

# Sleepovers Need Strict Parent Supervision/Communication

## **DA: No parents at party before death**



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By Michael Levenson  
February 18, 2009

ANDOVER - Investigators said yesterday that no parents were home the night teenagers held an all-night party that preceded the mysterious death of a 16-year-old Wellesley girl, who apparently wandered away from the house into the cold, wearing only shorts and a jacket.

## **DA: No parents when Mun left party**

(NECN) - The Essex County district attorney said there were no parents at the party a Wellesley, Massachusetts teen attended before her death over the weekend, according to the Boston Globe. Elizabeth Mun, 16, died after wandering away from the Andover party and was found face down in a pond...

*From news.search.yahoo.com via Yahoo News.* ( February 18, 2009)

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Blogs:

Parents need to wake up. You have a role to play, it is called being a Parent, not being a friend. When you put young coed teenagers (who are dealing with both academic, emotional peer pressures) in an unsupervised setting all night long, with alcohol, bad things will happen. That is why the drinking age is 21. Young teens are not able to handle such pressures. News flash: Parents should not leave teenagers home alone for a weekend. If you have to, ask neighbor to drop in on your child, and tell your child your neighbor will do so. I'm so tired of hearing Parents suggest young teens need to experiment at a young age in order to handle alcohol as adults. The medical evidence is exactly the opposite. The earlier you start drinking the more likely you are to have problems as an adult. Someone wrote earlier "at some point you have to let kids become adults". Wake up: two Massachusetts teenage girls have died recently because of underage drinking. You have your answer.

by **Frankie21** February 18, 2:42 PM

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There is no mystery here. These parties happen all the time. Parents of teenagers need to know that if there is a house with no parents for a weekend — there is instant peer pressure on the kid in that house to have some friends over to drink alcohol. Then things have a way of escalating and getting out of hand.

Tip to parents: use the cell phone, again and again, calling your kid, other kids, other parents, until you are absolutely sure where your child is and what is actually going on. And remember — almost any teenager is capable of lying to their parents.

by **dtoohy** February 18, 10:14 AM



**Taylor Meyer**, the 17-year-old Plainville girl who was found dead Monday October 20, 2008 after she wandered from a Friday night drinking party in Norfolk, appears to have drowned in the swamp where she was found, the Norfolk district attorney's office said yesterday.

Investigators do not suspect foul play. Meyer suffered no trauma before she died, according to preliminary autopsy results. The official cause of death has not yet been determined, and more medical tests will be conducted.

Police have not specifically said Meyer was drinking at the party. A toxicology test will be performed.

But the autopsy results helped piece together what happened to Meyer when she left a bonfire and party underway among about two dozen friends from King Philip Regional High School Friday night. Police said the teens were celebrating their football team's homecoming game victory with beer and vodka shots.

People in the community continued to grieve over the death of the popular, friendly senior. Some began talking about what lessons could be drawn from the state's latest death related to teen drinking. Many said the news was still too raw as they struggled to understand the loss.

"Everybody, for all practical purposes, is still in shock and still trying to deal

with what's happened," Pat Francomano, chairman of the regional School Committee, said in an interview late Tuesday.

"It's still very early to know what's going to happen and how we move from this point."

Police did not know Meyer was missing until about 5 p.m. on Saturday, after her family realized her whereabouts were unknown. Meyer apparently had told her family she was staying overnight with friends Friday.