

Taking Alcohol out of Adolescence: A Developmental Perspective

A Congressional Briefing Sponsored by
The *FRIENDS OF NIAAA*

*In conjunction with
The Addiction, Treatment and Recovery Caucus*

**Thursday, November 15, 2007
Noon - 2:00 pm
(box lunches will be available)
Rayburn House Office Building, Room B-340**

Although there has been a significant decline in tobacco and illicit drug use among teens, underage drinking has remained at persistently high levels. The 2006 National Survey on Drug Use and Health estimates there are 11 million underage drinkers in the United States. Approximately 7.2 million of them are binge drinkers, meaning that they report drinking more than five drinks on a drinking occasion at least once in the past month. Over 2 million report binge drinking five or more times in the past month.

To address this significant public health problem, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) has invested substantial resources to promote an understanding of underage alcohol consumption in the context of human development and maturation that takes into account individual adolescent characteristics as well as environmental, ethnic, cultural, and gender differences.

Speakers

Ting-Kai Li, MD, Director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, will discuss the lifespan perspective that both guides NIAAA and informs its Underage Drinking Research Initiative.

Mark S. Goldman, PhD, Distinguished Research Professor and Director, Alcohol and Substance Use Research Institute, Department of Psychology, University of South Florida, will describe the extent and nature of underage drinking and explain how it fits in a developmental framework.

Sandra A. Brown, PhD, Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry, University of California, San Diego, will discuss her research on intervening with underage drinkers in various settings.

Mimi Fleury, Founder of Community of Concern, will share her thoughts on how to take action as a parent, in schools, and at the community level.

Sponsoring Organizations

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry – American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases – American Psychiatric Association – American Psychological Association – American Society of Addiction Medicine – Association for Psychological Science – Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America – The Federation of Behavioral, Psychological and Cognitive Sciences – Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research – Join Together – Legal Action Center – NAADAC, The Association for Addiction Professionals – National Association of Social Workers – National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome – Research Society on Alcoholism – Society for Research in Child Development – State Associations of Addiction Services

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