



Student Talking Points:

Sure, it's illegal for youth to drink alcohol, but one way or another, teens will find away –young people have access to alcohol through their parents, older friends, or simply by using a fake ID. Youth access is a big problem- alcohol related incidents are one of the leading causes of death for teenagers in America.

It's time to get the community to commit to youth and to saving lives

Our parents, friend's parents, neighbors, local stores – all of US need to commit to stop underage drinking in our community.

Parents play a major role in their children's choices about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Adolescents drink less and have fewer alcohol-related problems when their parents set clear expectations. One-third of teen partygoers have been to parties where teens were drinking alcohol, smoking marijuana, or using other drugs while a parent was present (National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University).

Friday Night Live has developed the **COMMITTED** Campaign to encourage parents, neighbors, local stores and other community members to join together and **COMMIT** to reducing underage drinking and access to alcohol in San Luis Obispo County.

Underage Drinking Facts:

- Underage drinking cost CA \$8.1 billion in 2007
- An estimated 136 traffic fatalities, 122,680 violent crimes, 206,700 property crimes, & 20,000 teen pregnancies involved underage drinking
- In SLO County, 19% of middle school students have used or experimented with alcohol. In 2 years, this number increases to 46%. By the time they graduate high school, as many as 71% have used or are using alcohol. And, 36% are engaging in dangerous drinking activities.
- 54% of 11th graders in SLO County say it is very easy to get alcohol