

Teacher Notes

Risk-Taking Behavior Poster

Alcohol almost immediately affects a person's judgment. This is especially seen in young or inexperienced drinkers. However, anyone under the influence of alcohol will be less likely to make good, informed decisions.

The legal age for drinking in all 50 states is 21 years old. In part, this is due to the immediate impact that alcohol has on the brain, in the areas of judgment and reasoning.

People under the influence of alcohol are more likely to take risks, and these risks can result in death or injury.

In this picture, these teens are drinking alcohol. Besides drinking underage, how can you tell that they shouldn't be drinking? What could happen because of their drinking?

In addition to the impact on judgment, alcohol affects vision and perception followed by coordination. These factors could also play a factor in accidents and injuries. For example, the individuals walking along the shore (in the attached poster) are consuming alcohol and may be easily convinced to jump into the swimming hole with their friend. Diving into water without knowing how deep it is occurs more frequently when people are under the influence. An individual's ability to swim can also be greatly impaired by alcohol consumption.

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