



Put In Your 2¢ Worth...
About 2¢ a drink yields \$44 million annually to reduce the impact of alcohol problems in Missouri.

Question:

Is drunk driving really that much of a problem in Missouri? This issue has been dealt with for the last 20-plus years. Aren't there more pressing issues to focus on?

Answer:

If you believe that drunk driving isn't a real problem in Missouri, tell that to the families of the 504 people who were killed on Missouri roads and highways in 2003 by drunk drivers. In 2003 there were 1,232 traffic fatalities on Missouri roads and highways. Of those, 41% were alcohol related.

MISSOURI IMPACT FACT #13

- Drunk driving is Missouri's most frequently committed violent crime. So frequent, that Missouri ranks 8th in the nation for DWI fatalities, while it ranks 17th in total state population. Is this really a "Top 10" list that Missouri wants to be a part of?

1. California	1626
2. Florida	1274
3. Texas	1709
4. Illinois	639
5. Pennsylvania	618
6. North Carolina	554
7. New York	529
8. Missouri	504
9. South Carolina	488
9. Georgia	488
10. Ohio	467

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, FARS Statistical Report, 2004.

- We are all at risk. Two out of every five Missourians will be directly affected by a drunk driver in their lifetime.
- A comprehensive strategy -- including but not limited to prevention, education, enforcement and treatment -- is the only way to ensure that this epidemic stops. By teaching prevention skills to our youth and educating parents about the dangers of alcohol we can begin to change the social norm that underage drinking is acceptable.
- By changing this social norm, underage drinkers will not grow up to become drunk drivers, thus making our roads and highways safer for all of us.

For more information call one of the Missouri's Alcohol Impact Coalition members below:

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