

American Council on Alcohol Problems

Resolution Regarding Extreme Binge Drinking Among Students

Whereas, one in five high school seniors reported binge drinking in the last two weeks and one in 10 reported "extreme" binge drinking (having 10 or more drinks on one occasion) during the same time frame, according to a study released in September 2013, by the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor; and...

Whereas, rates of the highest-level bingeing did not decline during the six-year study period as did the proportion of youth having five to 10 drinks; and...

Whereas, the fact that extreme binge drinking is not declining may explain why hospitalizations for overdoses are on the rise, despite general declines in binge drinking over the past 15 years; and...

Whereas, high school students are likely to be more impaired than adults by the same amount of alcohol, because they tend to be smaller; and ...

Whereas, binge drinking leads to the most prevalent causes of death among adolescents, including accidental injuries, as well as homicide and suicide; and...

Whereas, binge drinking increases short- and long-term risk of blackouts, homicides, car crashes, sexual assaults, altered brain development and other deleterious outcomes, according to the Journal of the American Medical Association; therefore...

Be it Resolved that the American Council on Alcohol Problems (ACAP) strongly challenges teens and parents to be educated about the prevalence and dangers of binge drinking and to devise personal strategies to avoid such behavior themselves and in their families; and...

Be it further resolved that ACAP encourages health and medical organizations, educational institutions, law enforcement agencies, policy makers, legislators and other community leaders to initiate more policy interventions to reduce teenage drinking, including but not limited to youth-specific polices, better enforcement of underage drinking laws and also more adequate alcohol taxes.