



GEAUGA PARENT ALERT

**WHAT DOORS WILL ALCOHOL
OPEN FOR YOUR CHILD?
IT'S A SOBERING THOUGHT.**

Underage drinking—a serious risk

Nationally, 500,000 incidents of serious assaults each year are related to underage drinking.

Youth who take their first drink before age 15 are five times more likely to become alcohol dependent or abuse alcohol than those who begin at age 21 or older.

Geauga County Juvenile Court reports that in 2005 drug and liquor law violations against minors reached a nine-year high.

Our Geauga teens report that more than one out of four 9th graders has used alcohol in the last 30 days. By 12th grade that number climbs to one out of two.

What Parents Can Do:

- Understand the risks and share them with your teen.
- Exert your influence. Parents are the #1 reason kids give for NOT drinking.
- Know that teenagers whose parents talk to them about alcohol are 42% less likely to use than those whose parents don't.

“Of great concern to me is that much of the serious crime committed by children in our community is by those under the influence of alcohol or some other drug.”

The Honorable Judge Charles Henry
Geauga County Juvenile Court

'21' is the legal drinking age



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Need more information?

Go to www.geaugaffc.org
Or dial 211

