

HAS MADD GONE MAD?

It's Time To Stop The MADDness!

I got popped for DWI with a BAC of only 0.02%. That's 5 times below the legal limit of 0.10% BAC. The Trooper said 0.01% was proof of DWI as far as he's concerned. The TN Driver License Study Guide says 0.00% BAC is proof of DWI/DUI.

There are thousands of stories like the one above and worse. Over 1.6 million people per year are being arrested and charged on "drunk" driving charges who are not drunk and not even impaired. 3000 of them commit suicide in jail. And why? Because organizations like MADD (Mother's Against Drunk Driving) and NHTSA (The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) have used misinformation in order to create a fraudulent impression that drunk driving is an epidemic.

While there's no doubt that losing a loved one to an inebriated, out of control driver is heinous and despicable, it's important that we use some common sense when looking at "drunk driving" statistics and carefully analyze them and understand the motivations behind some of the figures we're hearing from MADD and NHTSA.

NHTSA and MADD would like us to believe that 41% of all fatal accidents are caused by drunk drivers. They do this by quoting the number of fatalities that are "alcohol-related." Does anyone ever ask what does "alcohol-related" mean?

I was recently stopped and charged with a DUI. I blew .08 on the Breathalyzer, which I found to be incredible since I had not had a beer for over 5 hours. I am not a large woman, but lets be reasonable.

Alcohol-Related?

The police and NHTSA define "alcohol-related" as one or more of the participants involved in a traffic accident had some measurable amount of alcohol (or drugs) in their blood (however small: a sip of beer, or even mouthwash is enough to be measured). **Not necessarily a driver of a vehicle!**

Did you know...

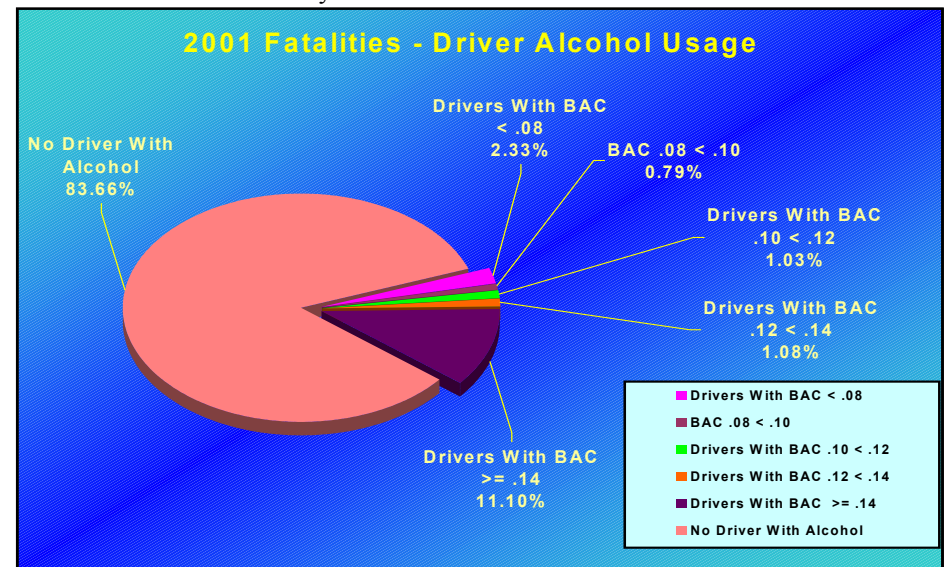
...You can be a completely sober driver, hit a pedestrian, bicyclist or some other non-occupant who has some level of alcohol in their system and YOU will be listed by NHTSA as a drunk driver.

...If you are a designated driver and you have an accident with another sober driver and someone gets killed, you will be listed by NHTSA as a drunk driver because the passengers in your car had been drinking.

...NHTSA will call you a drunk driver if you had so much as aspirin or cough syrup or even prescription medications before driving.

...A Responsible Drinker stopping by the local tavern after work has a beer or two with buddies. He's not an alcoholic. Two beers and that's it. His blood alcohol level is around .06. Completely legal, right? Then some hot rod kid in his high performance car comes careening down the street, high on nothing but his own ego and he's not wearing a seatbelt. He smashes into the Responsible Drinker and kills himself. Next thing he knows MADD is all over him because he had something to drink. He might even go to jail and be convicted of manslaughter. And he WILL be listed by NHTSA as a drunk driver.

...Of the 17,000+ "alcohol-related" fatalities listed by NHTSA in 2001, over 7500 of them have no evidence whatsoever to show that any driver of any vehicle had any alcohol whatsoever in their system.



Why??? DUI's are BIG BUSINESS. Over 1.6 million people get arrested yearly and each will pay close to \$10,000 in legal fines and lawyer fees. Lowering the legal BAC limit does nothing to save lives, but most certainly increases the potential income pool for police, courts, lawyers and don't forget insurance companies who get to increase their insurance rates for convicted DUI offenders.

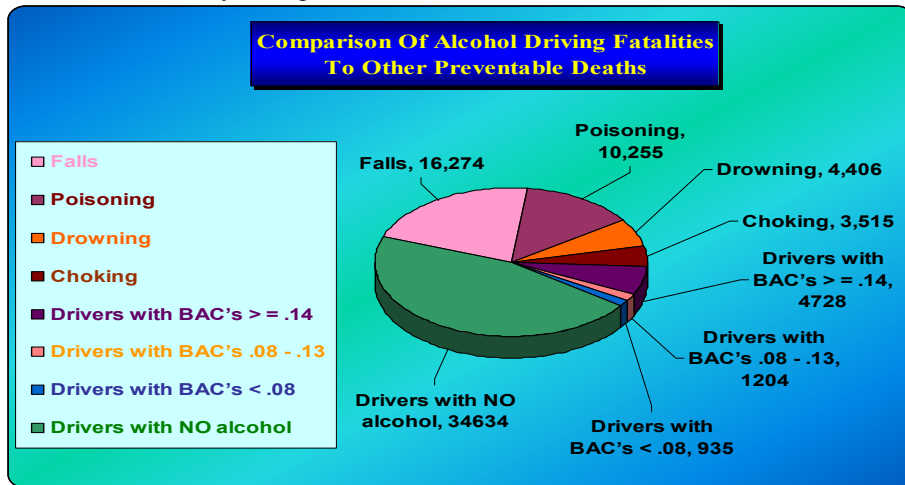
Let's leave the Responsible Drinkers alone and repeal the national .08 BAC law!

So What Are The Real Risks?

There's no doubt that **drunk drivers** cause deaths and need to be dealt with appropriately. But what about Responsible Drinkers? What about those people who have just one or two after work with some friends or a glass or two of wine with dinner and keep their BAC between .08 and .14 or lower? The chart below compares causes of accidental deaths. It clearly demonstrates that you are:

- 28.77 times more likely to be killed by a sober driver
- 13.52 times more likely to die from a fall
- 8.52 times more likely to be poisoned
- 4.57 times more likely to die from an injury at work
- 3.66 times more likely to drown
- 2.92 times more likely to choke to death
- 2.34 times more likely to die while under a doctor's care

...than to be killed by a Responsible Drinker.



Join R.I.D.L. today and help stop the MADDness!

Who we are: A non-profit organization consisting of concerned citizens who recognize that the current trend in DUI laws is aimed at criminalizing and punishing Responsible Drinkers and is having little if any affect towards curbing drunk driving.

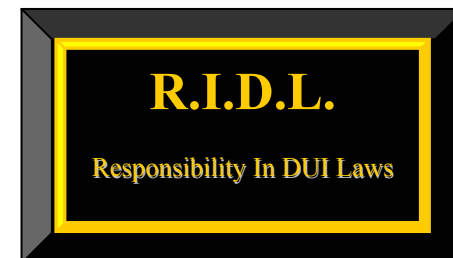
Our mission: To educate the public and lawmakers about the misdirection of the current laws, take the steps necessary to get the current laws reversed and to provide alternative suggestions for dealing with the problem of drunk driving.

Please help us to fight this unfairness. Please help us to bring some common sense back to our laws. Join R.I.D.L. today. <http://www.ridl.us> or email: info@ridl.us
For additional information contact the National Motorists Association at <http://www.motorists.org> or Phone: 608-849-6000

HAS MADD GONE MAD???



Have The Scales Of Justice Tipped Too Far???



Join Us Today

Phone: 734-306-7883

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