

Name: Shelice Golding

West Coast University- Miami

4/24/2022

Why Youth Continue to Drink and Drive despite the Inherent Dangers

With the increasing alcohol consumption among the youths today, many youths engage in drinking and driving globally. Drinking and driving is the new pandemic impacting the driver, passengers, other road users, and, more importantly, the victims' families. Drunk driving fatalities consist of 28% of total road accidents (Teutsch, et al. 2). Despite the havoc, youths continue to drink and drive daily. Therefore, solutions and deterrence must be implemented to prevent youths from drinking and driving.

Drinking and driving refers to the crime of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, significantly exceeding the legal alcohol limit stated as safe by the law. The most common reason for the behavior is impaired judgment. Under the influence of alcohol, one is likely to fail to recognize their intoxication. Some are not aware they are drunk because of the slower absorption of alcohol in their bodies. New vehicles can adopt hardware systems that detect a change in the driver's behavior. Furthermore, it is advisable to invent future solutions such as features that can help monitor the driver's behavior. Such features include the steering wheel, brake pedal, and manipulating the vehicle to self-driving option or bring it to a stop (Li, et al. 2).

Additionally, alcoholic drinks make several people confident in their actions. However, when the same confidence endangers your own life and the life of others, then the need for

alcohol is deemed harmful to the drinker and society. In such cases, they are supposed to trust themselves and not allow their peers to control their mindset. One solution that the youth should be encouraged to implement to avoid falling into this trap and engaging in drunk driving is calling a taxi, Uber, or call a friend to pick them up to prevent such actions. This provides a safer alternative to drunk driving for those too intoxicated to drive themselves home (Dills and Mulholland 969). Another recommendation would be to call and ask for help from parents, siblings, or friends.

Similarly, some youths driving under the influence regularly repeat the same behavior assuming no consequences will befall them. This usually happens when a driver under the influence is not caught, making one feel the urge to try the action again. Moreover, others do it to feel the adrenaline rush that provides a stimulating effect of participating in illegal and dangerous behaviors prohibited by the law. People who have engaged in drunk driving and experienced accidents are likely to repeat the same mistake forgetting that drunk driving is more likely to end up in catastrophic scenes. The law should enforce stricter punishments for people caught driving under the influence to serve as a deterrent for the rest. For example, Tennessee State recently passed a new law dubbed the 'Bentley's Law' that ensures drunk drivers who kill a parent will take care of the deceased's children, who are the unintended victims of such careless acts (Schonfeld).

In conclusion, many individuals who consume alcohol are highly likely to drink and drive at one point. Many of them drink and drive under the influence because of personal and external factors that encourage them to engage in the careless act. However, it is essential to note that while it may seem fun to indulge in drunk driving, it often increases the risk of the loss of life for the drunk driver and the other road users. It also affects other members of society, such as

children and family members of people who lose their lives in such accidents. These people become unintended victims who suffer the consequences of careless drunk drivers. Also, the public should be educated on the dangers of drunk driving to reduce the likelihood of the youth engaging in it.

Works Cited

Dills, A. K., and S. E. Mulholland. "Ride-Sharing, Fatal Crashes, and Crime." *Southern*

Economic Journal, vol. 84, no. 4, 2018, pp. 965-991.

Schonfeld, Alexandra. "New Law to Require Drunk Drivers to Pay Child Support if Parent is

Killed." *Newsweek*, 4 Mar. 2022, www.newsweek.com/new-law-require-drunk-drivers-pay-child-support-if-parent-killed-1685047. Accessed 24 Apr. 2022.

Teutsch, S. M., et al. "Getting to Zero Alcohol-Impaired Driving Fatalities." *National*

Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, 2018, pp. 1-606.