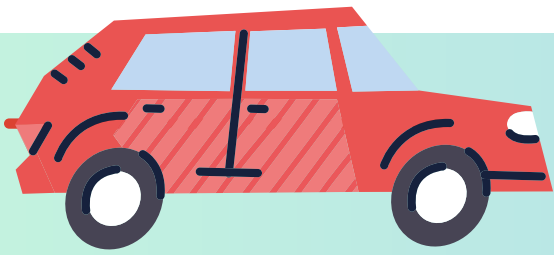


# GET THE KEY FACTS ON THE DANGERS TEEN ALCOHOL USE

**FACT #1: TEENS WHO DRINK ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE INVOLVED IN VIOLENT CRIME, TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, AND SCHOOL PROBLEMS.**



Alcohol-related traffic crashes are a major cause of death among young people. Alcohol is also linked with teen deaths by drowning, suicide and homicide.



Teens who drink are more likely to have problems with schoolwork and school conduct. Academically, behaviorally and socially, alcohol can create severe issues for your child in school.



Teens who use alcohol are more likely to be sexually active at earlier ages, to have sexual intercourse more often, and to have unprotected sex than teens who do not drink.

*However, research shows that teens are far less likely to drink if they have a strong parental bond.*

**FACT #2: EVEN IF THEY DON'T ACT LIKE IT, TEENS LISTEN TO THEIR PARENTS, ESPECIALLY IF THERE IS A STRONG BOND.**

## Keys to a strong bond with your child

Establish open communication.

Show you care and offer acceptance.

Understand that your child is growing up and becoming independent.



## Tips to establishing open communication

Encourage the conversation about alcohol; ask open-ended questions.

Control your emotions even if the conversation gets difficult.

Make every conversation a win-win experience.



## Persuasive reasons you should tell your child not to drink

You want your child to avoid alcohol

You want your child to maintain self-respect

You want your child to know drinking is illegal

Adolescent drinking can be dangerous

