

## THE LAW

It is illegal for anyone under 19 years of age to buy, drink or possess alcohol. A person under the legal drinking age can be fined up to \$750 if found buying, attempting to buy or possessing alcohol.

A person found to be selling or giving alcohol to a minor is also guilty of an offence. In Saskatchewan, offenders can face fines up to \$10,000 and/or be imprisoned for up to two months. A parent giving alcohol to his or her own child is the exception.

## BUT I HAVE OTHER PARENTS' PERMISSION

Regardless of whether or not you have received consent from a parent to provide alcohol to his or her teen, it is against the law to provide alcohol to minors.

Whether you are aware of and supervising your teen's party or not, there are potentially serious legal and social implications that can put you, your teen and others at risk.



# TEENS & ALCOHOL

What You Need To Know

UNDERSTANDING THE LAW IS IMPORTANT, BUT KEEPING OUR KIDS SAFE IS WHAT MATTERS MOST.

*For more information about youth and alcohol, please visit [healthysask.ca](http://healthysask.ca)*

Saskatchewan  
Liquor and Gaming  
Authority





## THINKING OF LETTING YOUR TEEN THROW A HOUSE PARTY?

## THINK YOU'RE COMFORTABLE WITH THE CONSEQUENCES?

Not only is this illegal, but it could also result in some potentially serious consequences.

One example occurred in June 2010 in Hamilton, Ont. Seventeen-year-old Christopher Skinner had been drinking before arriving at his friend's home where he continued to party and consume alcohol until he passed out.

The parents of the teenage host, who were in attendance, reportedly reasoned that they believed it was safer to allow underage youth to drink in their home than elsewhere. The following morning, June 6, 2010, Christopher was found dead. Later, it was determined that he had died from acute alcohol poisoning.

## YOU MIGHT WANT TO RECONSIDER

## NO MATTER HOW SAFE YOU THINK YOUR HOME ENVIRONMENT IS...

*...there are too many factors that are out of your control that could have devastating effects:*

- You could be held liable for accidents or injuries that a teen may cause to him/herself or someone else.
- Contributing to the supply and consumption of alcohol puts the safety of your teen and other teens at risk.
- Impaired reasoning, judgment and coordination can have serious effects including unintentional injuries, a risk of alcohol poisoning and reduced inhibitions that lead to potentially risky behaviour such as sexual assault and drinking and driving.



## IT'S NOT WORTH IT

Like other drugs, alcohol produces a wide range of physical and mental effects. Even at low levels, alcohol affects perception, judgment, coordination and decision-making, long before there are obvious signs of impairment. Teenagers' brains are still developing making them particularly susceptible to alcohol-related harms. Teens typically have a low tolerance to alcohol and are vulnerable to intoxication.