

"The best thing about memories...is making them."

Indiana SADD - April - May

PROM: THE BIG NIGHT!

Addressing Underage Drinking this Prom Season



Prom. It can be a time of laughter, dancing, fun, and celebration. But it can also be dangerous when prom and alcohol are combined.

The use of alcohol is frequently linked with risky and potentially destructive behaviors, such as impaired driving, physical and emotional violence, sexual mistakes or misjudgments, unintentional injuries such as drownings and falls, and, of course, alcohol overdose.

It takes only one incident to turn what could have been happy, life-long memories into tragic, life-long consequences.

Educate Your Peers

- Use school announcements, table tents and posters to remind your peers to be safe during prom season.
- Partner with local restaurants, flower shops, dress shops, tuxedo rental shops, limo services and other local businesses to provide reminders for prom-goers about the importance of making good decisions.
- Create a PSA that promotes having a memorable, safe, substance-free prom night. Share it with the student body.
- Organize a social media campaign promoting your key message to your peers this prom season. Don't forget to use #INSADD when appropriate. We love to see what you are up to!

Keeping your Prom safe!

Work with Law Enforcement

- Reach out to law enforcement to express your concern for your peers and request heightened patrol the weekend of prom.
- Speak with your administration, Student Resource Officer and/or local police about having an officer present during prom.

Inform students and parents prior to prom that law enforcement will be present to ensure a safe and substance-free evening.

Know the Law

- It is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to possess or consume alcohol. If caught, the minor (anyone under 18) could serve up to 60 days in jail with up to \$500 in fines.
- If a minor is caught transporting alcohol without a parent or guardian in the vehicle, his/her license may be suspended for up to one year - in addition to possible fines and jail time.
- Anyone over 21 providing alcohol to a minor can be jailed up to 180 days, with up to \$1000 in fines.
- It is a Class B misdemeanor to provide a place for minors to drink, including hotel rooms.
- Someone under the legal age of 21 caught driving while under the influence (BAC .02 and up) can face fines and up to one year with a suspended license.

Engage Parents

- Talk with your administration about reaching out to parents via mail, email, or the automated call system to alert them to increased risks during prom season and to remind them about school policies in regard to underage drinking.
- Find creative ways to distribute the Indiana SADD *Tips for Keeping Prom Night Safe* sheet to parents.
- Work with parents to organize a safe after prom event or a post-prom breakfast.

Know the Facts

- Alcohol is the most commonly used and abused drug among youth in the United States, more than tobacco and illicit drugs combined.
- More than 90% of alcohol consumed by underage drinkers is in the form of binge drinking (five or more drinks at one time for a male, four or more drinks at one time for a female).
- Though percentages are improving in Indiana, about 20% of juniors and seniors are still reporting binge drinking on a monthly basis.
- When under the influence of alcohol, youth are at a much higher risk of engaging in risky driving behaviors and other criminal activity, as well as unplanned sexual activity.

Online Prom Planning Resources

www.sadd.org/promplan.htm

www.cdc.gov/family/prom/