

Student Panel – Teen Driving and Traffic Safety

Traffic Safety Summit 2009

Facilitator

Dawn Kepler, Prevention Network

Panelists

Angela, Northwood University

DaShawn, Northwood University

Kelly, Central Michigan University

OTHER STUDENTS!!!

Panelist Profiles

- Name
- School/college
- Grade/year
- Majors – college students
- Hometown or City
- Age

Driving History and Profile

- Aside from driving to and from school/class, where are the most common places you or your friends drive?
- On a scale from 1 to 10 (10 = best driver ever; 1 = horrible), where would you fall?



Quick Survey

- Most of your friends wear seat belts: While driving? As passengers?
- Have friends/peers who consistently use a headset/Blue Tooth when talking on the phone while driving?
- You are safer with friends in the car? You are a safer driver when driving alone?
- Know people who are underage that drink?
- Have friends/peers who've had three or more drinks and then have driven within one hour?

Quick Survey

- Have you ever ridden in the car with friends who've been drinking?
- Have you ever ridden in a car with an older adult who was drunk?
- Know someone who has tried to stop a friend from driving after drinking? (Did it work?)
- Have you ever had parents or an older adult ask you to drive them home because they had too much to drink?

Quick Survey

- Know someone who has been sexually assaulted or had unwanted sex while drunk?
- Most of your friends/peers speed?
- You've ever texted while driving?
- Know people who've used Facebook or Twitter while driving?
- While driving, you've felt so tired that you may fall asleep?

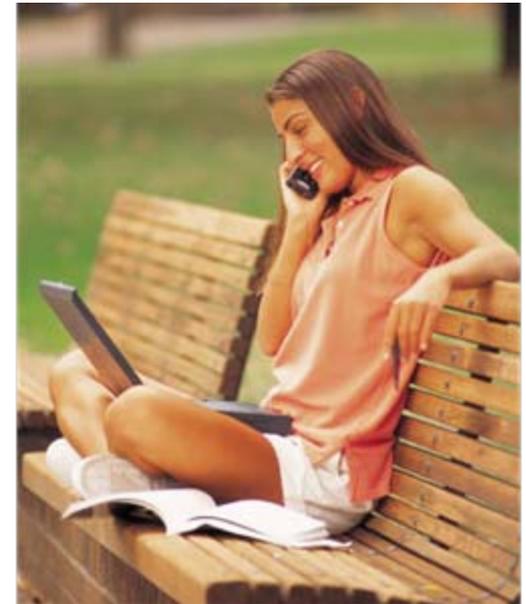
What time of day was it? What did you do? How many hours do you normally sleep on a week night? On the weekend?

Today's "Teen Culture"

- What do you think would surprise most older adults about people your age? Or what would you like for older adults to know about you and your friends that they don't seem to?
- What do you think is the biggest stereotype about people your age that is **ACTUALLY** true?
- What do you and most of your peers like to do outside of class? What do you spend the most time doing?

Today's "Teen Culture"

- What websites do you and your friends use the most?
- On a normal day, how long do you spend on Facebook, MySpace, or any other sites?
- What would you say is the most popular type of cell phone among people your age? Why?



Driving Behaviors

- What is the MOST over the speed limit you've seen/heard of a friend driving? Why do they speed?
- Have you ever heard of students street racing?
- How many of you have used GPS systems for directions while driving? Do you think they are more helpful or distracting?
- How often do your friends/peers talk on the phone while driving?

Driving Behaviors

- What do you think could work to get students to NOT text while driving?
- How do you think peer pressure has an influence on how your friends/peers drive or things they do while driving?
- Do parents you've ridden with:
 - Speed?
 - Talk on their cell while driving?
 - Get road rage?

Driving Behaviors

- Do you think how your parents drive affects how you drive?
- Which distraction do you think is the biggest issue for your friends/peers:
 - ❑ Talking on cell phones
 - ❑ Texting
 - ❑ Friends in the car
 - ❑ Music
 - ❑ Eating
 - ❑ Driving while emotional (e.g. road rage)



Riding with Others

- Do you feel safe riding in the car with your peers driving?
- Has there ever been a time when you've ridden with a friend/peer and did not feel safe? Why not?
- What would you do if you didn't want to ride with a friend/peer?



Seat Belt Use

- Why do some people NOT wear seat belts?
- Have you ever told your friends to buckle up when you were driving? Did it work?



Drinking and Driving

- What do you think is the difference between your peers who drink and those who don't? Those who drink and drive and those who don't?
- What is the “legal limit” for drinking? For driving?
- How do your friends/peers KNOW that they've had too much to drink and can't drive?
- How much do your friends/peers think they can really drink and still be okay to drive?
- Do your peers ever discuss drunk driving? What do they usually say about it?

Drinking and Driving

- How do people you know who drink and drive view the risks involved (if any risk at all)? What do they see as the biggest risk?
- What is the main reason they take the risk?
- Do they think they will get caught? What makes them think they won't be caught?
- What other options do your friends/peers use instead of driving themselves home after they've been drinking?
- Would your friends/peers ever call their parents to pick them up if they got too drunk?

Designated Drivers

- What motivates your peers to use a designated driver?
- What do your peers say about people who DON'T drink at parties? About people who volunteer to be the DD?



Minors in Possession (MIP's)

- Does the possibility of getting a MIP scare your friends/peers?
- What are the reasons you've heard of why students who occasionally drink choose to not drink at other times? What are the circumstances that stop them from drinking on some weekends?
- Does it seem to be easy for people underage to get alcohol?

Minors in Possession (MIP's)

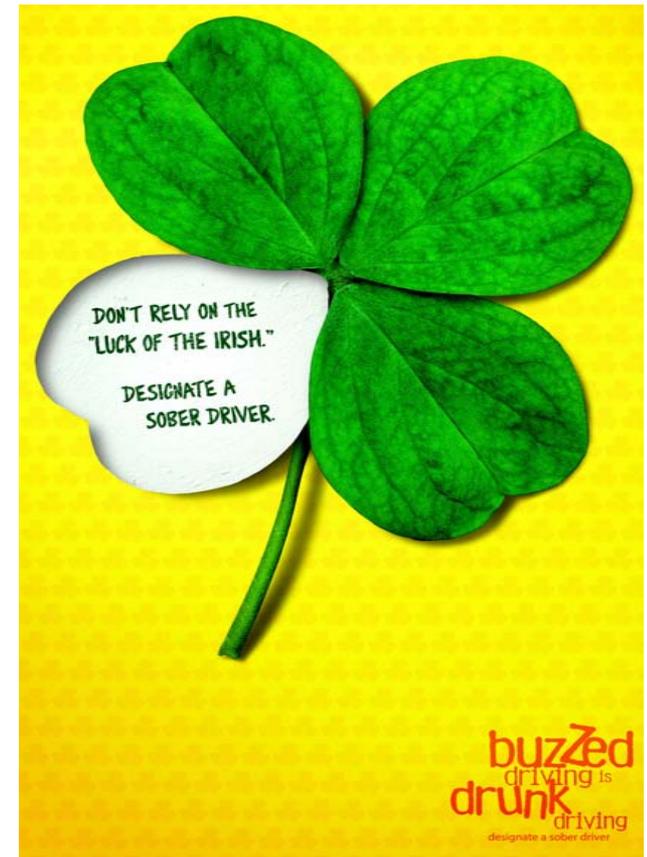
- Where do people underage normally get alcohol? Have you ever heard of parties not happening or ending early because they could not get alcohol?
- Do you think the police are aggressive about stopping underage drinking? Drunk driving?
- How do your friends/peers avoid the police and getting caught?
- What do parents tend to do when they find out their underage kids have been drinking?

Negative Consequences of Alcohol

- What unwanted consequences have you heard has happened to friends/peers while drinking (e.g. fighting, car accidents, etc.)?
- Have you heard of students saying they are going to quit drinking (at least for a while) as a result of bad experiences they've had? How often have you heard this from different friends/peers? Did they quit?

Prevention Programs and Media Campaigns

- What traffic safety/prevention programs or messages have you heard of?
- Which projects seemed to work, what effect did they have, and for which types of students?
How long did it last?
- Have you ever worked with law enforcement on a prevention or traffic safety program? How did it work?



Prevention Programs and Media Campaigns

- What kind of prevention or traffic safety projects do you think could benefit from student input and involvement?
- If an agency or organization wants to work with students, what advice would you give on recruiting students to help?
- Have you ever heard the message “Drink Responsibly?” Do you know who sponsors the message? Does this seem like an effective prevention message to you? Why or why not?

Prevention Programs and Media Campaigns

- Have you ever heard messages similar to the following: “Most high school students do not drink (84% of 8th Graders; 71.2% - 10th Grade; 56.9% - 12th Grade)”* or “Most college students do not drink and drive (87% of college students who drive one or more times per week)?”**
 - How believable do these messages seem?
- *Data was collected in a national study, Monitoring The Future, conducted by researchers at the University of Michigan.
- **Data was collected by the national College Alcohol Study conducted by Harvard.
- What could make the messages more believable to people your age?

Prevention Programs and Media Campaigns

- How can traffic safety/prevention programs and media campaigns do a better job of getting students' attention (messages, images, etc.)?
- How can they better relate to what students' are experiencing in your daily lives with driving, alcohol and other drugs?

One Last Chance...

- What do you think would surprise most older adults about people your age? Or what would you like for older adults to know about you and your friends that they don't seem to?
- What do you think is the biggest stereotype about people your age that is **ACTUALLY** true?

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE?

Teen Driving and Traffic Safety

Dawn Kepler

College Program Coordinator

Prevention Network

800.968.4968

dawnk@preventionnetwork.org

<http://preventionnetwork.org>

Office of Highway Safety Planning:

http://www.michigan.gov/msp/0,1607,7-123-1593_3504---,00.html