

To the Committee for Enquiry into Alcohol Reduction Bill 2007.

I am the father of three teenagers and have seen first hand the devastating effects of alcohol on young people. My own children's experiences have been mild compared to that of many of their friends, something for which I am truly grateful.

I do not feel the need to go into detail about those effects, as a quick perusal of any news paper in Australia would supply enough evidence to convince anyone that there is a problem in this area.

It seems to me that one of the biggest problems with alcohol amongst younger people is the lack of parenting.

I am constantly amazed at the number of teens who arrive at parties with alcohol bought for them by their parents, I am talking about *children* from 13 years of age and up.

I believe our society has lost sight of the fact that our teens are still children, this is evident not only in the area of alcohol abuse but can be seen in many areas of our youth culture.

I agree totally with the points outlined in the bill, but would also like to see an education program for parents, whether that be through the media, or through parenting programs.

Steve Beattie