

Alcohol Use and Teens:

Chapter 9

Lesson 3

Alcohol Use and Teens

Why Do Some Teens Use Alcohol?

Curiosity

They think it will
make them
popular

They think it will
make them more
relaxed

They think it will
make them more
adult

They **seek relief**
from painful or
confusing emotions

Alcohol Use and Teens

Alcohol in the Media

In television **commercials** or movies, using alcohol is often made to look **fun** and **exciting**.

Teens think that by drinking alcohol, they will have fun and excitement in their lives, **just like** the **people** in the **ads**.

People who drink in advertisements look **young** and **attractive**. This is because the companies **don't want** people to **see** the negative effects of their products.

Because of **media images** of alcohol use, many teens feel that drinking alcohol is **okay**.

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Peer Pressure

Some teens may choose to drink in order to **fit in** or to **not** be **embarrassed** in front of their friends.

It is not always easy to **say no**, but **negative peer pressure** is not a good reason to accept alcohol.

Alcohol Use and Teens

Peer Pressure

Binge drinking can cause **breathing** to **stop**, a dangerous lowering of **heartbeat**, and **death**.

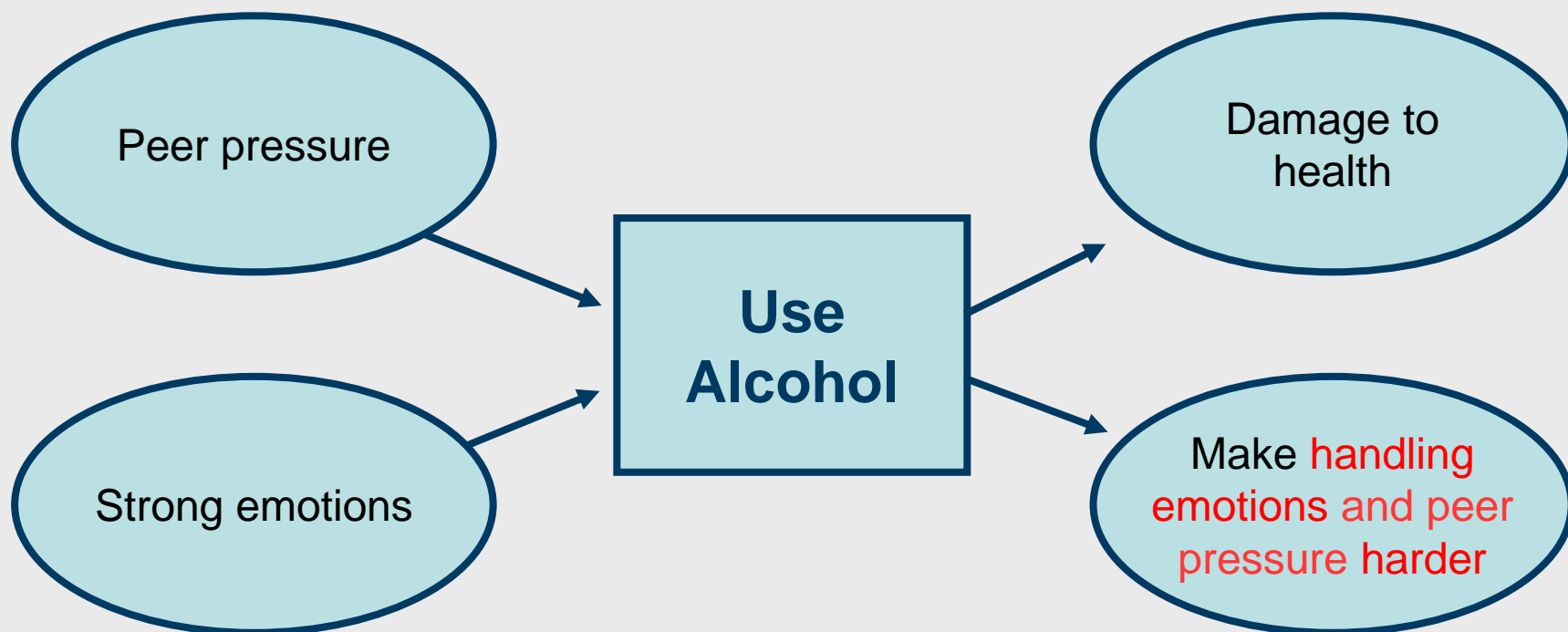


binge drinking Having several drinks in a short period of time.

Many teens don't realize that using alcohol can **kill them**. Sometimes teens dare each other to drink a lot of alcohol as **quickly as possible**.

Alcohol Use and Teens

Why Is Alcohol Harmful to Teens?



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Teens Are Still Growing

When teens use alcohol, their bodies and brains **do not develop** properly.

They also run the risk of **damaging** their nervous systems.

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Alcohol Can Affect Emotions

Alcohol cannot solve the problem of **emotional swings, boredom, sadness,** or other emotions.

Teens who drink are **more likely** to use other **drugs** or to commit **crimes**.

Because alcohol will cause more problems, it is **better** to **talk** to an **adult** they **trust** and find **effective strategies** for managing stress.

Alcohol Use and Teens

Underage Drinking Is Illegal

It is illegal for a minor to use alcohol.



minor A person under the age of adult rights and responsibilities.

Minors found buying or having alcohol can be **arrested** and **fined**.

A minor who is **caught driving** while intoxicated will **lose** his or her **license** and, in many states, the teen will lose the **privilege** to get a license until he or she is **18** or **older**.