

Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project



The Painful Truth

**Interventions that are popular
usually don't work,
Interventions that are unpopular are
usually highly effective.**

Interventions that have proven highly ineffective

- **Restricting service to intoxicated patrons in licensed premises: responsible service of alcohol WITHOUT ENFORCEMENT.**
- **Restrictions implemented via liquor accords and community based programs WITHOUT ENFORCEMENT.**
- **Local 'dry area' bans**

Interventions that need substantial ongoing support to work

- **Restrictions on access to high risk alcohol beverages.**
- **Restrictions on the outlet density of licensed premises.**
- **Restricting service to intoxicated patrons in licensed premises: responsible service of alcohol WITH ENFORCEMENT.**
- **Restrictions implemented via liquor accords and community based programs WITH ENFORCEMENT.**
- **Mandatory packages of restrictions for remote and regional communities.**
- **Dry community declarations.**

Interventions that are supported by strong evidence of their positive outcomes

- **Restrictions on the economic availability of alcohol: taxation and pricing.**
- **Restrictions on hours and days of sale for licensed premises.**
- **Restrictions on legal drinking age for purchase or consumption of alcohol.**

Key Factors for Positive Change

- **Effective enforcement.**
- **Meeting the specific and changing needs of the target population.**
- **Community support, control and awareness of restrictions.**
- **Evidence based initiatives, situational suitability and evidence for outcomes.**

Guiding principles for decision makers

- What is *'best practice'*?
- What is the most effective mix of restrictions?
- How to know if restrictions are working and what can be reasonable expected.

Conclusions

- We all (agencies, the liquor industry and community members) need to work together to sort out the problems associated with excessive drinking among a small group of people.
- We should only use evidence-based interventions and don't waste time and resources of ineffective measures.

“All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing” (E. Burke)

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