

Beer Sales: A Question of Morality?

Well-intentioned, but ill-informed individuals attempt to view the question of denying beer sales in Collegedale as only a moral issue. At times this moral perspective may be based on unique religious tenets. Moral perspective and religious tenets can be exclusive, and at times, offensive viewpoints. Concern for personal and family safety encompasses all within the community—excluding or offending no one.

When comparing the frequency of crimes between “wet” and “dry” counties, research shows a startling increase in “wet” counties. Considering major crimes such as murder, rape, robberies, aggravated assault, burglaries, thefts, and arson, frequencies were up by 131%. With respect to serious, but not major crimes, the average increased by 87%.

Why would anyone, regardless of morality, actively promote or permit alcohol sales that will significantly increase insecurity for their person, family, or fellow citizens?

One of Collegedale’s D.A.R.E. program goals is to limit crime related to illegal drug use. Research indicates that more violent crimes are committed under the influence of alcohol than ALL other drugs.

Why would anyone, regardless of morality, actively promote or permit a situation that fosters more crime than all other drugs D.A.R.E. is fighting against?

Why would anyone, regardless of morality, encourage a situation that will predictably increase the number of high-risk situations to which our fine policemen will be exposed?

Is political gain or increased municipal revenue an adequate reason? I think one loss, injury, or citizen’s life is of more value.

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