

AN UNACKNOWLEDGED "NATIONAL CRISIS"  
Crisis: A time of intense difficulty, trouble, or danger.

**WE HAVE A CRISIS:**

When there are an estimated one in eight adult Americans who are alcoholics.

When 40% of child abuse is alcohol related.

When every man, woman, and child in America is robbed of \$807 each and every year so others can drink.

When 75% of teens say alcohol is easy to acquire.

When alcohol is the number one drug problem among young people.

When 70% of teenagers admit to drinking alcohol.

When people who begin drinking before age 15 are 4 times more likely to develop alcoholism than those who begin at age 21 (NIAAA 1/14/98).

When youth who drink alcohol are 7.5 times more likely to use any illicit drug, and 50 times more likely to use cocaine than young people who never drink alcohol. (CASA, 1994)

When college drinking is extremely widespread: About 4 out of 5 college students drink alcohol.

When virtually all college students experience the effects of college drinking **whether they drink or not.**

When more than 690,000 college students between the ages of 18 and 24 are assaulted by another student **who has been drinking.**

When 118,000 incidents of family violence will be linked to excessive drinking.

When estimates are that between 140,000 to 175,000 deaths each year are attributable to excessive alcohol use, making alcohol one of the leading preventable causes of death in the United States, (*The Alcohol-Related Disease Impact application*)

When alcohol is a direct cause of 7 forms of cancer running up healthcare cost for everyone, even non drinkers.

When 11% of total health care expenses are for treating problems caused by excessive drinking.

When analysis says even **moderate** consumption is a risk. (American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)

When 40% of violent crime is alcohol related.

When annually there are more than 3 million cases of violent crime traceable to alcohol use and abuse in the U.S.

When 73% of all felonies are related to alcohol use and abuse.

When 41% of rape cases are alcohol related.

When 81% of wife battering cases are alcohol related.

When alcohol is connected to 72% of stabbings and 83% of homicides.

When the average cost per inmate was \$31,286 in fiscal year 2010. \$33,274 in 2015.

When the nationwide prison population has grown by 500 % since the 1970s. (Vera Institute of Justice)

When over **\$100 billion** is lost every year repairing the damage caused to property by drunk driving incidents.

When 30% of all Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related car crash during their lifetime.

When more than 40% of all fatal auto accidents are alcohol-related.

When 10,000 people die on our highways each year from alcohol related crashes.

When alcohol-related deaths in the United States have surged by 30% in recent years.

When an estimated 1 in 8 deaths among U.S. adults ages 20 to 64 each year is attributable to excessive drinking.

When nearly 3 million U.S. teens and adults self-identified in 2022, as having AUD (Alcohol Use Disorder). Of these, 753,000 were youths ages 12 to 17. Averaged between 50 states - 15,000 per state.

**How can we consider ourselves a civilized nation if we allow this to continue with no effort to stop it?**