

## Let's work together to protect our children.

If you suspect teenagers are partying with alcohol (whether unsupervised or with adults present) you can take action.

By calling 911, you are enacting Pacifica's **Social Host Ordinance**, and requesting that law enforcement officers visit the party and see that all underage drinkers get home safely. Local communities from Santa Cruz to Marin County have passed this type of ordinance with great success. Not a criminal ordinance, Pacifica's Social Host Ordinance is designed to prevent underage drinking by asking our entire community to participate and respond.

### Simply call 911.

All calls are confidential and handled with discretion. And, most important of all, no one gets hurt.



Simply call 911.

[pacificapartnership.org](http://pacificapartnership.org)  
650-550-7336

# It's in your hands

Don't put alcohol  
in theirs.



# Pacifica's Social Host Ordinance

Our community  
is working together  
to prevent  
teenage drinking

*"The house parties I allowed will haunt me for the rest of my life. By the time I saw how dangerous they were and put a stop to them, it was too late. I had created a lifestyle that eventually took the life of my only son."*

[pacificapartnership.org](http://pacificapartnership.org)

## A proven prevention tool

A good social host ordinance (SHO) acts as a deterrent to help stop teenage drinking parties before they cause harm or bring about deadly accidents.

### How does it work?

#### What happens?

- 1 A neighbor reports a loud party or 'public nuisance' where they believe there is underage drinking.
- 2 The police who respond to the scene will assess the situation to find out if underage drinking has occurred. All youth present will be escorted home safely.
- 3 The adults who are hosting the underage drinking party will be held responsible and a civil fine of \$1,000 may be administered.
- 4 If adults are not present, they will be notified that an underage drinking party has occurred in their home.

*Alcohol consumption is the most common type of substance abuse in teenagers. All citizens of our community share the responsibility of our youth—by never hosting illegal drinking parties, never providing alcohol to teens, and reporting teen drinking when it occurs. Together we can save lives.*

## Before leaving your teen home alone...

**Consider their age,** maturity and a demonstrated respect for your rules and property.

**Know their friends.** Do they exert a lot of peer pressure? If so, don't set your teen up to fail by leaving them alone. Have someone stay with them or find a friend's house where they can stay.

**Spread the news.** Tell your neighbors, friends, family—even the local police—who might be willing to cruise by your home. Tell your child that the police have been notified. Learning that, they may decide against houseparty. Ask a family member to stay at your house—or drop by randomly to check in.

**Lock up the liquor!** Make sure that there is no access to alcohol, prescription drugs or any other substances in your home!

**Make a contract with your teen:** [parentingteens.about.com/od/parentingcontracts/a/staying\\_home2.htm](http://parentingteens.about.com/od/parentingcontracts/a/staying_home2.htm)