

LA Times (USA) - NASA to probe alcohol use; ex-astronauts doubt reports

NASA officials vowed Friday to investigate reports that astronauts were drunk before missions on at least two occasions. But several former astronauts questioned the claims, saying they were too closely monitored for anyone to risk breaking the rules on drinking before a flight.

http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/asection/la-sci-nasa28jul28,1,6964393.story?coll=la-news-a_section

Life Style Extra - Alcohol Link To Bowel Cancer

Drinking a pint of beer or a glass of wine a day increases your risk of bowel cancer by ten per cent - and the more you drink, the more the risk increases, a study found today.

http://www.lse.co.uk/ShowStory.asp?story=K13040293C&news_headline=alcohol_link_to_bowel_cancer

American Thinker (Sweden) - Swedish DA wants to ban alcohol on flights to Sweden

Apparently America is not alone in suffering from a plague of showboating, overreaching prosecutors. A Swedish district attorney is evidently seeking to ban alcohol from being served on flights within and to Sweden, as a countermeasure to incidents of drunk and disorderly passengers.

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2007/07/swedish_da_wants_to_ban_alcohol.html

CTV.ca (Canada) - Struggling with after-effects of mothers who drink

It's a problem that has been called an under-recognized national disaster - a disorder that is preventable but is now believed to be the leading cause of mental disability in Canada.

http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20070729/fetal_alcohol_070729/20070729?hub=Health

EmaxHealth - Phone Counseling Can Coax Reluctant Alcoholism Patients Into Treatment

Telephone counseling might be an effective primary care intervention for men who are not seeking treatment for their alcohol dependence or abuse.

<http://www.emaxhealth.com/63/14411.html>

YLE News (Finland) - Over 250,000 At-Risk Drinkers in Finland

Finland has more than a quarter of a million people whose alcohol consumption puts them in a high-risk category. According to the newspaper Uutispäivä Demari, such people exhibit compulsive drinking behaviour, and could become full-blown alcoholics if they do not get their drinking under control.

<http://www.yle.fi/news/id66147.html>

News.com.au (Australia) - MySpace generation targeted by alcohol companies

ALCOHOL companies are targeting teenagers through MySpace and Facebook in a bold attempt to reach a generation unaffected by traditional advertising.

<http://www.news.com.au/story/0,23599,22143085-421,00.html>

Irish Independent (Ireland) - 93pc of men who took own lives had alcohol in blood

NEW research has revealed that 93pc of men under 30 who took their own lives had alcohol in their system.

<http://www.independent.ie/national-news/93pc-of-men-who-took-own-lives-had-alcohol-in-blood-1046852.html>

Medical News Today - Prenatal Alcohol Exposure Can Lead To Cognitive And Behavioral Deficits

Heavy prenatal alcohol exposure does not always lead to fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS); sometimes it can lead to cognitive and behavioral deficits in the absence of craniofacial features needed to make an FAS diagnosis.

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/77830.php>

Institute of War and Peace Reporting (Kyrgyzstan) – State Lifts Monopoly on Alcohol Production

Lifting the state monopoly on alcohol production in Kyrgyzstan should earn the government substantial additional revenues while helping to stamp out the volume of homemade alcohol in circulation.

http://www.iwpr.net/?p=bkg&s=b&o=337474&apc_state=henh

Gatehouse Academy - Lesbians, Gays, and Alcoholism Treatment: Challenges to Recovery

For many years, it has been the general assumption that the incidence of alcoholism was much higher for gays and lesbians than in the heterosexual population. Early studies reported that as high as 35% of gays and lesbians were excessive or problem drinkers vs. five percent of heterosexuals.

http://www.gatehouseacademy.com/lesbians_gays_and_alcoholism_treatment_challenges_to_recovery.php

BBC News (EU) - How Europe tackles drink-driving

The Association of Chief Police Officers has launched its latest drink-driving campaign, incorporating drugs into its remit for the first time. Here, BBC correspondents from across Europe explain how our neighbours deal with those getting behind the wheel while under the influence.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/6920720.stm

Iceland Review (Iceland) - Alcohol prices in Iceland 126 percent higher than in EU

According to recent figures from Statistics Iceland, based on a Eurostat study, the price of alcoholic beverages in Iceland is 126 percent higher than the average price of alcohol within the EU. Only Norway has higher alcohol prices.

http://www.icelandreview.com/icelandreview/daily_news/?cat_id=16539&ew_0_a_id=285615

Opinions:

Irish Independent - Time to admit damage of excessive drink

A BOTTLE of vodka and a boot to the head? Day on day, stories of drink-fuelled violence fill courts, hospitals and communities throughout the country. Murder, serious assault, rape, domestic abuse, suicide, injuries and deaths through drink driving - events so familiar they're almost taken for granted as everyday risks of living in contemporary Ireland.

<http://www.independent.ie/opinion/analysis/time-for-us-to-admit-how-damaging-excessive-drink-is-1047436.html>

Independent Mail - Too young, too tempted: Media make alcohol much too attractive

A recent story in USA Today noted that the company's latest product, Smirnoff Source, is presented as "pure spring water + alcohol" and closely resembles a regular bottle of so-called designer water. The slyly alcoholic offering tastes like vodka, according to the report, although there is no vodka in its recipe.

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2007/jul/29/too-young-too-tempted-media-make-alcohol-much-too-/>

Guardian Unlimited (UK) - Our biggest drug problem is an ocean of cheap alcohol

A national booze panic is an annual event, but this one feels different, and not just because it's largely a matter of policy proposals rather than tabloid shrieking. For the first time, the debate includes those whose concern about Britain's drinking culture is tied not into the hell-in-a-handcart narrative beloved of the right, but the absurdity and doublethink of our drug laws.

<http://politics.guardian.co.uk/homeaffairs/comment/0,,2134869,00.html>

Brian Hennigan – “Banning indoor smoking has not changed Scotland's culture of tobacco abuse, it has merely shifted its location. In the long term this latter move might well contribute to the overall decline of smoking in Scotland, as part of a comprehensive educational, legal and social programme. That is what changing a culture requires - a level of planning, funding and implementation one might normally associate with a war.”

<http://newscotsman.com/opinion.cfm?id=1154182007>