

CHOICES

n. Choice: The power, right, or liberty to choose; option.

ALCOHOL IS A FACTOR IN THE FOUR LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH AMONG PEOPLE AGES 10-24:

#1 Motor vehicle crashes #2 Unintentional injuries #3 Homicide #4 Suicide

By the time students are high school seniors, 80% have used alcohol and 62% have been drunk.

On average, young people begin drinking at 13.1 years of age.

Approximately 9.7 million current drinkers in the United States are between 12 and 20 years of age. Of these, 18.7% participate in binge drinking and 60% are heavy drinkers.

In 2003, 25% of 15-20 year-old drivers who were killed in motor vehicle crashes were themselves intoxicated.

Students whose parents clearly expect their children to abstain are **FOUR TIMES** more likely to abstain than other students.

For every “Just Say No” or “Know When to Say When” public service announcement, teens will view up to 50 alcoholic commercials.

THE USE OF ALCOHOL UNDER THE AGE OF 21 IS UNLAWFUL!

The consequences, to minors, could include:

- Loss of Scholarships
- Paying Fines
- Suspended Driver’s License

The consequences, to adults, could include:

- Imprisonment
- Fines
- Loss of Job
- Broken Families

MAKE THE PLEDGE! SEND THE MESSAGE THAT, AS PARENTS, WE ARE COMMITTED TO ENCOURAGING AND MAKING SMART CHOICES AS WELL AS UPHOLDING THE LAW.

CHOICES is a program that is open to **ALL** families who live in the Batesville area community, regardless of where their children attend school (public, private, or home).

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MISSION STATEMENT: To promote positive choices for youth and parents, to eliminate underage drinking, and to provide support for social issues facing parents and young people.

PARENT PLEDGE

We, as adults in the community, agree to send a consistent message to our children that alcohol use under the age of 21 is unlawful and unacceptable.

We will foster an environment of open communication with our children and encourage open dialogue.

We will help build our children's self-image by providing and promoting alternatives to chemicals and teaching them how to confront peer pressure.

We will educate ourselves about alcohol and its dangers in order to communicate to our children the dangers of substance abuse.

We will not permit our home to be used for unsupervised parties.

We will not permit the serving of alcohol to minor children on our property, nor will we tolerate the presence of alcohol brought on our property by minors.

We will not be tempted to think, "Our child would never engage in risky behaviors." Believing this is risky in and of itself.

We understand that we cannot prevent things that we do not have knowledge of from happening in our home. We will make every effort to be informed and aware of what is happening at our residence because ultimately we are responsible and liable.

We will make our children aware of our commitment to this pledge.

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____ Email Address _____

Student Name(s) _____ Grade(s) _____

Home Address _____ Phone # _____

Parent/Guardian Signatures _____

BY SIGNING THE ABOVE PARENT PLEDGE, YOU GIVE PERMISSION TO BATESVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION TO HAVE YOUR NAME PUBLISHED & FOR YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN **CHOICES** ACTIVITIES, WHETHER ON OR OFF SCHOOL PREMISES. PLEASE CONTACT KIM LINKEL, DIRECTOR, AT 812-934-2298, WITH

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