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                                 Sun, 2 Jul 1995 16:15:03 CDT\par
From: Tom Turba x6774 <turba@UNIRSVL.RSVL.UNISYS.COM>\par
Subject:
           Drinking Policy on International Trips?\par
\par
As most people on this list know, there is a policy of no drinking with Boy\par
Scouts in the U.S. This apparently does not seem to be the case in the rest\par
of the world; although, I have only seen a small sampling.\par
\par
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I first became aware of this difference some years ago while on a Scouting\par trip to Costa Rica. It was over the new-year's holiday. One of the local\par Scout leaders was hosting a new-year's party at his house. We were out\par getting food and other supplies for the event when he asked me "How much beer\par should we buy for your Scouts?" I told him that he didn't need to buy any\par and explained to him the police we had on drinking in Scouting in the U.S.\par He bought more soda instead. He also told me that there was not such a\par restriction in Costa Rica, that they did not have the same drinking laws as\par we do, and that many of the Costa Rican Scouts would probably be drinking\par beer at the party. Which it turns out, they were.\par

I attended the Pan American Jamboree, which was held in Bolivia this last\par December / January. It again was over the new-year's holiday. The policy\par there for drinking at new-year's parties was that it was officially\par sanctioned as long as it was confined to your campsite. Needless to say, the\par U.S. group had no trouble abiding by the rules. We had not brought anything\par with us anyway. Groups from many other countries did, and celebrated the New\par Year as they would do in their homeland. Wine was also served at several\par official functions during the Jamboree.\par \par

When I was in England in April I visited Gilwell Park. Steve, the warden,\par showed me around. One of the things he pointed out was the bar. I have\par heard from many people that have attended World Jamborees that there is\par always a "pub tent" for leaders. I have also seen Scouts from other\par countries being served beer and wine with meals at a Scout camp.\par \par

The question I have is:\par

\par

"What should be the rules regarding drinking for U.S. Scouts and Scouters\par while on Scouting trips in other countries where the rules and customs are\par different?"\par

\par

The reason I ask this question is that we have an active international\par program in my council and this question has come up several times. In the\par past, we have left it in the hands of the leadership for each trip to decide\par what rules they wish to enforce.\par

The range of possible rules is quite large and ranges from "Zero tolerance"\par to "When in Rome do as the Romans do."\par

\par

I would like your opinion and insight, especially from people that have lead\par trips to other countries. Please indicate this in your message if you have.\par \par

Before dashing off a reply to this message, however, I would like you to\par consider the following real situations, all occurring in other countries,\par that I and/or other Scout leaders here have had to consider.\par

\par

Situation 1:\par

\par

You and everyone else in this situation are out of uniform; you are in a\par restaurant for dinner; one of your Scouts is at another table with a group of\par local scouts; the youth is of legal drinking age in this country; one or more\par of the other youth at his table have ordered wine or beer with their dinner;\par the Scout would like to have a beer with is dinner; his mother (who is not a\par leader on the trip, but having a parallel trip with her daughter) is sitting\par at a separate table and says that it is ok for her son to have a beer.\par Should he be allowed to have a drink?\par

\par

Situation 2:\par

\par

You are in uniform at an adult Scouting ceremony; no youth are present; wine\par is being served; one of the local leaders brings over a glass of wine; you\par shared lunch and wine with this Scout leader earlier at his home; he hands\par you the wine and offers a toast to "Scouting friendship around the world."\par Should you be allowed to drink?\par

\par

Situation 3:\par

\par

It is New Year's Eve; a Scout is with his host family; he is of legal\par drinking age in the country; it is just about midnight; he is offered a glass\par of Champaign to toast the new year; If he wants to, should he be allowed to\par accept it and drink a toast to the new year?\par

\par

Situation 4:\par

\par

You are in uniform on a plane over Europe, returning from an international\par Scouting conference; no Scouting youth are around you; you are offered\par complimentary wine with dinner; If you want to, should you be allowed to\par drink?\par

\par

There are other situations I could describe, but I think you see the point.\par Things are not always black and white and simple rules may not always work.\par \par

Please note that my question only relates to drinking rules for U.S. Scouts\par and Scouters on trips outside the U.S. It is not meant to open the subject\par of drinking at Scouting events held in the U.S.\par

\par

I should also add that never have I seen Scouts or Scout leaders from another\par country behave in an un-Scout-like manner when they were drinking at a Scout\par related event.\par

\par

International Scouters: I am also interested in knowing what rules exist in\par other parts of the world regarding drinking on Scout related events.\par \par

Yours in Scouting\par

\par

Thomas N. Turba\par

International Representative\par

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Indianhead Council, BSA\par
\par
Net: turba@unirsvl.rsvl.unisys.com\par
}{\f20\fs22 \par
}{\f20 From: pfarnham@ASBMB.FASEB.ORG\par
Date: Tue, 19 Sep 95 12:52:59 EST\par
To: mfbowman@capaccess.org\par
Subject: Your recent private comments \par
\par
   Mike,\par
   \par
   Thanks for your recent note on the alcohol issue. I believe the unit \par
   involved has resolved the problem. I understand the CM sent a note to \par
   all registered leaders forcefully reminding them of the BSA policy \par
   that there be no alcohol at scout functions on scout property or where \par
   youth are present (1994 GSS, p.15), and insisting that this policy be \par
   adhered to in the future. \par
   \par
   I also understand the matter was discussed with a senior member of the \par
   chartered organization's staff, who supported the CM's approach and \par
   said she would step in forcefully if it became necessary in the \par
   future.\par
   \par
   The CM involved--who was by no means amused, I can assure you--tells \par
   me that heads will roll if it happens again. Again, while not \par
   intending to defend the indefensible, it's my understanding that we're \par
   not talking about a bunch of drunks here; rather, some good but \par
   untrained parents (and, unfortunately, a registered leader or two who \par
   should have known better) who need to be told (reminded) that scout \par
   outings are not the same thing as Fourth of July family barbecues.\par
   \par
   In any case, your thoughts on this matter were appreciated, and I am \par
   confident that the matter has been taken care of--with little if any \par
   harm done, thank God.
                              \par
   \par
   YiS,\par
   \par
   Pete Farnham\par
   CM, Pack 1515\par
   GW District, NCAC\par
   Alexandria, VA\par
   pfarnham@capaccess.org\par
From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Tue Sep 19 23:42:24 1995\par
To: pfarnham@ASBMB.FASEB.ORG\par
Subject: Re: Your recent private comments \par
\par
Pete,\par
\par
```

Glad things are being worked out. Sounds like the right actions are \par taking place. Now that there is a committment to make sure the same \par thing is not repeated, I think that it may be as well to let the business \par slide into dim memory. BTW I liked your advice to Ms. Bope. Good \par posting! \par

\par

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman\par DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG\par \par

Date: Tue, 6 Feb 1996 09:21:54 -0600\par

From: Bob Evans <evans@THEBORG.WES.ARMY.MIL>\par

Subject: Re: drugs & alcohol\par

\par \par

Martijn,\par

\par

(I'm replying via the SCOUTS-L discussion group because I have received a\par number of messages that claim that marijuana is not all that bad.)\par

\par \par

It is true that abuse of alcohol is as bad as abuse of marijuana. However,\par the only reason to use marijuana is to get intoxicated. Most people who\par have an alcoholic drink are not trying to get intoxicated. Unfortunately,\par many do (I have a number of alcoholics in my family).\par \par

The physical addictiveness of marijuana is unknown; the psychological\par addictiveness is high. Here is some additional information from the\par Drug Enforcement Agency:\par

\par

\par

Marijuana also affects:\par

\pai

The immune system by impairing the ability of T-cells to fight off\par infections;\par

\par

The reproductive system by delaying the onset of puberty in young men\par and women; and\par

\par

Babies who are born to women who used marijuana during pregnancy;\par these babies are smaller and more likely to develop other health problems.\par \par

In July 1995, the Department of Health and Human Service held its first research\par conference on marijuana. At the conference, new information about the long-term\par dangers of marijuana use was released. Some of the major findings\par included the following:\par

\par

Peter Fried, Ph.D., from the Carleton University in Ottawa, found that\par marijuana use during pregnancy has harmful effects on children's intellectual\par abilities a decade or more after they are born.\par

\par

Through the use of an animal model, Billy Martin, Ph.D. of the Virginia\par Commonwealth University, showed that compulsive marijuana use may lead to an\par addiction similar to that produced by other illicit drugs.\par \par

Roger Roffman, Ph.D. and Robert Stephens, Ph.D., both from the University o\par f\par

Washington, showed that marijuana can put a serious chokehold on long-term users\par who try to quit.\par

\par

The American Medical Association policy statement on marijuana says, in part,\par "The AMA believes that cannabis (marijuana) is a dangerous drug and as such is\par a public health concern." This is not a new position for the AMA; it was\par adopted in 1969 and reaffirmed in 1994.\par

\par

\par

As a summary, we in Scouting have a duty to inform scouts about the effects of\par all drugs. And, if we find that some of our scouts are using drugs (alcohol\par included) at non-scout activities, we should do our best to get the scouts to\par stop the destructive behaviour. The scout oath and law do not apply only at\par scout activities.\par

\par

Bob\par

\par

Date: Mon, 25 Mar 1996 11:18:01 GMT\par

From: David Wilson <Djh.Wilson@EE.QUB.AC.UK>\par Subject: Re: Where there's smoke, there's ire!\par

To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>\par \par

Regarding Jim Moriarty's post...\par

\par

I wouldn't normally respond to something like this, but I'm getting a bit\par sick of such parades of self-rightneousness, so here goes:\par \par

> The "big picture" is hundreds of thousands of dead people\par Great. I hope you now intend to launch a crusade against Scouters who own\par cars, eat fatty food, don't take any regular exercise, etc, etc. Not\par forgetting the obvious one of "Scouters who own firearms", of course.\par \par

> obscene profits to tobacco companies\par

Didn't realise that this was a crime. Nevertheless, I look forward to your\par tirade against Microsoft. Afterwards, you're cordially invited to come to\par this side of the Atlantic and start a campaign against British Telecom.\par \par

> manipulation of youth by slick advertising, dumping on new third\par > world markets\par

Oh, this is a biggy! I think we can obtain convictions on A LOT of companies\par for this! We'll start with Coca Cola, hit Nestle next week, get to work on\par Pepsi the week after...\par

\par

> billions upon billions of dollars in medical costs\par

As opposed to the billions of dollars which would otherwise be spent on\par pension payments and treating the diseases which these fine smokers would\par otherwise die of in old age. Hell, I'd say they're probably saving us money.\par Hooray for the smokers!\par

\par

> higher insurance rates\par

For them. I find that I get a reduction in insurance, because their risk\par factor is factored out of my payments. Hooray for the smokers! (Again)\par \par

> a gateway to hard drug use\par

Anyone who could write such a patently absurd statement and post it to a\par public forum must have passed through this gateway some time ago.\par \par

> litter\par

One of my pet hates. However, most of the litter I see comes from sweet\par papers and drinks cans. So it's a double whammy for Coca Cola.\par \par

> forest fires\par

Let's ban all camping stoves!\par

\par

> house fires\par

As an electrical engineer, I propose that anyone who connects high power\par appliances into multi-way adaptor plugs should be hounded out of Scouting.\par And I want prison sentences for anyone who wires up a plug incorrectly.\par \par

> low birth weight babies\par

At least you won't strain yourself picking them up.\par

\par

> shoplifting, smuggling\par

Eh? People shoplift and smuggle all sorts of things. Are you suggesting\par that using cars is wrong because people can steal/smuggle them?\par \par

- > bazillions of dollars of tax revenue supporting\par
- > otherwise useless tobacco farmers\par

Less of a problem over here. However, I think you'll find that smokers pay\par more than enough tax to cover this. Besides, if they didn't grow tobacco,\par you'd have to pay for their unemployment benefit.\par \par

> and last but not least the continued presence of Jesse Helms.\par As long as he stays on your side of the pond, this doesn't bother me in\par the slightest.\par \par

> Big enough for you?\par

My world is big enough to accomodate people who choose to behave\par differently from myself. Jim, I have a sneaking suspicion that _your_\par world does not have this air of tolerance.\par \par

}}