

Tempe's Coalition on Underage Drinking and Drug Use

Proposed Social Host Strategy

What is the issue?

Based on 2010 Arizona Youth Survey (AYS):

- 38% of High School seniors used alcohol in past 30 days (indicator of regular use)
- 21.5 % of 8th graders used alcohol in past 30 days
- Where alcohol is obtained
 - 50.6% at a party
 - 31.4% gave \$\$ to someone else to buy
 - 21.4% took it from home
 - 15.5% someone under 21 gave it to them
 - 14.7% another family member over 21 gave it to them
 - 14.0% parent or guardian gave it to them

What Is a Social Host Ordinance?

It is an ordinance which holds those responsible for providing alcohol to an underage youth to be held accountable.

Why Now:

Average age of first use of alcohol for Tempe youth is 12.5 years old years old.

**Begin regular use at age 21
7% chance of alcoholism**

**Begin regular use before age 15
40% chance of alcoholism**

Social Host Ordinances have been successful in other states and communities in reducing underage drinking. The emphasis is on educating the community regarding the latest in trends and information related to underage drinking, brain development, and making the community more safe.

Highlights of a Proposed Draft Ordinance for Tempe:

Would be a civil offense, rather than a criminal offense.

“Host Presumption”

It is presumed the owner(s) or tenant(s) of the private property where the gathering occurs is a person who has permitted, allowed, or hosted the party is responsible. If the property was obtained through illegal entry or trespassing, they are not responsible.

Civil Penalties in the form of escalating fines

There is an opportunity for completion of a drug and alcohol prevention and education class in lieu of a fine on the first offense.

***Community Norm Survey* of Tempe adults; October 2010 (254 respondents)**

87.4 % agreed there should be a law that holds adults responsible for hosting parties where youth are drinking alcohol.