

Other effects of alcohol use

Alcohol affects the parts of the brain that control judgment, concentration, coordination, behaviour and emotions. It can affect personality and cause mood changes, loss of inhibition, aggressiveness and depression.

Drinking alcohol may lead people to a greater risk of:

Hurting themselves or others. For example:

- being involved in antisocial behaviour eg fights and assaults
- becoming a victim of crime, eg. rape, domestic violence, mugging or assault.

Trouble with the law. For example:

- being involved in antisocial or criminal behaviour, eg fights, domestic violence, vandalism ,theft, drink driving and underage drinking
- having or causing an accident, such as a road accident , pedestrian accident or drowning.

Doing poorly at work and school. For example:

- Alcohol decreases coordination. Dangerous when combined with driving and machinery operation. Causes many accidents on roads, in industry and in homes.
- Alcohol can affect concentration and ability to work, to learn and to remember new skills –leading to loss of employment
- As well as affecting a student's concentration and ability to work at school, alcohol consumption can cause students to be sick, miss class or arrive late and fall behind in studies.

Relationship trouble.

- Arguments or violence with family or friends, (losing friends, separation of family members, conflict). Alcohol can cause people to make incorrect judgments that negatively impact on their relationships with other people.
- Sexuality - Alcohol can make people feel less inhibited which may lead to sexual behaviour that a person would not want to be involved in if not affected by alcohol such as unsafe sex (Sexually transmitted diseases or unwanted pregnancy).

Financial Problems. For example:

- having less money for necessary expenses like food and clothing.
- neglecting to pay bills.
- creating additional expenses, such as extra medical costs, fines, or car repairs.

