



WHY YOUR PARENTS SAY NO

Sticklers? Arbitrary? Spoilsports? Well, whatever. . . To demand, ask, or even beg you to pass up the fun everybody else is having by saying no even to beer? Hey!!

Sure, sure, sure, you agree; not even listening ---- right?

But just suppose it's tomorrow and suppose those few beers or spiked drinks that got everybody going really good meant a funeral? Maybe your own funeral. Or the death of your best friend, sister, or brother? Sort of like with tens of thousands of kids your age who had "fun" with drinks. . . they never lived to graduate from high school or college. Never got a chance to be tops at that promising career or to have a family --- because of that dumb car smashup.

Or how about all those kids who had drunken sex, and it messed up their lives a lot of different ways and for good? Forever, that is. Would it be worth it? Ask some of the kids it happened to.

Or go ahead and ask the other tens of thousands spending their lives behind bars for some weird crime or other --- it happens again and again, every day --- just read the newspaper.

Would it be worth it? Alcohol is behind a big majority of jail sentences --- and many of the criminals are young. Ask one of those kids what they would give to be out again, to have a clean record, a new chance! If only they had done it differently.

Maybe all this partly explains just why your mom and dad, who love you, say no to drinking: even one (which starts a bunch). They have no reason to want to spoil your fun --- they just want you to live to have it. They want you to have a chance to live life, to find out what you can do. They want you to stay alive and smart and free, with a chance at happiness. Believe it!!

All the books on earth, no doubt, could not hold the terrible tales of what liquor's done to men and women down through the centuries. Do not believe all the fake promises of a good time, lots of laughs. The real cost of drinking is impossible to comprehend --- enough to know it robs millions of life and its real joys.

Most smart people (like your parents) have seen many good people (adults and clean, healthy, beautiful kids with all kinds of good chances ahead of them), degraded by drink; dragged down; lost to real life.

That's why they say no to you drinking.

~ **LISTEN**/July, 1998 By: Duane Valentry

Rev 10/09