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Love Always Mary

Crissa Battaile

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driver survived with minor injuries. Crashes like these should not be happening! Kids shouldn't have to be raised without a mother, and a father shouldn't have to live with the guilt of his daughter's death. I propose to make alcohol consumption while operating a motor vehicle legal. In fact, everyone riding in or operating a vehicle should have a blood alcohol level above .08, despite their age.

This way, though there may be an increase in minor vehicular crashes, there is a high probability in a decrease in fatal vehicular crashes. If everyone is drunk, no one will die in car crashes. The ramifications of this proposal are very minimal, and it will work best in actively getting the number of fatal drunk driving crashes. It will also heavily decrease the amount of tickets for Driving Under the Influence. If drunk is the new normal, then a driver should get a ticket for a blood alcohol level BELOW .08 (the legal check point of "intoxication")! If a law enforcement officer pulls over a sober citizen, the officer will have his or her choice of giving said citizen tequila shots, or engaging the law breaker in a game of beer pong. This will mean the law that states "no open containers of alcohol may be present in a vehicle at any time" will need to be changed. The police officer also has the right to detain sober criminals for their horrific offense. The uniformed officer should take the law breaker to the local bar and get him or her drunk (a blood alcohol level ABOVE .08) before sending the offender off on his or her way.

This will also clear up the local jails, since in 2005, 20% of all incarcerated persons were there on a drug/alcohol abuse charge. With less prison space being devoted to house people convicted of such petty crimes



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like driving under the influence, there will be more space to fill up the prisons with people committing more serious offenses like smoking pot, being a stockbroker or lawyer, along with sex offenders, child abductors, robbers, and murderers. Also, with the up rise in alcohol intake (since everyone will have to drink a glass or more before every car trip), there will obviously be a major increase in alcohol sales. This benefits not only the sellers and brewers, but the consumer as well by bringing down the price of alcohol and adding jobs in the bar business. Overall, many people can benefit from this proposal. Sure, it will take some getting used to, but it will certainly be effective in the long run. All in all, this is a win-win situation, and law makers would be doing the right thing by making this new law effective immediately.

Intersection

Beth Turner Ayers

It was gone today.
 The frequent reminder
 I've passed on my way
 From here to there
 Has been removed.
 Was it by the hand of
 An employee who counts
 Hours for City pay?
 Or did the hand that placed it
 Cut the brittle tape to
 Take it down?
 Quivering fingers that must
 Pause to wipe leaking emotion
 That never dies but sinks until

A reminder pushes it to the surface
 Like that brilliant bouquet
 First faded, then browned
 Under hot Texas sun,
 Broiled upon a tall silvery stove
 That doubles to shine light down into
 Darkness. Illuminating regret.
 Connected to colored lights
 That direct us to stop or go.
 Some see Caution.
 Others must not let Care take the lead.
 I see that absent reminder.
 This is an intersection of Death.

**Cathedral de Toledo
 Up the Street**

Brian K. Williams

