

**Underage Drinking Faith Based Survey**  
**Fall 2005**  
*Faith Based Subcommittee, Underage Drinking Task Force*  
*Community Partnership*  
**Doug Watson, Chairperson**  
**David Logan, Student Intern and Project Coordinator**

**Project Purpose**

The original intent of the project was to secure a completely anonymous representative sampling of responses from teens in the Springfield area faith community concerning their use of alcohol.

The goal was to have participation from 30 area churches and 1,200 teens, representing the full spectrum of faiths in the Springfield area.

**Survey Results**

A total of 25 churches actually received surveys, with nearly 1,000 surveys given out to church leaders.

A total of 12 churches responded and returned 281 student surveys.

The denominations who returned surveys were:

- 1 Baha'i
- 2 Baptist
- 1 Catholic
- 2 Christian
- 1 Episcopal
- 2 Interdenominational
- 1 Nazarene
- 2 United Methodist

**Survey Responses**

***General Information***

<b>Number of surveys returned</b>		281
<b>Age</b>	11	3      1%
	12	48      17%
	13	40      14%
	14	54      19%
	15	42      15%
	16	41      15%
	17	32      11%
	18	14      5%
<b>Gender</b>	Male	135      48%
	Female	138      49%
	No response	8

### **Living Arrangements**

2 Parent	200	71%
1 Parent	46	16%
Blended	20	7%
Foster	4	1%
Grandparent/Family Member	2	1%
Group/Residential	2	1%
Other/no response	7	

### **Ethnicity**

Caucasian	249	89%
African-American	5	2%
Hispanic	6	2%
Asian	2	1%
Multiracial	7	2%
No response	11	

### ***Alcohol Use***

#### **Have you tried?**

Yes	90	32%
No	190	68%

#### **Response of those who "have tried"**

#### **Age of 1st Try**

9 or under	10	11%
10	5	6%
11	6	7%
12	14	16%
13	15	17%
14	14	16%
15	13	14%
16	6	7%
17	3	3%
18	2	2%

#### **Times you have you ever been "drunk"**

0	39	43%
1	16	18%
2	7	8%
3--5	7	8%
6--10	3	3%
10+	15	17%

**Who introduced you to alcohol?**

Friend	47	52%
Parent	23	26%
Someone at Party	8	9%
Brother or Sister	8	9%
Yourself	8	9%

**Who do you usually use with?**

Alone	15	17%
Friends	50	56%
Peer Group	7	8%

**What are your reasons for using? (checked all that applied)**

Curiosity	42	47%
Escape	17	19%
Excitement	22	24%
Lowered Inhibitions	1	1%
Depression	11	12%
Boredom	15	17%
Anger	8	9%
Fun	45	50%
Rebellion	13	14%
Emotional Pain	10	11%
To Fit In	9	10%

**What would have helped you not to use? (checked all that applied)**

Talk about concerns w/ youth group	11	12%
Better relationship w/ parent(s)	10	11%
Less Pressure from friends	15	17%
Having better things to do	22	24%
Having accurate information on alcohol	3	3%
Nothing	22	24%

**Response of those who have not tried alcohol**

**How curious are you about trying it? (1-not curious, 5- very curious)**

1	133	47%
2	34	12%
3	21	7%
4	7	2%
5	3	1%

***Other General responses and information***

**Have you used other "substances"**

Yes	56	20%
No	219	78%

**What have you used? (checked all that applied)**

Tobacco	37	66%
Marijuana	22	39%
Meth	3	5%
Huffing	4	7%

**If you have not used "substances", what influenced that decision? (checked all that applied)**

Parents	142	75%
Religion	129	68%
Friends	113	59%
Bad experience	34	18%
moral values	139	73%
It's illegal	140	74%
Fear of getting caught	65	34%
Have no interest	1	1%

**Did your parents talk to you about the dangers of alcohol use?**

Yes	210	75%
No	54	19%

**How serious is the alcohol problem in: (1- no problem, 5 - serious problem)**

Church Youth Group			
	1	176	63%
	2	65	23%
	3	15	5%
	4	6	2%
	5	10	4%

School			
	1	62	22%
	2	25	9%
	3	39	14%
	4	74	26%
	5	75	27%