

CALCAP, ANEF & CCAGE

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EXECUTIVE REPORT

James Thurber once observed that “only a wet baby likes change.” 2008 has begun, and it is clear this will be another year of change. Whether we like it or not, whether we are ready or not, change is inevitable. All we can determine is if that inevitable change will be for the better or worse.

On February 5, California voters will determine a change regarding gambling in our state. Will gambling explode in an historic expansion, or will we continue to limit its destructive presence? Will the result of the vote be for the better or worse?

The State Legislature returned to Sacramento, and is dealing with a \$14 Billion budget deficit. Will this deficit provide an opportunity to raise taxes on alcohol, which have not been raised in 16 years,



and give us a change for the better?

Californians, including children and youth, are dying because of alcohol and drug use. Will things change in 2008 for the better or worse?

We know that there will be changes in our lives, communities, state and world in 2008, so let's do what we can to make those changes for the better.

Rev. James B. Butler

“MEANEST MOM” REALLY CARES

By now many of you have heard or read about the Iowa mother who found alcohol in her 19-year old son's car. Her discovery led her to put the following add in the newspaper.

“OLDS 1999 Intrigue. Totally uncool parents who obviously don't love teenage son, selling his car. Only driven for three weeks before snoopy mom who needs to get a life found booze under front seat. \$3,700/offer. Call meanest

mom on the planet”

Although she claims to be the “meanest mom on the planet”, we need more parents who care enough to send a message of zero tolerance to their children regarding alcohol.

The car has been sold, and I am sure that her son got the message.

NOW YOU KNOW!

One study showed that 40% of alcoholic women attempted to commit suicide, compared to 8.8% of non-alcoholic women.

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WILL 2008 BE DIFFERENT?

A week before Christmas one family received news that their teenage son had been killed by a drunk driver. On New Year's Day another family was informed that their teenage daughter had been killed by a drunk driver. These news stories were in the "Sacramento Bee," but there were similar tragedies around our state.

The California Highway Patrol reported that DUI arrests and Alcohol Related Crashes were both higher for the 2007 Christmas and 2008 New Year's holidays than the previous year.



It is clear that our society does not yet fully understand the dangers posed by alcohol, for both the drinkers and innocents. We continue to read about the latest celebrity or sport's star abuse of alcohol with curiosity instead of outrage. We pretend that this is just some unimportant occurrence to be ridiculed, rather than recognize it as a symptom that individuals and our society are in trouble. When will the people and their representatives decide "enough is enough?" Will it be this year?

POCKET SHOTS



A new "Youth Friendly" product has arrived in California called "Pocket Shots." The "Pocket Shot" is packaged to resemble a miniature, soft-sided bottle that will easily fit in your pocket. Each contains 50 ml (1.69 oz) of 80-proof liquor. Varieties include bourbon whiskey, rum, vodka, gin, and tequila.

The company said the packaging was designed to "address the need for convenience in today's highly mobile lifestyle." But, one might ask, "Who besides under-

age drinkers, alcoholics and those taking alcohol where it is prohibited (sporting events, movies, parks, etc.) need to hide liquor in their pockets?"

Company founder and CEO Jarrold Bachmann said. "We're not just selling alcohol, we're providing a fun and functional way to break out of the bottle that fits with an active and on-the-go lifestyle."

"On-the-Go" with alcohol is not what we need in California.

LEGISLATIVE WATCH

Even as the State Legislature is acutely focused on the budget deficit and the upcoming vote on February 5, we are reviewing and studying the many bills that will deal with alcohol and gambling. Included in that study is AB 346. This is a modest bill that will require "Alcopop" type beverages to have a clear label stating that they contain alcohol. This bill was introduced in 2007 and passed the committees in the Assembly and Senate, but did not have a vote in either body. It is returning with some amendments, and we again will support this effort to clearly label these alcoholic beverages.

We are also following the bills and compacts that involve gambling in our state. Unfortunately, most of these bills wish to expand not limit gambling.

One Governor

Forty State Senators

Eighty State Assembly Members

Hundreds of Bill concerning Alcohol and Gambling

We are Watching!

NO ECSTASY IN “ECSATASY”

Although Alcohol is still the number one drug abused in America, other drugs are assaulting our youth. One group of drugs is called “Club Drugs” and has become popular among teens and young adults at dance clubs and “raves.” One of these is MDMA/Ecstasy. Producing both stimulant and psychedelic effects, MDMA/Ecstasy is often used at parties because it enables party-goers to dance and remain active for long periods of time. Using MDMA can cause serious psychological and physical damage. The possible psychological effects include confusion, depression, anxiety, and paranoia and may last weeks after ingesting the drug. Physically, a user may experience nausea, faintness, and significant increases in heart rate and blood pressure. MDMA use can cause hyperthermia, muscle breakdown, seizures, stroke, kidney and cardiovascular system failure, and may lead to death. Chronic use has been found to produce long-lasting, possibly permanent, damage to the sections of the brain critical to thought and memory.



Our youth need to know that Ecstasy is a very dangerous drug.

LET YOUR VOTE BE HEARD

On February 5, the people of California will have the opportunity to send a very strong message to Sacramento regarding gambling in our state. When Propositions 94-97 are defeated, the Governor and the Legislature will finally hear what we have been saying for many years, and perhaps have the courage and

fortitude to say “No” to the gambling industry and their money. We already have too much gambling in California, and we do not need to add 17,000 new slot machines in order to allow four wealthy tribes to feed their greed. An indication of just how much money these tribes expect to receive is found in the

amount they have already spent on ads asking voters to vote “Yes”, \$82 Million.

On February 5, you will be able to add a vote to your voice, and let Sacramento hear our message loud and clear, “No More Gambling.”



SHOPPING WITH CALCAP IN 2008

This year as you do some of your shopping on-line, many of the stores you use will make a contribution to CalCAP. When you do your shopping on line, at such places as Amazon, eBay, QVC, Sears, Dell, Macy’s, Home Depot, Staples, or more than 500 other merchants, they will

make a donation to the California Council on Alcohol Problems.

All you need to do to take advantage of this opportunity is to register at “www.iGive.com” and select “California Council on Alcohol Problems” to be your cause. Then every

time you use one of the participating merchants, that company will make a donation to our organization at no cost to you.

If you would like join with others helping CalCAP as you do your year-round shopping, register today at “www.iGive.com”



Your on-line shopping can help raise money for CalCAP



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CALCAP.ORG

A CHANGE
FOR THE
BETTER

Say "NO!" to Mega Casinos

Say "No!" to 17,000 more slot machines.

Say "No!" to more crime,

Say "No!" to more bankruptcies.

Say "No!" to more homelessness.

Say "No!" to more suicide.

Say "No!" to more problem and pathological gamblers.

Say "No!" to unfair labor practices.

Say "No!" to ignoring environmental concerns.

Say "No!" to governmental reliance on gambling.

Say "No!" to the gambling industry's insatiable greed.

Vote "NO" on 94, 95, 96, and 97

OUR TASK AND MISSION

The CalCAP family, which includes the California Council on Alcohol Problems (CalCAP), the Alcohol-Narcotic Education Foundation (ANEF) and the California Coalition Against Gambling Expansion (CCAGE), is a statewide, faith based organization that seeks to prevent the moral, economic, scientific and social problems caused by alcohol and gambling. This is done through research, education, advocacy and lobbying. Thus, we raise the awareness of these problems among the people, and address the legislature regarding alcohol and gambling issues.

We are funded entirely by gifts from denominations, churches, church groups and individuals. We do not receive any financial support from any governmental agency or political party.

If you would like to be part of our information network, arrange for a program or preaching date, or support our work through-out California, please contact our Executive Director, the Rev. James Butler, or our Sacramento office, at 916 / 441-1844 or calcap@sbcuc.net. Our Mailing address is 803 Vallejo Way, Sacramento CA 95818.

Because CalCAP is involved in lobbying efforts, donations to CalCAP are not tax-deductible. Donations to ANEF are tax-deductible.

