcoholic beverages—and that includes beer. There are no right or wrong answers. You will not have to share your answers with anyone.

Have you ever:

Yes or No

Made plans to go out drinking, sometimes days in advance? _____

Gulped or “chugged” your drink, perhaps in a contest? _____

Decided to limit the amount you drank, but then ignored your limit? _____

Had more than two drinks in one hour? _____

Encouraged others to drink with you? _____

Found yourself drinking alcohol that you didn’t really want? _____

Been a passenger in a car with a driver who had been drinking? _____

Drank alcohol while taking a prescription or over-the-counter medicine? _____

Forgotten what happened while you were drinking? _____

Covered up for someone else’s drinking? _____

Decided to have a drink to relieve boredom or anxiety? _____

Asked someone else to purchase alcohol for you? _____

Purposely tuned out what you heard about alcohol’s physical damage? _____

Missed time from school because of a hangover? _____

Feared that your reputation has changed because of alcohol use? _____

How many times did you answer Yes? _____

TOTAL

Interpreting your score:

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you may be acting irresponsibly with alcohol. Two or more "yes" responses suggests an unacceptable pattern of alcohol use, and may reflect problem drinking behavior. Re-read the questions and think about how each "yes" answer affects your life.

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