



Transcript

VIDEO: Dangers of Underage Drinking

August 2017

Studies show that alcohol is the most commonly misused drug among youth. The data shows that American girls often will have their first drink at the age 13 and boys will start at 11. A 2015 Connecticut survey showed that one in three high school students use alcohol. This study also showed that half of those students had five or more drinks in a row, so five or more drinks in a row, which really is a sign of binge drinking. We are dealing with the concert season. Some of the acts draw very young people left to their own devices and get alcohol from various sources and then sit there and imbibe large amounts which they can't handle, nor should be able to handle, and then they find their way to our medical facilities as well as the whole area's medical facilities. The ones that are transported are not just a little tipsy. They are seriously inebriated. Close to coma. They can't hold their heads up. They are breathing, but could easily stop. They're so inebriated and so overcome and have had such large quantities that they are, they are near death. Both alcohol, as well as the designer drugs, all do have an impact on brain development, brain maturity. That this can affect their memory, their coordination, motor skills, can even lead to feelings of depression over time. People who binge drink to the point of just about in a coma, those people are at risk later on in life. Because clearly there's a switch that hasn't been turned on in terms of caution. So there are things that parents can do to reduce the likelihood of their children drinking. For one, get involved. Also, talk early and often with your child. Be a role model. Teach kids to choose their friends wisely. Also, monitor your child's activities. And set rules, consistently set rules. Parents are the single best role model for their kids. So all we as parents can do is keep hammering away at that and it does sink in, but we as parents can't be discouraged when it appears that they're just not reacting, they are. Things do sink in and you just hope that they make the right choices.