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The Hortonville Area School District, in partnership with our community, will provide ALL students with challenging and diverse opportunities to become enthusiastic lifelong learners who will build the future.

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Gage 12/03/10 01:31 PM

Age Twenty-One for Drinking

The drinking age should remain at twenty-one years of age due to the fact that many unhealthy and dangerous occurrences could happen if the age limit of eighteen became the new legal age of drinking. The drinking of alcohol is very hazardous because drinking alcohol dulls the senses and reaction time of people; this could as well affect the motor skills of people causing more motor accidents. As show on the website *Drinking Age ProCon.org* approximately 21,887 lives were saved when the MLDA brought the drinking age up to twenty-one from eighteen. Through the usage of too much alcohol and a lot peer pressure teenagers could make many poor choices such as: vunability to drugs and other substances, depression, and violence. The prefrontal cortex, the part of the brain used for decision making, does not mature until somewhere around the age of twenty-one to thirty and with the help of alcohol that dulls the senses; teenagers have a better chance of making mistakes and poor choices. In conclusion, the drinking age should sty at the age of twenty-one.

Hannah 12/03/10 01:21 PM

I believe that the drinking age should be the age of 21. That way young adults are given a few years to mature or think about good choices when or if they are drinking. Like not drinking while driving, not drinking for compition, or making sure their friends are not making bad decisions either. Also the pre frontal cortex would be fully or almost fully devolped. Lastly if it was lowered, I believe that there would be more car accidents and more lives being taken away.

Katie 12/03/10 01:18 PM

Drinking Age

I think that the drinking age is good where it's right now because all of the teenager/college students should be focusing on there career. Once they have there career then they could possibly chose to drink if they wanted to. Some facts about lowering the the drinking age could be, that the college or high school students have enough to worry about, driving is one of the big challenge of being a young adult, and trying to focus on school is hard enough.

Breanna 12/03/10 01:18 PM

I think that the age of drinking should not be lowered to age 18. I think this because if we lower it, then younger aged people may drink under the age of 18. I also think that the age of drinking should not be lowered because your brain is more developed then age 18. Teens are getting into this because older friends or stangers will give them alcohol or even drugs. Also, if you lower the age to 18 and they start to drink then they would not succeed in school or in life. But if you lower the age limite or not, they will still drink alcohol.

Anna(: 12/03/10 01:18 PM

I think the drinking age should stay at 21, becuae there are a lot of things that would get worse if they allowed younger teenagers to drink it. One, because most eighteen year olds are still in high school when they reach that age, and alcohol can stunt your growth. Two, because the parties and underage drinking situation would probably jsut get even worse, as would car accidents due to drunk driving. Statistics show that teenagers are more prone to binge drinking then than those over the age of 21, and a teenagers pre-frontal cortex (PFC) is not completely matured yet at that age. The reason that all of these underage drinking parties are happening is becuae when the law states that people over 21 can drink alcohol it shows maturity, and that makes younger kids want to do it. CHANGING THE DRINKING AGE IS NOT A GOOD IDEA! Too many people have already died due to intoxicated teenagers, and I don't think that changing that age line would help the cause.

Jasmine S 12/03/10 01:17 PM

I think the age of drinking should either remain the same or be increased. The drinking age should deffinatly not be lowered. In 2008 about 13,846 people died from drunk driving accidents, and the numbers are rising. If the drinking age is lowered think about how many more people would die from drunk driving accidents. Studies have also shown that your Prefrontal Cortex is not fully developed until around the age of 23-25 years old. Adults around these ages tend to make better decsisions because their brain is developed and they think more logically than teens. Think about it.

Emily (: 12/03/10 01:17 PM

I think that the drinking age should be 18. when alot of people turn 21 they do tons of drinking, but if it was lowered then they would be able to ease into it, and get comfortable with how much they should drink. alot of people drink underage anyway and if it was lowered they wouldnt get fines and get in trouble at house parties and what not. some people thinks its fun and cool to brake rules. so they go around drinking to feel the thrill of disobeying the rules. plus when you are 18 you are more mature and can make better decissions about your life.

Sarah 12/03/10 01:16 PM

I think the drinking age should stay at 21. In certain states, when they lowered their drinking age they found that there were more alcohol related car crashes. The earlier a person starts drinking, the more likely they will become an alcoholic and it will also harm a teen's developing brain. When teens drink alcohol, they are more likely to binge drink then people over 21. Since teens who drink have a higher chance of academic failure, it would negatively affect more student's overall academic performance.

Alli(: 12/03/10 01:15 PM

I think that the drinking age should be lowered to 18. it should be lowered because there would be a lot less fines for under age drinking. a lot of teens drink under age anyway. people wouldn't break the rules as much if it was lowered because they think

it is cool to drink, also when you are 18 you are usually more mature so i think that we could hadle it.

Kate 12/03/10 01:15 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay at 21. If you were allowed to drink at 18, that means some kids could still be in highschool at the time. This could effect a student's academic performance. Drinking at such a young age could cause kids to become depressed and they could eventually kill themselves. If you were to drink, there would be a higher chance of becoming an alcoholic later in your life. You could also effect your brain development since you are still growing when you are 18. When lawmakers raised the drinking age in 1984, the number of fatal traffic accidents was decreased to 18%. Every year, many people die in drunk driving accidents, so why should we add to that by lowering the drinking age? Altogether, I think that it would be much safer if we kept the drinking age at 21.

Matt 12/03/10 01:13 PM

I think that the drinking age should be lowered to 18 years of age. 18 is the age which you can be in the military, get married, move out, and start paying taxes, yet, you can't have a beer. A lot of teens that drink like to drink because it gives them the thrill of breaking the law. if it isn't against the law then less people will drink and when they do drrink it won't always be a beer bong. If you are going to be tried as an ault then you should be able to drink like one. They will legally be able to go out and have a beer with their friends. The drinking age should be lowered to 18.

max.D 12/03/10 01:13 PM

i think that the drinking age should be 18 because people drink under age all the time and they get finds but they just do it again and again. i also think that if your 18 you can take care of yourself. and drinking is heathyer then to

Taylor 12/03/10 01:13 PM

I think the drinking age should stay at twenty-one. If you lower the drinking age, teens will not do as well in school. Also teens are inexperienced drivers, just think of what would happen if they were drunk! When teens drink alcohol before they are twenty-one, they are more likely to binge drink. If teens drink earlier in their life, they are more likely to become an alcoholic. Raising the drinking age to twenty-one has saved the lives of 21,887 people from being killed by drunk drivers. Teens' brains are not fully developed, which means they don't make the best decision in life. Drinking can make these decision even more difficult for teens.

RACHEAL :) 12/03/10 01:12 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay the same. The earlier someone starts drinking alcohol, there is a greater chance that the peson will become an alcoholic later in life. Also, when teens drink alcohol, there is a higher chance that they will binge drink then the people above the age of 21. Teens are all going threw changes, which means allowing them to drink alcohol will most likely lead to: violence, depression and other social ills. So I personally think that the drinking age should stay 21. :D

Cory Harvey 12/03/10 01:11 PM

I don't think that the drinking age should be lowered. A good reason is that i remember Mr. Hall giving us a lecture about the brain not being developed until the age of 21. Drinking under age wrecks the brains judgement ability. Since we are constintley under going change, allowing us to cansme alchol can lead to drug abuse. When teens dinnk, they tend to binge drink. When they binge drink they become drunk and make poor decisions. Some which can result in injury or death.

~Cory~

Jadon 12/03/10 01:10 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay where it is. If people were drinking when they were 18, it would be just as bad as a 16 year old drinking, or possible even a 14 year old drinking. People dint fully develop until they are 21, which is exactly why that is what year the law is. It has been shown that since 1984, there have been less drunk driving crashes, but if they were at 18, I think the accidents would creep right back up again. I know that if i was age 18 and allowed to drink, I still wouldn't, and even if I did I would never drink much.

Afton 12/03/10 01:10 PM

I think the drinking age should remain 21.

Reasons:

1. most teens or young adults are not as smart as they are when they are 21 so they might make a bad decision to drink to much at one time.

2.your prefrontal cortex is not fully developed until you are 25 so even when you are 21 you still might not think it through fully.

3. if you drink when you are 18 you might make some decision that you won't be so proud of later in life.

4. although there are a lot of fines given out to underage drinking, I don't think it is necessary to lower the age just so the people that make those decisions are legal to do so.

Jacob 12/03/10 01:08 PM

I believe that the legal drinking age should be 18. The reason I say this is because college kids all over the country are drinking so why not save them a couple hundred dollars in their pocket instead of pay for all the fines. I mean at 18 kids are going into the military they're in their 2nd year of driving so they've taken on all that. Like it says on the website, taking the thrill away from drinking by getting rid of the law will cause the drinking rate to go down. Drinking in moderation is actually good for one's health. Although raising the drinking age to 21 made the drunk driving crash rate go down it still would be good in moderation.

Caity 12/02/10 05:03 PM

I think that the drinking age should be 21.

Reasons:

1.) Teens who drink are more likely to have academic failure.

2.) The earlier you start to drink, better chances you might become an alcoholic.

3.) Also, our brains do not fully mature until we are 24.

4.) There would be more car accidents in the United States.

5.) Massachusetts lowered their drinking age and the outcome was 18-20 year olds got in more car accidents.

Morgan: 12/02/10 02:10 PM

I think the drinking age should be lowered to 18. It should be changed to 18 because then adolescents can be taught to drink in moderation at a younger age. 18 is the age of maturity and I think that people that are 18 can handle drinking. If the law was changed to 18 it would take away the thrill that most young people get from breaking the law, and drinking underage. There are many reasons it should be lowered to 18.

Bailey 12/02/10 02:07 PM

I think that the drinking age of twenty-one, should stay the same because teens will be too dangerous while under the influence. When you're eighteen you're too "immature" to drink. Your brain called the pre frontal cortex is not fully developed. In all fifty states there is twenty nine states that allow underage drinking with a parental consent. In thirty states it's because of religious purposes and in thirteen states it's because of educational purposes.

Lili 12/02/10 02:04 PM

I think the drinking age should be changed to 18. Even though that 18 year olds are sometimes irresponsible, it should be let as a privilege. Just like a phone or computer. 18 is the age where people can move out of the house and can make their own decisions. At first they may take advantage of the privilege, but as they get in trouble they start to get more mature. That's my opinion, Thank you.

Kayla: 12/02/10 02:04 PM

I think that the drinking age should be 18 because people should be more mature by that age. When you're 18 you should be more mature. It depends how much you would drink. If you are with a family or if your family gives you something to drink that would be acceptable. That is my opinion.(:

Dylan c 12/02/10 02:04 PM

I think the drinking age should stay the same. It is fine how it is. If you lower the age more irresponsible people will drink irresponsibly. To maintain balance they should keep it the same.

Amanda :) <3 12/02/10 02:03 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay the same because at the age of 18 not everyone's brain is not completely grown. Not only that but people who start drinking at a young age have more of a risk of having problems. At the age of 21 some people are not ready to drink yet. So lowering that age would cause more car traffic problems. There would be way more problems at school and in public places if the age gets lowered. This is why I think the age level for drinking should stay the same.

Amanda

Annalia 12/02/10 02:02 PM

Against It

When a teenager turns 18, he or she graduates from High School. This is when the teen has to be

more responsible for their life by making more and more choices. However, this teen will have to face charges for either college fees or job fees by taking time to study, work hard, etc. One choice that could be made is drinking. By keeping the drinking age of 21, then drinking will not interfere with their job or college studies. By lowering it means risking drunken teens on the job or not sober enough to attend college classes. This could cause job loss or not being able to attend college anymore, which interfere's with their future and others as well. Drunk driving could cause many deaths and is a risk that should not be taken.

Jordan 12/02/10 02:02 PM

I do not believe that the drinking age should be lowered. The age it is at is a good place to keep it because that is when your PFC is fully developed. It will help you make more good decisions because as a teenager you may be put under peer pressure. As a teen drinking, you are way more likely to binge drink. Binge drinking is very harmful to your body and if abused, it can lead to brain damage. Overall, the drinking age should stay at the same age.

Toddalocool

Lucas 12/02/10 02:02 PM

I think the drinking age should be lowered to 18. Lowering the drinking age to 18 might take some of the thrill out of drinking if they are not doing it illegal. You can join the army at age 18. If you are considered old enough to die for your country you should be able to have a beer. Also the 18 year olds are still at home so their parents are able to teach them how to drink responsibly. Keeping the age at 21 sends the wrong message that drinking alcohol means your maturity.

Megan 12/02/10 02:01 PM

I think that 21 is a good age for drinking, and they should keep it as the age it's at. You fully grow your PCF at that age, and that would help you with making good choices. By lowering the drinking age there would probably be more crashes. There would be more crashes cause you aren't thinking straight and aren't making good decisions. Your PCF would help you to decide not to drink and drive. So it's good that the age for drinking is 21.

Madison 12/02/10 02:01 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay at 21 years old and not be lowered. I think that people would not be responsible and drink too much and cause accidents if the age was lowered to 18. By raising the legal age to 21, half of the deadly crashes of 18, 19, and 20 year olds were eliminated and a lot of lives have been saved. When some young adults drink, they drink way too much and can cause crashes and do damage. If the age is lowered, more kids will potentially get hurt and get hooked on bad drinking habits versus if the age was 21, their prefrontal cortexes will have had more time to develop. If we keep the legal drinking age at 21 or even make it higher; multiple lives will be saved.

Ashley 12/02/10 02:01 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay at twenty one. Having young adults drinking at a younger age makes the chances higher on becoming an alcoholic when they are in adulthood. The prefrontal cortex is also not developed - meaning that we don't make very good decisions yet. Think about all the more accidents under the influence. That would be a lot of NEW young drivers drinking because they can...and then driving. Making a decision to keep it at twenty one or make the age even higher will save a lot of people's lives. Since young adults are usually still in school at 18 there would be a great academic failure among this age group. There will always be people that make bad decisions, but we can save ourselves by lessening them.

kyle 12/02/10 02:00 PM

I think the drinking age should stay the same because if you are not 21 years of age you shouldn't drink beer because it can kill you. And if you did lower it to 18 years old then kids would bring beer to school. so i hope you don't change the drinking age to 18 years old. And if you keep it 21 years old then moms and dads would be very happy. so have fun with the drinking age.

Cory 12/02/10 02:00 PM

The drinking age should be lowered to 18. Pretty much all your other adult rights start when you are 18 so why shouldn't drinking be. In Europe and some other countries drinking starts at a very young age. Drinking would not be a very big deal because people wouldn't do it just for the thrill. Since drinking under 21 is illegal it is impossible to drink in a bar or restaurant so some people do it in houses at parties where no one is going to tell them they had to much.

Eric 12/02/10 01:59 PM

DRINKING AGE SHOULD BE 18

yes i know some of you are already disagreeing but there is some logic in this decision. Drinking age should be 18 but if you get pulled over driving the limit should be less than .08 or just keep them from driving even slightly drunk period. This way teens can get experience in not drinking and driving or other dangerous activities while not endangering themselves or others. Other teens will pressure them to drink and there will be more crashes but more people drinking means more crashes and not necessarily just because they are that age group. Starting at 18 you are officially an adult and should be able to make your own choices. Let eight-teen year olds drink but restrict them of the overdrinking until age 21. It is our right to make our own decisions and have a consequence for bad ones.

Seth 12/02/10 01:59 PM

I think the drinking age should be at the same age. The law right now is 21 and it should stay. People right now are sometimes thirteen while drinking. Teens are exposed to drinking at parties and I don't think they realize how much damage they are doing to themselves and to others around them. Well that's all for now folks come back later for my next topic.

Josee 12/02/10 01:58 PM

I think that the drinking age should not be lowered. Many people would disagree but if you think about it the drinking age is 21 for a reason. Teens usually get their driver's license at 16; even then at age 16 kids are being killed because they aren't responsible enough to respect the law. If drinking is allowed and encouraged at age 18 then not only are most teens still recklessly driving but now we have given them the privilege of drinking. In high school many teens are pressured to do a lot of things. If drinking at age 18 is allowed then I think that many teens are going to be pressured to not just have one drink but have more than they should and then drive home from some party or where ever they are at. If you are asked what do you think about this, do me a favor and think about the safety and the thing that I stated. Remember there is a first for everything and since mostly everyone else waited so can we and the ones ahead and behind us.

---Thank you---

Olivia 12/02/10 01:58 PM

I think the drinking age should be stayed the same. Twenty one is a good age for people to start drinking. I believe there are already enough drinking accidents, imagine if we had 14 year olds drinking running around. Or even 16 year olds, they would try to drive and cause even more accidents. Our PFC isn't matured yet, neither are we so why would you give us alcohol, that'd be terrible. You could grow as an alcoholic, and as a twenty one year old your more mature... and would understand better.

[: toodaloo.

Jonny 12/02/10 01:58 PM

I think the drinking age should stay the same. The drivers do not have enough driving experience. In states that the drinking age is 18, there has been an increase in accidents. If there was a lower drinking age there will be more accidents than we already have. People at the age of 18, their prefrontal cortex is not yet developed yet. They wouldn't make good decisions because of that. The failure rate in school has gone up when the drinking age is 18. It wouldn't be healthy for young people's liver. The earlier people start drinking raises the chances of them being alcoholics. I believe that the drinking age should stay the same.

maddy :) 12/02/10 01:58 PM

The drinking age should not be lowered. There are multiple reasons why the drinking age should stay 21. One reason is that if people drink when they are 18, they are more likely to get in an alcohol-related car crash. Drinking when they are 18 makes them more vulnerable to drugs, depression, and violence. You are more prone to academic failure and performance. The earlier a person starts drinking, the more prone they are to becoming an alcoholic later in life. The drinking age should stay 21. :) :(:)

kaila 12/02/10 01:57 PM

I think the drinking age should stay 21. For any one who thinks the drinking age should be any lower like 18, shame on them!!! :(21 is a good age to start drinking because at that age you should finally be mature to handle drinking. Also people should know that when you drink your liver has to take care of it, so as you grow your liver grows so it will be easier to get rid of alcohol.

cody 12/02/10 01:56 PM

I think it should stay the same because the little kids don't have fully developed brains. Because if they were to change it to a lower age then the little kids' brains would get damaged. Then they would have more deaths from alcohol poisoning.

Kassidy 12/02/10 01:53 PM

The drinking age should stay the same. There are way too many drunk drivers on the road and it's not right. People say that your brain fully develops when you are 21 so the law should keep that the drinking age. But I also think there should be more of a consequence for drinking and driving. When you first get caught you get a 1st offense, you should be arrested right away, it gives you more of a reason not to ever do it again than if you just get an offense.

noah p 12/02/10 01:15 PM

my view on this subject is as follows: Sure if the legal drinking age brought down to 18 then drinking will be less of a taboo and teens will not have to hide their habits but its then making a taboo accepted and then harming yourself will also be a good thing so tell me do you want either of those? The prefrontal cortex is not fully developed untill the age of 21 and that is why the drinking age is 21 so if there are any benefits to lowering the drinking age health is not include. Personaly my views are that drinking should be banned all together buecause it is harmful and completely pointless.

Noah 12/02/10 01:15 PM

I think that the MLDA should STAY at 21. The reason for this is that the prefrontal cortex is not fully developed and most teens **WILL NOT BE BIOLOGICALLY ABLE TO MAKE AS GOOD OF DECISIONS AS THOSE OVER THE AGE OF 21**. However, those under 21 need to be taught to drink alcohol **IN MODERATION, RATHER THAN TOTAL ELIMINATION**, which is unrealistic. **When teens are not taught to drink in moderation, they end up binge drinking when they do consume alcohol**.

Nicole 12/02/10 01:15 PM

Smart drinking is a great responsibility, so the drinking age should, therefore, stay at 21 rather than 18. When teens officially become adults at 18, they are often so caught up in the privileges and freedoms that they take advantage of them and use them irresponsibly. I don't think adding drinking to that list of privileges is a good idea because these new adults already have to figure out the new world of living on their own and making difficult choices that it is easy to make bad ones. Not to mention all of the health risks drinking has especially on young people. Drinking is not healthy for a growing mind, and most 18 year-olds are in college. Drinking should not be allowed for 18 year-old children because they are not ready for the responsibility.

Mariah 12/02/10 01:13 PM

I think the drinking age should stay at the age of 21. There are already way to many drunk drivers out there and there doesn't need to be any more. Plus, if kids start drinking earlier they will be more focused on that and probably won't do as good in school. Also, kids who start drinking younger are more likely to binge drink then those who start drinking later. The earlier you start drinking alcohol the more of a chance you have of becoming an alcoholic. Also, at the age 18 your body is still not fully developed so drinking makes it even harder on your body. Keep the drinking age to 21!

Chris 12/02/10 01:12 PM

I believe that the drinking age should stay at 21. I think that because there are all ready to many car crases in todays society. Teen brains aren't yet fully developed so they would start to destroy their brains earlier than they should. They also have a higher chance of acedemic failure. It is also more likely that they would start doing drugs.

Kylie 12/02/10 01:12 PM

It is not safe to allow 18 year olds to begin drinking as they enter adulthood. Though they are technically adults, their brains are not fully developed yet, and drinking could seriously damage them. 18 year olds are not yet mature enough to be responsible with their own health, and are more likely to participate in binge drinking and drunk driving. States that have attempted to lower the drinking age have regretted it as their alcohol related car crashes increased greatly, risking the lives of many people. Also, if a person begins drinking at an earlier age, they are more likely to become an alcoholic. This will greatly affect their future along with destroying their potential as happy and successful human beings.

Ricky 12/02/10 01:11 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay at 21. At 21 years old people are more developed than 18 year olds. At 18 you will more likely damage your brain. When teens drink they will have an academic failure. So they won't be able to get good grades to get a good job. If teens drink they will be more willing to do the stuff that people shouldn't normally do like drugs. There is less drunk driving at the age of 21 and less people are killed than there were when the age was 18.

Rachel 12/02/10 01:11 PM

I believe that the drinking age should stay at 21. If the age would go lower there would be even more drunk drivers than there is right now, and if that happen imagine how many people would die a year just from drunk drivers. Also, teenagers start driving at the age 16, that is only 2 years after they start driving they would be able to drink. That means that they are most likely not the most experienced drivers on the road. Another reason is that most teenagers under 21 are more likley to binge drink than people who are the age 21. Also, if the age of drinking is 18 most kids will be in high school yet and this may affect their academic activities and their grades. The biggest reason is

that when kids start drinking at a younger age than 21 they are more likely to become an alcoholic sometime in their life. This drunk driving stuff is already a big issue, lets not make it any bigger.

Becka 12/02/10 01:10 PM

I think the drinking age should stay the same age of 21. If the age 18 was the drinking age, there would be more drunk drivers, because 18 year old drivers are not always the most responsible. And at the age of 18 their PFC is not fully developed. there are already enough drunk drivers getting in accidents and even killing people, and we do not need more accidents due to drunk drivers. If teenagers are allowed to drink at the age of 18, due to their lack of brain usage and killing of their brain cells from the alcohol will negatively affect their school work and they will have a higher chance of academic failure. The reason other countries allow younger age of drinking is because they do not let people drive until a later age. i think the drinking age should stay the same age of 21.

Amanda 12/02/10 01:10 PM

I think it would be ok if the drinking age was lowered to 18. When you are 18 years old, you are old enough to be a soldier, which includes possibly dying for your country. You also have your responsibilities of voting, choosing a career, and getting married. If you are old enough to do these things, especially joining the military, you should be trusted to drink as well. If you drink responsibly, and don't drive drunk, you should be trusted to drink at eighteen.

Kendra 12/02/10 01:09 PM

I believe that the drinking age should stay the same. Ever since the MLDA age limit was raised to 21, accidents in the age group of 18-20 decreased by 13%. That many not seem like much, but 21,887 lives were saved ever since! Alcohol makes teens even more vulnerable to peer pressure and other unhealthy things as well. Also, it's been proven that if i person starts drinking early on in life, they have a greater chance of becoming an alcoholic later in life.

Bnnett 12/02/10 01:09 PM

I think the drinking age should stay at 21. Most PFC don't mature until you are 21 so you could screw it up. Also kids are in the highlight of there highschool or college classes. another reason why is we already have enough drunk drivers in our state. WI is one of the highest drunk driving states. Most of the people who drink before they are 21 screw up there life too.

Cole 12/02/10 01:09 PM

I think the drinking age should stay the same. There is already a ton of accidents caused by drunk driving. Most teenager's PFC isn't fully developed and could damage parts of the brain. This will cause more deaths since 1970 to 1975. In that time period, most of the crashes were from the 18 to 20 age group. Also, since raising the age to 21, they saved 13% of the 18 to 20 population just by raising the drinking age. I would not want to have the drinking age back at 18.

chris e. 12/02/10 01:05 PM

i think that the drinking age should stay the same because if teens were drinking and then driving it would be worse than if an adult were. also the pre frontal cortex is not fully developed and it would be horrible for the brain if you were an alcoholic before the age of 21.

Connor 12/02/10 01:04 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay the same. Lowering it will only cause more people to do drink at young ages. Anyway, some kids will still be in school for a while after turning 18 and could go to school under the influence and it would be legal. Some students would not graduate because of this reason. how are you supposed to graduate when your always drunk at school?

Mason 12/02/10 01:04 PM

I believe that the drinking age should stay at 21. 18-21 are some of the most important years of your life, when you go to college and potentially graduate. Why ruin these years by drinking? Changing the age to 18 would increase the number of alcohol related crashes. Some 18 year olds are not fully developed, so their body can't handle much alcohol. This is why I believe that the drinking age should remain at 21.

Nigel 12/02/10 01:02 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay the same as age 21. If the age was lowered than there would be more crashes because of drunk teens not knowing what they are doing. Teens already drink under the age and try to hide it, but they still think they are well enough to drive home. I think that the age of drinking should stay to 21 because the brain in a teens mind isn't fully developed until age 21. If it stays the same, I believe teens will not drink until they are of age.

Brandon 12/01/10 02:47 PM

I think that the legal drinkin age should stay the same not go down to eight-teen years old. Here is a couple of reasons why I think that. First There probably be more car accidents in the United States, that would make mor killings or deaths. Secondly some of this drinking for younger teens would mean that some might have a higher chance of academic failiure, Which means allowing teens to drink will negatively affect more students' academic performance. And lastly if the drinking age was to go to eight-teen there would be a greater chance that they would become an alcoholic later in life, suffering negative physical withdrawal symptoms, and harming his/her brain during its development. So I hope that the drinking age stays at twenty-one.

Shelby 12/01/10 02:05 PM

I think the age for drinking should stay the sam, the reason why i think that is because it can harm teens and it also is an influence to teens. some facts i learned is that between 970 to 1975 29 states lowered their minimum legal frinking age is from 21, 18, 19 or 20 etc) . I think they should keep it at 21 because people mature more at that age.

Also the health cautions are harmfull because the earlier a person begins alcohol use, the greater the chances are of being an alcoholic.

The more u drink the more teens think to appear more mature which leads to consume more drinking which is not right.

Teens should focus more on school work and save money for college and not on alcohol, non drinking can help reeduce injuries in car accidents and brain problems as well as health. You never know what can happen and alcohol is addicting. But being an adult when you turn 18 , you should have the right to drink it is your life and responsibility but i still agree with being 21 for health reasons and less chance of harming to

people.

We should have our rights to be able to learn how to have safe drinking and take responsibilities in what we do.

Kyla 12/01/10 02:04 PM

They should keep the drinking age at 21 because.....

1. If they lower the age then there will be more drinking related car crashes. (it is proven)
2. current MLDA laws set at 21 are working because the percentage of underage drinkers has decreased since 1984. (that's good because there are less deaths. if you listen to the news or radio's, they say that the people of wisconsin are trying to make less deaths happen on our roads.)
3. when the teens drink alcohol they are more likely to binge drink. witch if they have school the next day the alcohol will give a negative academic performances.
4. the reason that other countries let the younger people drink is because the dont start driving until a later age so they dont have as many drunk drivers. there would be more people under the influence of alcohol in the u.s. than other countries.

that's why i think that it is better to keep the drinking age at 21.

Dustin 12/01/10 02:04 PM

I think the drinking age should be lowered to the age 18 because most 18 year olds drink any ways, like in collage and at high school parties. Just like when they turn 18 they take responsibility for their lives like what career they want, if they want to go to the army, and they should be able to make decisions about alcohol consumption. If you lower the drinking age you take away the thrill they get by breaking the law and they wont drink as much. When teens drink they some times feel more mature because they are doing something that only older people are supposed to do. Drinking in moderation can also be good for your health even if their age is 18-20. So thats why the drinking should be lowered to 18.

Michelle 12/01/10 02:04 PM

they are most likely to binge drink so i dont think its so good of an idea to drink under 21 because it is bad for you. And you would probably die before you get to old! medical reasons to so dont do it or you will get caught!

SeanK 12/01/10 02:03 PM

I believe that the drinking age should be lowered to 18. Teens look at drinking for being mature so teens with drink and feel mature. Lowering the drinking would make alcohol less of a taboo, teens would feel that rush of breaking the law. If you keep the drinking age at 21 more young adults with die, because alcohol is dangerous to all of us. Turning 18 gives you adulthood to make your own decisions you should have the right to be able to drink.

Garrett P 12/01/10 02:03 PM

i think it should be lowered to age 18. It should be lowered because that when u become a adult. when your 18 you can get married, join the army, you can vote, and you can move out of your parents house. if its get lowered it would take away the thrill of breaking the law. Drinking in moderation is good to one's health, including people aged 18-20 years old.

DKramer 12/01/10 02:03 PM

I think that the drinking age for beer and other products should be 18, and the age for hard liquor should be 21. 13% of high schoolers have drunk alcohol at highschool parties. The accidents that you hear about are from 21 year old and older who drank too much. Just make it 18 and 21 just like a long time ago. If you don't believe me about the accidents and percentage go online to google.

Jordan P 12/01/10 02:02 PM

I think it should stay at 21. Your Pre Frontal Cortex isn't fully developed until you are 18-24. Your pre frontal is the part of your brain that makes the decision. So if your drunk at a bar you might decide to drunk drive. It may lower a students academic grade if you drink when your 18 or lower. so a child might have a higher chance at dropping out of college or high school. you might get a addiction to alcohol and cause you to have a temper.

Nick G 12/01/10 02:02 PM

I think the age should be lowered to the age 19 years old. You only a least drink a few everyday. They lower the amount of Drugs the people are doing. Adults should not drink, and not talk on the phone in the car why'll they are driving at night or day.

Carissa O 12/01/10 02:02 PM

I think that people at 18 should not be able to drink because of the fact that their prefrontal cortex is not fully developed yet. If teens under the age of twenty one would binge drink and then, that would damage their brain cells. The less brain cells who have the more likely you are to do more bad things like drugs and stuff. Teens that drink are more prone to have an academic failure. I think if your twenty one your more mature then when your eight-teen.

Tara 12/01/10 02:01 PM

I think the drinking age should go down to 18 because when you are 18 you have the right to drink because you are now an adult and you don't have to live at home and you can get married and live on your own. When you are 18 you get your own banking account and everything. People will be smart about alcohol and will try to act responsibly. You should be able to drink when you are an adult and that is 18. 21 is way to old and you

are probably married and everything and just now you get to drink alcohol that's dumb 21 is way to old. Drinking at moderation is good for one's health actually including people to 18-21 and even younger. That is why the drinking age should be lower.

Tylor Valeri 12/01/10 02:01 PM

I think the drinking age should stay at 21 because. States that previously lowered the drinking age to 18, such as Massachusetts, Michigan and Maine experienced an increase in alcohol-related crashes among the 18 to 20 age group. Raising the MLDA back to 21 has decreased the percentage of fatal traffic accidents for those between 18 and 20 by 13% and has saved approximately 21,887. Current MLDA laws set at 21 are working because the percentage of underage drinkers has decreased since 1984. Since teens who drink alcohol have a higher chance of academic failure, allowing teens to drink will negatively affect more students' academic performance. The earlier a person begins alcohol use, the greater the chances are of that person becoming an alcoholic later in life, suffering negative physical withdrawal symptoms, and harming his/her brain during its development.

Mackenzi 12/01/10 02:00 PM

The drinking age should stay as is.

We already have enough young drinkers and drivers on our streets and we do NOT need any more!!!

Reasons why to keep the drinking age as is...

1. Your brain doesn't start to develop till 21-22.
2. The earlier a person starts to drink the better chance of that person becoming an alcoholic.
3. Academic issues are also a concern, if young teens start to drink the more the teens will quit their academic interest and get drunk.
4. Teens also are NOT AS SMART as older people, so if the younger people start drinking the more they will binge drink. <not knowing all the consequences>.
5. Also because of the peer pressure we are put under everyday it will cause a lot of kids to do drugs and other bad things.

Kaitlin L. 12/01/10 02:00 PM

They should change the drinking age to 18 and we should keep it at 21:

It is legal to drink if parents are around even if you're not 18, teens want to consume alcohol to appear mature. The age 18 is the "age of majority," which generally entails having the rights and responsibilities of adulthood. Alabama (age 19), Mississippi (21), and Nebraska (age 19) are three states that have an "age of majority" above 18, although certain rights such as the right to vote remain at 18 in these states. For the drinking age thing 29 states in the USA lower it under the age of 18. I think if parents are around 16-year-olds won't drink enough and if they aren't around 16-year-olds would overdo the drinking.

Jessica 12/01/10 02:00 PM

The legal drinking age should be lowered back down to 18 because it wouldn't be illegal and then most teens wouldn't think it's as "fun" because they don't feel rebellious.

Also if 18 is the age you become an adult and are supposed to make other decisions. Then they should be able to make their own decision on alcohol too.

I also think that if the teens don't have to get home otherwise they'd be caught then they wouldn't have to drive as fast, or at all, to get home and then there would be less accidents.

I think that if parents are supervising the drinking then being able to drink at 18 would be ok.

Alex T 12/01/10 01:59 PM

I believe the drinking age should stay at 21 because it is safer for people on the roads. Also allowing teens to drink decreases their chance of succeeding in school. The earlier a person starts drinking increases the chance of becoming an alcoholic later, also harming their brains. If more teens started drinking earlier there would be less likely to get into a good college and get a good job later in their life. With less people driving under the influence the safer the roads are for people who are responsible enough not to drink.

Allyssa S. 12/01/10 01:59 PM

If you were to lower the drinking age more people would drink. Also there would more likely be more drinking and driving related accidents because younger people will be drinking and driving. Also many more people may die of drinking too much alcohol because most people under the age of 21 are not responsible enough to drink appropriate amounts. There is also the increase of risk that if younger people start drinking they will have a higher risk of becoming an alcoholic. That's why I believe the drinking age should not be changed,

Mia H 12/01/10 01:58 PM

I think the drinking age should stay 21 because it's less likely for you to get hurt. Also Teenager car accidents have increased. Keeping the drinking age at 21 also gets teens to consume alcohol at a young age. All 50 US states have set their minimum drinking age to 21. Since teens who drink alcohol have a higher chance of academic failure. Plus

allowing teens to drink will negatively affect more students' academic performance. American teens are much more likely to drive under the influence of alcohol if the drinking age were lowered. The earlier a person begins alcohol use, the greater the chances are of that person becoming an alcoholic.

Kayla D. 12/01/10 01:58 PM

Against

If you would lower the drinking age more people would be drunk. It would not be safe on the roads with more people dinking and driving they are more likely t binge drink than people aboive the age 21. The earlier a person begins alchol use the greater the chances are of that person becomieing an alcholic later in life. Your should have to be 21 to drink beacuse Massachusetes lowered thei drinking age and their outcome was more car crashes within the ages of 18-20.

Brandon 12/01/10 01:58 PM

Turning 18 entails receiving the rights and responsibilities of adulthood to vote, serve on juries, get married, sign contracts, join the military--which includes taking on the responsibilities of life and death--and be prosecuted as adults. Adults from the age of 18 should therefore also be trusted to make decisions about alcohol consumption.

Keeping the drinking age at 21 sends the wrong message that alcohol consumption represents maturity, which leads teens to want to consume alcohol to appear mature. Lowering the drinking age would help dispel this misconception.

Since teens who drink alcohol have a higher chance of academic failure, allowing teens to drink will negatively affect more students' academic performance.

I think the drinking age should go down because it will give a lesson for those who drink and get messed up. Older people drink makin young people want to be like them, so if you lower it they might not want it so bad. it will affect them because they were not using there head and thinking about it teaching them a lesson.

Brielle H. 12/01/10 01:58 PM

I think the drinking age should stay 21 because if we change it to 18 then there will be more drinking and driving acciedents. 18 year olds are not as developed as 21 year olds and they wouldnt be able to handle it as well. The younger you are when you begin to drink the higher chance it is for you to be an alcoholic. If we do lower the drinking age the higher chance it is for teens to be drinking and driving. When teens begin to drink they are most likely to be binge drinking.

BRIANA M: 12/01/10 01:58 PM

AGAiNST iT

If you lower the drinking age it can cause more damage to Kid's & Teenagers heads. It will mess with their brain& acdemic skills. They won't learn as much as they should. Turning 18 gives you therights and responsibilities of adulthood to vote, serve on juries, get married, sign contracts, and join the military. So there for they think they can drink at 18 because they are an Adult. If you start drinking earlier in age it will cause brain damage in the future and you can turn out to be a Alcohoilic. Alcohoilic's turn into be abusive & mean. Mostly when teen's drink they end up Binge Drinking.

Collin S 12/01/10 01:58 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay the same. The states that have a lower drinking age have more car crashes involving people from the ages 18-20. Teens are more likely to binge drink and abuse alcohol than people who are over age 21. Teens who drink alcohol also have a higher chance of acedemic failur. The earlier the person begins to drink the more likley that person will be and

alcoholic.

Sarah 12/01/10 01:56 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay at 21 because if we have the law changed to 18, there have been more and more crashes on the road. Because they are under a lot of pure presher some teens are drinking uncontollably. it could magerly inger a teens academic performance majorly!

Harrison 12/01/10 01:54 PM

I believe that the driking age should be atleast 21 for many reasons. such as: some states that have changed the law from 21 to 18 had an increase in alcohol-related crashes among the 18 to 20 aged people. Allowing teens to drink will negatively affect more students' academic performance, according to studies. and the earlier a person begins alcohol use, the greater the chances are of that person becoming an alcoholic later in life. so, there are my 3 reasons in how lowering the drinkin age isnt such a great idea.

Gerard 12/01/10 01:22 PM

I think it should go a little higher because a lot of times you see 21 year olds playing beer pong and usually passout and some times die from choking on there vomitt. I think a lot of young adults(21)make some bad choises mostly alcohla. It might even lower the car crashes of drunk driving. A lot of the time you see young adults drinking a lot because there freinds are their and the freinds encourage and he or she doesn't want to look bad. So they end up getting drunk, i personaly hope that i dont ever take a drink of alcohla in my life!!!!!!

Jordan 12/01/10 01:17 PM

If somebody asked me what my opinion was on lowering the drinking age, I would instantly say DON'T DO IT!!!! But after reviewing some info, I would actually change my answer to yes, do it. The reason why I changed my mind was because I learned that raising the drinking age to 21 in the 1980s did not decrease the average amount of fatalities cause by drunk driving as much as in Europe, where the drinking age is lower than 21. I also discovered that even though the minimum is 21 years of age, many people still under-age drink on private primises with parental consent. Since turning 18 gives you all of the rights of an adult, it makes sense to allow 18 year olds to be ables to drink so they can be trusted to make alcohol decisions. I even found out that young people would lose the thrill of breaking the law if it was no longer illegal to drink at 18 years of age. these are some reasons why I, a person very much agaist alcohol, changed my mind. <((((>< Fishy!

Kromenaker 12/01/10 01:17 PM

Well, I have not really conidered drinking age very much, though I have nothing to complain about with the current drinking age of 21, and I therefore will argue that the current age should remain the drinking age in all states. I will now proceed to back up my arguments with facts. If we were to change the current drinking age from 21 to 18, we would either have to change the National Minimum Drinking Age Act of 1984 or we would lose millions in federal highway funds. Also, some states did lower their drinking age before 1984 and they found that there was an increase in alcohol related crashes. When they changed their drinking age back to 21, there was a decrease in the amount of fatal traffic accidents. This shows that lowering the drinking age can increase the amount of car accidents. Also, since the Act of 1984, there have been less underage drinkers. This evidence should be enough to keep the drinking age where it is.

Alissa 12/01/10 01:16 PM

Hello. I think that the drinking age should stay the same because scientist have proven that there have been less car accidents since the drinking age was moved back up to 21. Also some peoples brains are not totally developed at age 18 so they could very well over drink and there body would take it harder on them then if there brains were fully grown.Because teens are simultaneously undergoing physical changes, it may make us more vulnerable to drug and make us do violent thinks that we didn't mean to do. Also everyone sees underaged drinkers/smokers on the streets and if it is lowered then the 15/16 year olds will start it up. In other terms it may not be right but LOTS of people don't ALWAYS follow the laws. So just for everyones safety it should stay the same also. The earlier the person starts drinking the greater the chances of them to become an alcoholic later in life. Then everytime they get mad at someone where are they gonna turn. Singers state that the more you drink the more you forget it there lyrics all of the time too, so if you did something that upset you you could get it off your mind at everyone will forget about it. But the real question is... How much alcohol does it take to make you forget about it... and would whatever you want to forget be worth losing your life for? That's your choice!

Austin 12/01/10 01:14 PM

I Think That the drinking age should be lowered to 18! When the drinking age is 21 and you don't serve alcohol to 18 year olds many times that makes them drink in private and thats when they get in trouble. If the drinking age is lowered then that takes away the thrill of breaking the law so they would drink it more responsible. Many 18-20 year olds feel like they are being descriminated by the drinking age. Those are some reasons why i think the drinking age should be changed!

Allison B. =) 12/01/10 01:13 PM

I think that the age for drinking should stay the same because of the harmful effects in can have on you when you drink at 18. For example, when teens drink alcohol, they are more at risk of academic faliure. When they are not good in school, they are not focused and have lower self esteems. Also, they are at higher risk of getting in car crashes or accidents related with drinking. They can be less careful in situations, and more likely to make bad desicions. Because teens are going through stress, like peer pressure, drinking can make them even more stressed while going through tough situations. That is why drinking should not be lowered to the age of 18.

maddie2 12/01/10 01:12 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay the same because if you lower it then younger kids will drink and it will hurt there bodys. I think that they should not allow parents to give there children beer at bars,and reastaurants. The earlier a person starts to drink the bigger chance they have to be an alcoholic.It would be bad also because if they lower the age of drinking there is a bigger chance of car crashes. This is what i think about lowering the age of drinking.

Jake 12/01/10 01:11 PM

I think that the drinking should stay at the age of 21. One reason is that teens academic performance

will get worst. Teens will be more vulnerable to drug and violence. Another reason is that states that lower the age have an increased in alcohol related car crashes between the ages of 18 to 20 years old. My last reason is that the earlier a person begins alcohol use, the greater the chances are of that person becoming an alcoholic later in life.

Drew 12/01/10 01:11 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay the same because the Pre Frontle Cortex is not developed until the age of 21. The ealier a person under 18 starts drinking the greater chances are of that person becaoming an alcoholic later in life. Teens who drink alchohol have a higher of academic failure, which might make the teens depressed. When teens drink alcohol they are more likely to binge drink. Teens shouldn't drink because they might go to school drunk and hurt themselves of other kids. There would also probably be more drunk driving accidents if the drinking age was lowered.

Meg 12/01/10 01:11 PM

In my opinion, the legal drinking age should stay at 21. If they are under 21, they havn't reached an age where their brain is developed enough to help them drink alcohol responsibly, and they are more likely to harm or even kill themselves and others. In states that have previously lowered the drinking age to 18, there have been more alcohol related crashes in the 18-20 age group. I also think if you lower the drinking age, then the age of underage drinkers will also lower and you will have even younger kids drinking. As you can see, there are many bad things that could happen if you lower the drinking age, and I think it should stay right where it is.

Derek 12/01/10 01:10 PM

I think that the drinking age should lower to 18. People's brains usually finish maturing at 18 and sometimes earlier. Setting the age at 21 represents maturity, and kids might think that drinking a lot when they're 21 might make them look mature. It is better to teach teenagers to drink resposibly when they are younger than when they are older. When you are 18 you have the responsibility of getting married, serving on a jury, voting, and siging contracts. If people were responsible and only drank a little bit, then it would be all right.

Jessica1 12/01/10 01:10 PM

I think that the legal drinking age should stay at 21. One reason why I think this is that it should stay this way is that when Massaxhussets, Michiagan, and Maine lowered their legal drinking age to 18 the number of drunk driving in kids ages 18-20 increased. When the MLDA raised it back to 21 the percentage of deaths from drunk driving in kids ages 18-20 decreased by 13% and saved approximately 21,887 lives. I also think this because teens are undergoing physical change and drinking alcohol can make them more likley to have depression or violence. The last reason why I think that the legal drinking age should be 21 is that when teens drink alcohol they are more likely to binge drink. This could be very dangerous to teens and they could end up killing themselves.

ashton 12/01/10 01:09 PM

I think that the drinking age should stay the same because you are much more mature. If we lowered the drinking age there would be more crashes form drunk driving. when teens drink alcohol they are more likely to binge drink than people over the age of 21. the earlier a person begins alcohol use the greater the chances are of that person becoming an alcoholic later in life. They would suffer negative physical withdrawal symptoms, and harming his or her brain during its development. So I believe that it is a bad idea to changed the drinking age to 18.

Adam 12/01/10 01:09 PM

The drinking are should be lowered because if your 18 and can vote and considered an adult you should be able to drink. the teens think they should just drink at a party if they aren't alowed to get beer at a bar. Drinking in moderation is good for health even from 18-20. This is what i think about the drinking age.

jessica 2 12/01/10 01:08 PM

i think that the age for drinking should stay that same for many reasons. One reason is because people who are 18 19 and 20, who are under-aged are already drinking even when they shouldn't be, so if we lower the age to 18 then people who are like 15 and 16 are going to start drinking to because they are only 2ish years younger than the new drinking age but if we kept it at 21 then they would be 5 years to young and they know thats not right. also if we lower that drinking age people who are 17-18 years old are still not very mature so they would be more prone to binge drinking and beer pong, thus causing more accidents. And lastley why they should not lower the drinking age is because the earlier a person begins achohol use, the greater the chances are of that person becoming an alcoholic later in life, suffering negative physical withdrawal symptoms, and harming his/her brain during its development.

casey 12/01/10 01:07 PM

I think that the drinking age should be lowered because at age 18 you are considered an adult with rights to vote. If you can't retain yourself from drinking too much or you can't stop yourself from drinking and driving then you shouldn't be considered an adult with rights. Especialy the fact that at 18, you are supposed to be more mature and handle more responsibilities.

Heather 12/01/10 01:06 PM

I believe that the drinking age should stay at 21. There are already enough drunk drivers. Just think how many more drunk drivers there would be if the age got lowered. If teens were able to drink, they would be more likely to binge drink. As a teen, the preferential cortex is not fully developed yet. Teens who drink have a higher chance of academic failure. Please keep the drinking age at 21!

maddie1 12/01/10 01:06 PM

What I think about the drinking age is that it should stay the same. If you

lower the age of kids being able to drink, there will most likely be more drunk drivers because the younger the driver they not know and take advantage of the drinking age. They are less experienced in driving and still have a lot of things to learn. The more the drivers have experience driving the more likely they will have to have street smarts. Plus the older they are the take drinking more seriously. Yes, it is bad that the kids then think they can drink under-age but if you move the age, all the kids will do is keep lowering when they start underage drinking, which is just as bad. so the more you lower the drinking age the younger the kids will start drinking and that is even worse is'nt it?

Mrs. Gorwitz 11/30/10 02:51 PM

Should the drinking age be lowered to 18 or should it stay at the current age of 21? Write 5 sentences using facts to support your opinion. I have included a website with facts that you will need to include in your blog entry. Police Liason Officer Bahr will be reading this blog and also coming to our next class to discuss this topic and other topics relating to drinking. Here is the website that you will need to use. drinkingage.procon.org/

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