



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

Question:

What is the most recent information you have about alcohol consumption and pregnancy?

Answer:

A report issued late last year by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that 10% of pregnant women used alcohol and approximately 2% engaged in binge drinking. Of the women in the survey who might become pregnant, more than half drank alcohol and 12.4 % reported binge drinking.*

MISSOURI ALCOHOL IMPACT FACT #23

- Research has shown that prenatal alcohol consumption affects brain development in the fetus in the early weeks of pregnancy, when many women do not yet know they are pregnant.
- Alcohol use during pregnancy is associated with health problems that adversely affect both mother and fetus. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) is recognized as the foremost preventable condition involving neurobehavioral and developmental abnormalities.
- Women who drink during pregnancy place themselves at risk for having a child with FAS or fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD).
- CDC reported in 2001 that cases of FAS had increased six-fold since the mid-1980's.
- Children never outgrow FAS. As a result, each afflicted child will cost \$1.4 million over his or her lifetime in institutional and medical costs.
- No level of alcohol consumption during pregnancy has been determined safe.

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Morbidity and Mortality Weekly (MMWR), "Alcohol Consumption Among Women Who Are Pregnant or Who Might Become Pregnant – United States, 2002. December 24, 2004/53(50);1178-1181.*

**For more information call one of the
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