

Changing drinking age to 18 essay

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When you are eighteen years old you have multiple responsibilities.

Everyone who is eighteen is seen as a responsible, mature young adult. If eighteen year olds are portrayed as responsible and mature adults then why can't they buy or consume alcohol? The alcoholic drinking age should be lowered to age eighteen because at that age you are responsible, mature, and it will help send the right message. Society states that eighteen year olds can not handle alcohol because they make a lot of mistakes so therefore they are " irresponsible ". If you start to drink at age eighteen or twenty one your tolerance is still going to be the same.

So in that case it does not matter what age you start to drink because you do not know how much alcohol you can handle until you start drinking. So when society states that eighteen year olds make a lot of mistakes when they drink it is only because they just started drinking just as a twenty one year old will make a lot of mistakes when he starts to drink for the first time. Society is just using young teenagers as scapegoats for alcohol problems when it really does not matter what age you are. It is a know fact that a lot of teenagers drink regardless of the drinking age , either at home, parties, or just in hang out places.

So in that case society states that because teenagers can consume alcohol that it would not be the best option to lower the age to eighteen. Society thinks if we lower the drinking age to eighteen years old then twelve and thirteen year old kids will also be able to have access or get a hold of alcohol even easier and start drinking at a even younger age. That is not the case at all because today 71 % of eighth graders say it is pretty easy for them to get a hold alcohol so therefore it would not even make a difference if the age

was lowered to eighteen years old. Now one of the most important reasons why society feels eighteen year olds should not be aloud to consume alcohol is because they are “ not mature enough”. Well if that is the case then why can eighteen year olds be mature and responsible enough to vote for a person who is going to run our country, mature and responsible enough to be in a jury and last but not least risk your life by going to war and fight for our country.

If eighteen year olds can be mature enough for all those things then there is no reason why the alcoholic age should be twenty one years old. Society thinks otherwise and states that the alcoholic drinking age should stay at twenty one years old because you can make more mistakes with alcohol then those certain things. But like I stated before it does not matter what age you are when you first start to drink you are going to make mistakes. Making mistakes is part of the learning process. Lowering the drinking age would help send the important message that drinking is not a way of showing how mature you are but that responsible consumption for those who choose to drink is evidence of maturity. If the drinking age was eighteen years old then kids would not think as alcohol as the forbidden fruit anymore and be more responsible with it. As Dr. Ruth Engs states “ The flaunting of the current age-specific prohibition is readily apparent among young people who, since the increase in the minimum legal drinking age, have tended to drink in a more abuse manner than do those of legal age.

This, of course, is exactly what happened in the general public during national Prohibition. ” This quote is saying that because the drinking age is twenty one when younger adults get their hands on alcohol they tend to

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drink a lot more because they do not know when they will be able to get alcohol again. Believe it or not it is a known fact that since the drinking age has become twenty one years old the percentage of younger people drinking has dropped but the amount of alcohol consumed by a teenager has gone up. The alcoholic drinking age should be lowered to age eighteen based on the fact that our current prohibition laws are not working. Our nation has tried prohibition twice in the past for controlling irresponsible drinking problems.

These laws were finally repealed because our nation was not able to enforce them and because the reaction towards them caused other social problems. Today we are repeating history and making the same mistakes that occurred in the past. Prohibition did not work then and prohibition for young people under the age of 21 is certainly not working now.