

HOME COMING

Come Home From HomeComing *Safe, Sober and Drug Free*



Simple Things That Assure Safety

1. Know the Plans-

- ❖ Who's Driving- To and From- Think twice about allowing your "under-classman" child to travel and party with upper-classmen. There's a world of developmental difference between freshmen and juniors/seniors.
- ❖ Who's Going- Names and Numbers- children's names and cell #s and parent's names and cell #s.
- ❖ Where and When- dinner, dance and after party locations, sequence and contact info.
- ❖ Curfew- they really don't *need* to stay out all night or until all hours.
- ❖ Touch Base- text or quick calls to confirm all is well and evening is going according to plan.
- ❖ NO PLAN CHANGES without your involvement.
- ❖ Wait up to happily hear all the fun stories.

2. After-Party Safety

- ❖ NO ALCOHOL or other drugs.
- ❖ Location, supervision and time frames.
- ❖ If kids leave the party, they can't return.
- ❖ Food and beverages available are provided, not brought in.
- ❖ If your son or daughter gets more than one party invitation, have your child pick one and avoid "party hopping".
- ❖ Offer to help the hosts, or if you're hosting, ask for help.

3. General Safe Practice

- ❖ Keep garage doors closed- HomeComing often occurs in the warmer season when many of us leave our garages open. "Garaging" is a common means for bolder teens to access alcohol.
- ❖ Keep alcohol and medications safely locked out of sight to reduce temptations and access.

Provide a Safety Net

- Talk candidly with your teen about balancing safety and fun. Ask about their expectations and concerns.
- Provide an "out" for your teen. Be available to "rescue" them from unsafe circumstances- provide the ride or money for taxi.
- Communicate/network with other parents to assure common expectations.
- Take stock of your alcohol and lock it up. Consider it "age appropriate cabinet latching".

Things to Know

- **Revised MIP Statute:** The Missouri Liquor Control Law (Chapter 311.325) states that if it can be shown that a minor has consumed alcohol, the minor can be charged with Minor in Possession (MIP). It is no longer necessary for possession of containers, open or otherwise, as a basis for arrest.
- **Local Curfew Laws:** Throughout the region, it is unlawful for anyone under the age of 17 to be in a public or unsupervised place between the hours of 11 PM and 6 AM Sunday-Thursday and 12 Midnight to 6 AM Friday-Saturday, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.
- **Social Hosting Liability:** Local municipalities and the state of Missouri have laws that make it illegal for adults to allow underage drinking on their property- wittingly or not.



Visit us at
ahc-stl.org