# Liquor by the Drink: A Question of Morality?

Some well-intentioned, but ill-informed individuals attempt to view the question of denying liquor by the drink in Collegedale as a moral issue. At times this moral perspective may be based on unique religious tenets. Both are rather narrow viewpoints which overlook a much broader scope. However, concerns for personal and family safety encompass 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 was increased by 87%.

Why would anyone, regardless of morality, actively promote or permit a situation that will significantly increase insecurity for their person, family, or fellow citizen?

Collegedale has a fine D.A.R.E. program whose goals include limiting 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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(Available at http://www.eppygreen.com "Communities Crier")