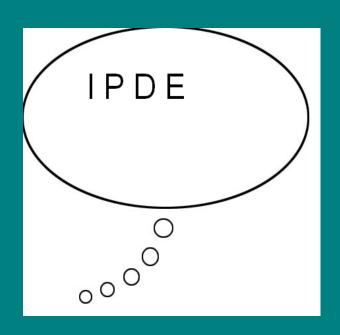
# Alcohol, Other Drugs, and Driving

- 15.1 Effects of Alcohol on Driving Safely
- 15.2 Other Drugs and Driving
- 15.3 Traffic Laws Governing the Use of Alcohol
- •15.4 Coping with Peer Pressure

Nearly Half of Those Killed in Alcohol- Related Collisions had not been Drinking, but were Victims of Drunk Drivers

## Effects of Alcohol on Driving Safely



#### Mental Abilities and Alcohol

- Slows down central nervous system
- Decrease their ability to think clearly
- Euphoria- develop a false felling of well-being
  - Take more chances, can be deadly

# Mental Abilities and Alcohol continued....

- IPDE process is affected
  - Judgment and Reasoning
  - Ex. Staring instead of scanning, not being able to pick up other clues
- Inhibitions are weakened
  - The inner force of personality that restrain or hold back one's impulsive behaviors

# Physical Abilities and Alcoho

- Reaction Time and Coordination
  - Slows reflexes and Reaction Time
  - Ex. Over steer, brake late, or accelerate suddenly
- Seeing and Speaking Abilities
  - Impairment of visual acuity, peripheral vision, night vision and depth perception.
  - Ex. Pupils reflex do not adjust to oncoming car
  - Seeing Multiple Images
  - Slurred Speech
- Alcoholism- an addiction to alcohol

## Alcohol in the Body

#### Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC)

- The percent of alcohol in the bloodstream
- One Drink = .02
- Body rids itself = .0175 an hour

5 drinks in 2 hours = .08

10 drinks in 4 hours = .16

You cannot be sober for about 7 hours after your last drink

#### Factors Affecting BAC

Amount of alcohol consumed

Amount of time over which a given amount of alcohol is consumed

Person's Body Weight

# ONLY TIME CAN REDUCE THE BODY'S BAC

## Other Drugs and Driving

#### Over- the- Counter Medicines

- Drugs that can be obtained legally without a doctors prescription
  - Side effects- drowsiness, dizziness, slowed reaction time

#### Prescription Medicine

- A drug that can be purchased legally <u>only</u> when ordered by a doctor
  - Usually stronger side effects

#### Depressant

- A drug that can slow down, or depress, the central nervous system
  - Sleeping pills, barbiturates, and alcohol

#### Stimulant

- A drug that can speed up, or stimulate, the central nervous system.
  - Amphetamines- Adderall
  - Some people will abuse this drug to stay awake longer while driving.

#### Hallucinogens

- Unpredictable mind-altering drugs that can alter personality as they distort a persons sense of direction, distance, and time.
  - Marijuana, LSD, Magic Mushrooms

#### Combining Drugs

Effects are MULTIPLYED when adding alcohol to drugs



# Traffic Laws Governing the Use of Alcohol

- All 50 states require a person to be 21 to purchase alcohol
- All 50 states have an implied-consent law
  - If you receive a drivers license means you automatically consent to be tested for BAC and other drugs



- Driving While Intoxicated (DWI)
- Driving Under the Influence (DUI)
  - Used in Illinois Legal jargon
  - BAC level .08 or higher
  - Penalties for conviction
    - Suspended License
    - Fine
    - Jail
    - Community Service
    - Ignition interlock device





#### Zero – Tolerance Law

- Makes it illegal for persons under the age of 21 to drive with any measurable amount of alcohol in the blood
- Illinois does enforceZero Tolerance



#### Tests for Intoxication

#### Chemical testing

- Analysis of blood, urine, or breath can accurately determine BAC
  - Intoxilyzer- breath-test machine

#### Field Sobriety Test

- Series of on the spot tests
  - Nystagmus Test
    - Involuntary jerking of the eye



# If you are Stopped by a Police Officer

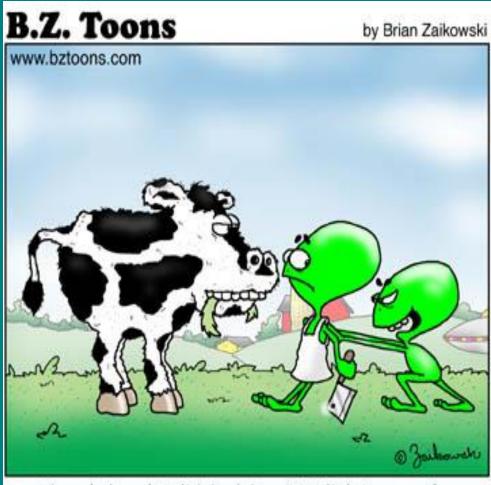
- 1. Slow, until you know the officer is pulling you over
- 2. Signal
- 3. Pull over to the right and stop in a safe place
  - May need to pull into parking lot or side street
- 4. Keep hands visible
- 5. Stay in your vehicle
- 6. Follow the Instructions the officer gives you



## Coping with Peer Pressure

#### Peer Pressure

- The influence of others of a similar age
- Positive
  - Helpful and encouraging
  - Help friends make the right decisions
- Negative
  - Do not have their friends best interests in mind



C'mon! c'mon! I didn't drive 4.35 light-years for you to chicken out at the last minute!

### Peer Education

 A process in which young people help other young people make decisions and determine goals

