

Santa Barbara
YOUTH COUNCIL

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, California

Dear Supervisors:

The Santa Barbara Youth Council is a 17-member advisory body of teens from the ages of 14 – 19 years. We provide recommendations, suggestions and ideas to the city's boards and commissions, such as the Parks and Recreation Commission or Plan SB Committee and to the Mayor and City Council. We work closely with other teens and other teen advocates on issues that affect teens and youth in our community.

The Youth Council, working with the city's ADAP (Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention) Teen Coalition, worked with the Santa Barbara City Council, in developing and drafting a Social Host Ordinance. We are proud that we were a part of working with the city's Ordinance Committee in getting that legislation passed.

We feel, as teens, that we know of some of the negative effects of teen consumption of alcohol. In our limited surveying of teens during one of our Teen Speak Outs, we found that 99% of the teens surveyed stated the most common place to get alcohol is in homes.

This is why we strongly support a Social Host Ordinance in the Santa Barbara County, to go along with the other such ordinances in the individual cities of Santa Barbara and Carpinteria. As teens, we wanted you to know there are many of us that support efforts to prevent risky and negative behavior in teens and young adults.

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Youth Council, we recommend that the Board of Supervisor pass legislation to have a Social Host Ordinance in the County.

Sincerely,

Santa Barbara Youth Council

Maggie McDermut
Chairperson

Katie Shara
Secretary