

**Supplementary
Submission
No 2a**

PROVISION OF ALCOHOL TO MINORS

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

SOCIAL POLICY COMMITTEE

PROVISION OF ALCOHOL TO MINORS: DISCUSSION PAPER

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List of proposed recommendations

The purpose of this paper is to seek feedback from inquiry participants on proposals for reform that have been raised during the Inquiry into the provision of alcohol to minors. The Committee is seeking feedback from inquiry participants and interested stakeholders by 15 July 2013 in response to the proposed recommendations and questions below.

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 1 No Alcohol for minors. 5

That the *Liquor Act 2007* be amended to provide that parents, guardians and responsible adults must supply alcohol to minors in a manner that is consistent with responsible supervision.

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 2 No alcohol for minors. 5

That the *Liquor Act 2007* be amended to specify factors to be considered in determining whether supply of alcohol to a minor by a parent or guardian is consistent with responsible supervision, including:

A Minor is under 15 (Fifteen) yrs of age.

- the minor's age
- whether the adult is drunk
- whether the minor is drunk
- whether the minor is consuming the alcohol with food
- whether the adult is responsibly supervising the minor's consumption of the alcohol
- the quantity and type of alcohol, and the time period over which it is supplied.

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 2 - QUESTION No alcohol for minors. 5

Should there be a minimum age limit for the supply of alcohol to minors by parents and guardians? If so, what should the age limit be?

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 3 - QUESTION No alcohol for minors 6

Should section 117(4) of the *Liquor Act 2007*, which enables parents and guardians to supply alcohol to minors, be removed or retained?

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 4 - QUESTION No alcohol for minors. 7

Should the defence against prosecution in section 117(5) of the *Liquor Act 2007*, which enables parents and guardians to authorise other adults to supply alcohol to their child, be removed or retained?

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 4 - QUESTION No alcohol for minors. 9

If it is retained, should authorisation for supplying alcohol to a minor be required to be in writing? How else could the current provisions be improved?

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 5 - QUESTION \$500.00 Fine. 10

What is an appropriate penalty for supplying liquor to a minor other than on licensed premises? Are current penalties adequate or should they be increased?

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 6 NO. 11

That attendance at education workshops for adults who commit offences relating to the supply of alcohol to minors form part of the suite of penalties under the *Liquor Act 2007*.

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 6 - QUESTION NO. 11

Should there be provision for minors involved in secondary supply offences to attend education workshops?

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 6 - QUESTION Mandatory. 11

Should the application of this penalty option be determined on a case by case basis, or should it be mandatory?

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 7 - QUESTION Improve on Laws only. 13

How could the enforcement of secondary supply laws be improved? Should the focus instead be on public education and preventing harmful underage drinking?

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 8 HARD CORE Presentation. 15

That any amendments to the *Liquor Act 2007* regarding supply of alcohol to minors be accompanied by a social marketing/public education campaign.

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 9 No alcohol for minors. 15

That the public education campaign have a dual focus – to clearly state what is permitted under the law, and to highlight the health risks of alcohol consumption by minors, based on National Health and Medical Research Council guidelines.

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 10 Talk directly to Police. Minimum Web addresses. 16

That, as part of a public education campaign, a website be developed to provide parents with clear, readily accessible information about their legal responsibilities in relation to supplying alcohol to minors. The website should also inform parents on how to talk to young people about the law and how to talk to other parents about the legal and health consequences of supplying alcohol to minors.

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 11 No alcohol for minors. 16

That information about the legal and health consequences of supplying alcohol to minors be provided to parents attending early childhood education/information sessions when their child is of pre-school age.

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PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 10

That, as part of a public education campaign, a website be developed to provide parents with clear, readily accessible information about their legal responsibilities in relation to supplying alcohol to minors. The website should also inform parents on how to talk to young people about the law and how to talk to other parents about the legal and health consequences of supplying alcohol to minors.

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION 11

That information about the legal and health consequences of supplying alcohol to minors be provided to parents attending early childhood education/information sessions when their child is of pre-school age.

A lot of 'party people' - all ages are confiding to their friends & families that they have a drinking problem, some will say they have a heavy drinking addiction. They are masking a heroin addiction. By the time they get to this stage, their heroin addiction is serious. They use alcohol to throw a lie over the real addiction - which is heroin. Alcohol is a more acceptable addiction. Parents will use this lie to protect their kids from ridicule & save themselves embarrassment. Their own kids are laughing at them. In the meantime the drugs are going down nicely, the spare \$ in hand are buying the cosmetics & the latest runners. Celebs. use the 'drinking' lie. Mums & dads in their 50's use it. They all drive cars.

How do we find a law for this problem?

Its all up to you.

BUT... an admittance to alcohol addiction will give lenience in the work place - i.e. you can with certain conditions keep a career going. Court cases are treated with more empathy. If you admit to heroin - you wipe out your career. Lets look more closely at confessing alcoholics - why not push the issue.