

RAISING AWARENESS OF PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES IN NYC

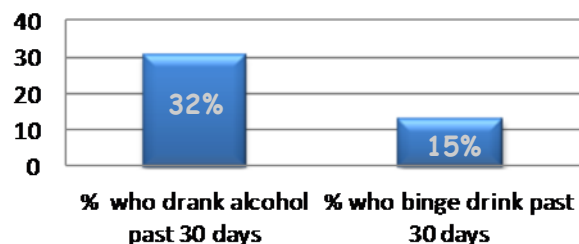
A Social Host Ordinance is one of the Evidence-Based Strategies to address the Problem of Underage Drinking

Underage Drinking is a Problem in NYC

- Alcohol is the drug of choice for most youth under the age of 21. Alcohol is easily accessible often from their own homes or the homes of friends and perceived as socially acceptable.
- The National Institutes of Health, reports drinking before the age of 15 can increase a youth's chance of developing alcoholism. Drinking at an early age can predispose a youth to a lifetime of problems.
- Alcohol is a key contributor to the four leading causes of death in young people: traffic crashes, accidents, homicides and suicides.
- According to the Youth Development Survey conducted in NYC among high school students in Inwood, Manhattan and Throgs Neck, Bronx, the results indicate: 26% of youth report they drank alcohol at home; 27.6% report they drank alcohol at someone else's home; 17.8% report they got the alcohol at home with parents' permission.
- According to the 2011 high school Youth Risk Behavior Survey 30.9% of Staten Island youth report alcohol use in the past 30 days. In NYC, 30.6% of high school youth drank alcohol during the past 30 days and 12.7% binge drank according to the 2011 YRBS Survey.

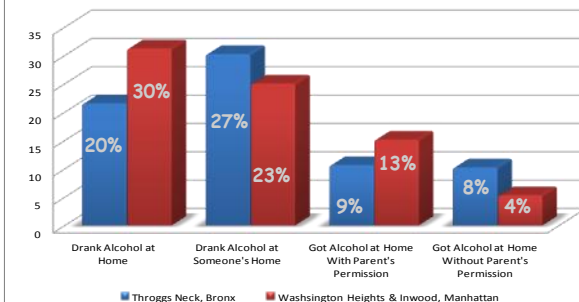
Alcohol Use Among NYC High School Youth

YRBS 2011



Access to Alcohol Among High School Youth

YDS 2011



CALL TO ACTION

- A Social Host ordinance is a powerful environmental policy tool that our communities can embrace to reduce underage drinking and its related problems.
- Community coalitions around the five boroughs are working to educate elected officials, law enforcement, faith communities, parents, schools, etc., for advocating for successful evidenced-based strategies.
- Some surveys have indicated a reduction in drinking-driving rates and heavy drinking among all age groups in states and municipalities that had social host laws.

A Social Host Law would make it illegal for any adult who owns, rents or otherwise controls a private residence to knowingly allow the consumption of alcohol by anyone under the age of 21 on their premises.

It is past the time to act.

Our youths' future is in our hands.

As a concerned citizen, here are some steps you can take to support the passage of the Social Host Law:

- Write a letter of support and/or contact your New York City Council member to express support for the Social Host Ordinance.
- Get involved in a local community coalition

Throgs Neck Community Action Partnership TNCAP

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