

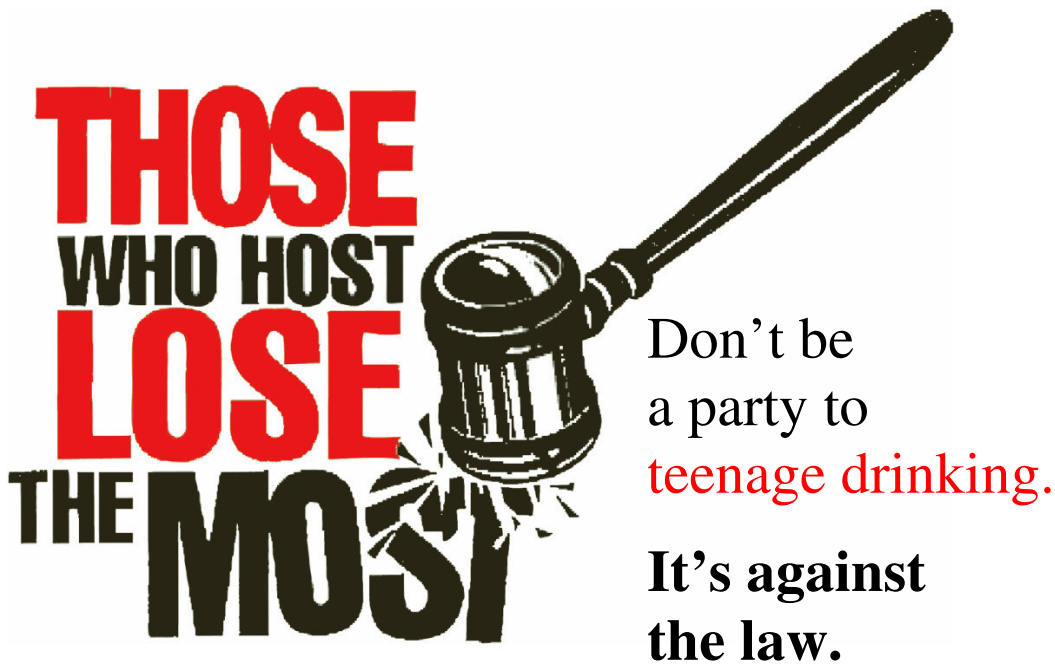
Why 21?

Please report violations.

- The U.S. Surgeon General reports that life expectancy has improved in the U.S. over the past 75 years for every age group except one. *The death rate for 15-to-24-year-olds is higher today than it was 20 years ago. The leading cause of death is drunk and drugged driving.*
- Youth who are drinking before 15 are four times more likely to become dependent than those who wait until 21.
- An adolescent may become addicted to alcohol in as little as 6 to 18 months. *The adolescent's central nervous system and brain are not fully developed and are especially sensitive to alcohol and other drugs. Addiction happens much faster.*
- 22% of 8th graders and 47% of high school seniors in Lee's Summit reported using alcohol in the past 30 days. *30% of high school seniors have been binge drinking (consuming 5 or more drinks in a row) in the last 30 days.*
**(Kauffman Teen Survey, The Missouri Student Survey)*
- Research shows that the longer you delay the onset of alcohol use with a younger person, the less likely they are to experience problems with use later in life. *Young people who do not engage in underage drinking are 50 times less likely to use illicit drugs*
- 26 million teenagers don't know that a person can die from an alcohol overdose

Sponsored by Lee's Summit CARES Partnership to Prevent Underage Drinking

Special thanks to the Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth for program design & logo.



Don't be
a party to
teenage drinking.

**It's against
the law.**

- ◆ **It is illegal and irresponsible** to make alcohol available to minors.
- ◆ **It is illegal** to host or allow teen drinking parties in your home.
- ◆ **It is illegal**, unhealthy and unacceptable for anyone under the age of 21 to possess alcohol.
- ◆ **It is illegal**, unsafe and unacceptable for anyone to drink and drive.
- ◆ **Adults can be prosecuted** under the law.
- ◆ **Adults can be sued** if they give alcohol to anyone under 21, and they in turn hurt someone, hurt themselves or damage property.

Responsible parents do not serve alcohol to underage youth.

Call 1-816-969-7390 to report violations.

Sponsored by Lee's Summit CARES Partnership to Prevent Underage Drinking

Special thanks to the Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth for program design & logo.