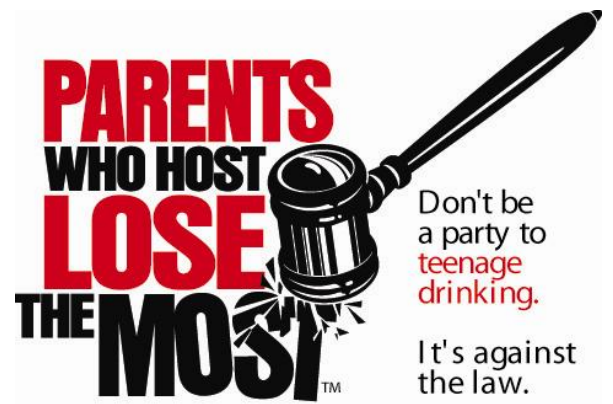


## Underage Drinking Facts



## A Few Facts about Underage Use of Alcohol

- In their lifetime: 14% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students have used alcohol; 29% of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have used alcohol; and by 10<sup>th</sup> grade, 70% of students have used alcohol.  
*(Source: 2009 Bach Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment Survey of Manhasset Public School Students Grades 6-10)*
- In the past 30 days: 3.3% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders have reported at least one use of alcohol; 10.9 % of 8<sup>th</sup> graders have reported at least one use of alcohol; and 43.4% of 10<sup>th</sup> graders have reported at least one use of alcohol.  
*(Source: 2009 Bach Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment Survey of Manhasset Public School Students Grades 6-10)*
- The average age of onset, the age our youth reports their first use of alcohol, is getting younger and younger:
  - 10.4 years of age in 6<sup>th</sup> grade
  - 11.8 years of age in 8<sup>th</sup> grade
  - 13.6 years of age in 10<sup>th</sup> grade*(Source: 2009 Bach Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment Survey of Manhasset Public School Students Grades 6-10)*
- In New York State, underage drinking cost its citizens \$3.5 billion in 2007: \$2.3 billion in pain and suffering; \$ 446 million in medical costs; and \$729 million in work lost costs.  
*(Source: Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation, 2009)*
- Everyday 7,970 young people aged 12-17 have their first drink of alcohol.  
*(Source: Join Together, November 2007)*
- Studies reveal that alcohol consumption by adolescents results in brain damage - possibly permanent - and impairs intellectual development. *(Source: Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research (Volume 24, Number 2 National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, February 2000)*
- 69% parents and 63% of teens believe that it is generally easy for underage youth to obtain alcohol.  
*(Source: Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking Evaluation Report, January 2008)*
- Adolescents drink less and have fewer alcohol-related problems when their parents discipline them consistently and set clear expectations.  
*(Source: Hawkins JD, Graham JW, Maguin E, et al. 1997 Exploring the effects of age of alcohol use initiation and psychosocial risk factors on subsequent alcohol misuse. Journal of Studies on Alcohol. 58(3): 280-290)*
- When drinking is delayed until age 21, a child's risk of serious alcohol problems is decreased by 70 percent. *(Source: Calculated from information contained in: Grant BF, Dawson DA. 1997, Age at onset of alcohol use and its association with DSM-IV alcohol abuse and dependence. Results from the National Longitudinal Alcohol Epidemiologic Survey. Journal of Substance Abuse 9:103-110.)*

