#### Forgotten factors in violence against women

# Alcohol corporations, their harmful products, & maintenance of harmful cultural norms

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United Nations Commission on the Status of Women March 8, 2013



#### **Alcohol Justice**

We promote evidence-based public health policies and organize campaigns with diverse communities and youth against alcohol-related harm.

- Increase alcohol taxes and fees
- Remove dangerous, youth-oriented products from the market
- Restrict alcohol advertising & promotions
- Support state control of alcohol distribution and sales



#### Alcohol, marketing, & violence

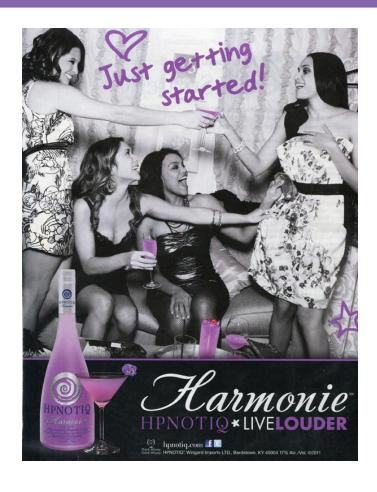
- Gender-based violence is one type of alcohol-related harm that is seen around the globe.
- Alcohol use can impact the risk and consequences of genderbased violence on a variety of levels.
- Alcohol use is a modifiable factor contributing to the risk of perpetrating, and experiencing, violence against women.
- Victimization is a modifiable factor contributing to the risk of heavy alcohol use.
- Alcohol is one of the most heavily marketed products in the world.



# Pretty, but evidently not human







# Giggly & glamorous



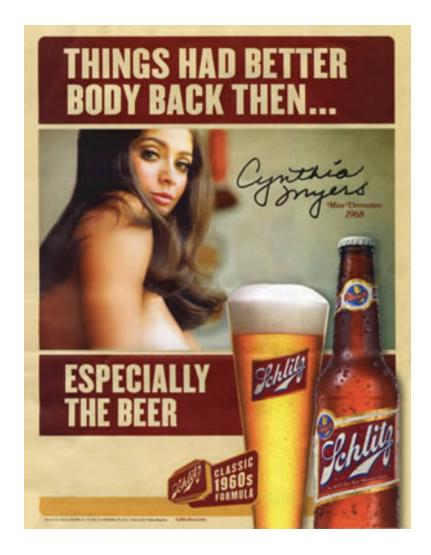


# Just wait 'til you get older...





# Again, women = things









Not only a sexualized woman in the ad, but a product named after sex itself



# Alcohol = sex, right?





#### **ADFREAK**

THE BEST AND WORST OF ADVERTISING

# **UFC Ring Girl Gets Sticky in Giant Lime Pile for Bud Light**

By Tim Nudd

June 15, 2011, 2:10 PM EDT

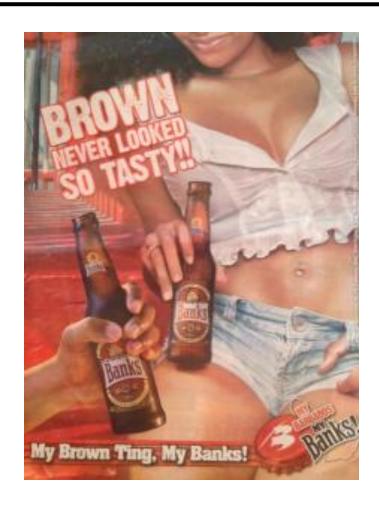


UFC, youtube.com, & Bud Light Lime





#### Women of color included, insulted...

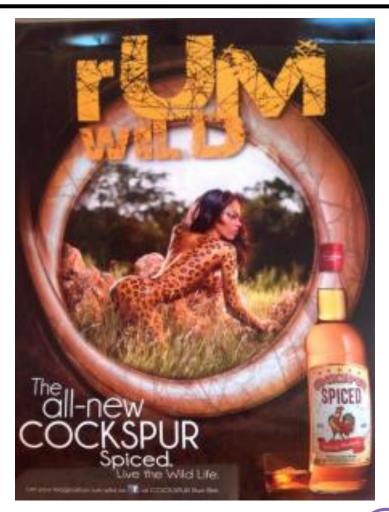






#### ...and dehumanized, too







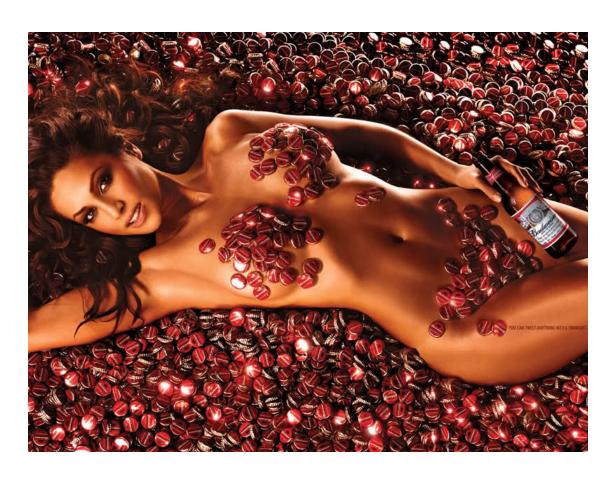
#### More sexualization



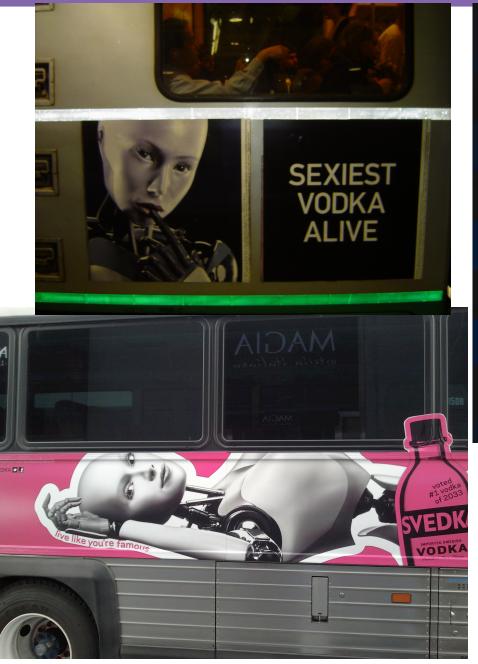




# Bottle caps as bikini...or beach?









#### Woman as robot



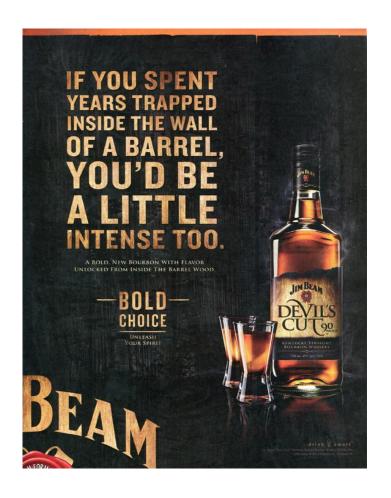
## Women (& men) as product







#### Men will be men...& product/killer too





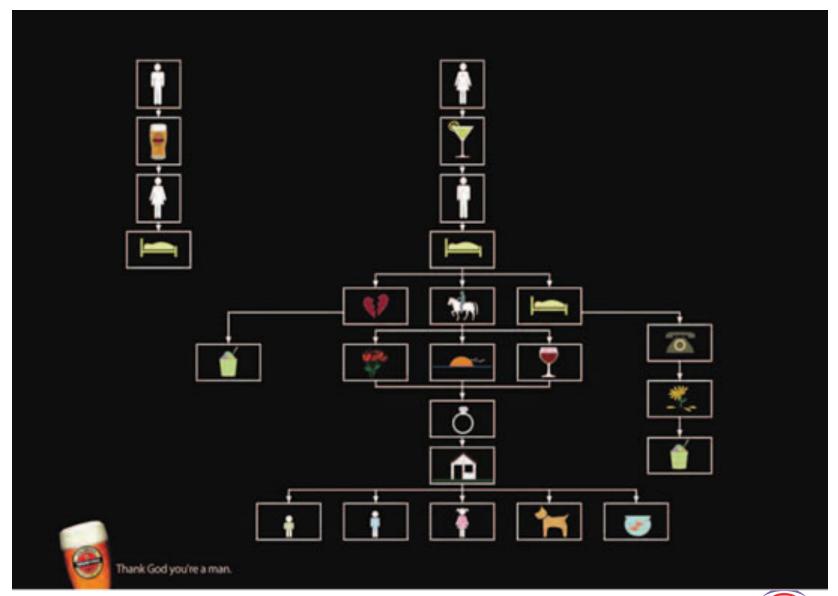


# Men will be product/will be violent











## Yet women still have choices. Right?





## New Frontier - Digital Marketing

"The goal is not simply to expose consumers to a particular product or service, but to create an environment in which they are actually interacting with the brand, 'befriending' the product, and integrating it into their personal and social relationships."

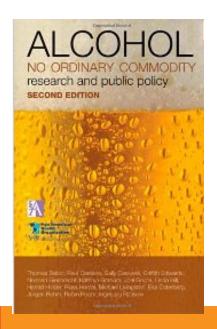
Chester, J. et al. (2010). Alcohol marketing in the digital age. Berkeley Media Studies Group. Accessed August 12, 2010 from: www.democraticmedia.org/files/u1/2010-05-alcohol-marketing.pdf.



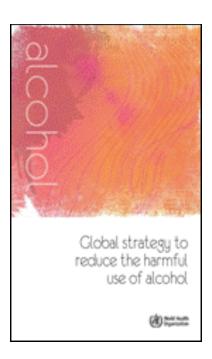
#### What the industry is fighting

#### The most effective policies include:

- Increasing alcohol taxes
- Government monopoly of retail sales
- Legal restrictions on alcohol ad exposure
- •Minimum legal purchase age
- Outlet density restrictions









## Industry Myths about Advertising

Ads are intended for adults; youth are not impacted

Education is the best solution to underage drinking

Self-regulation is effective and essential

The First Amendment bars advertising restrictions



# Alcohol Advertising & Youth Exposure

#### Greater exposure to alcohol ads contributes to

- earlier initiation of drinking for youth who have not started
- higher drinking levels among underage youth who drink
- positive expectations and attitudes about alcohol that help create an environment promoting underage drinking.

The alcohol industry spent more than \$6 billion on advertising and promotion in the U.S. in 2005.

Anderson, P., et al (2009). Impact of alcohol advertising and media exposure on adolescent alcohol use: A systematic review of longitudinal studies. Alcohol and Alcoholism 44: 229-243. Center on Alcohol Marketing and Youth. (2007). Alcohol advertising and youth. Retrieved April 29, 2010 from: <a href="http://camy.org/factsheets/index.php?FactsheetID=1">http://camy.org/factsheets/index.php?FactsheetID=1</a>.



#### Industry self-regulation charade



#### **Barriers to effective self-regulation include:**

- Lack of public awareness
- Lack of an independent review
- Subjective nature of guidelines
- Lack of penalties and enforcement power

A 2008 Marin Institute study found complaints regarding ads from companies with a member on the DISCUS board were three times less likely to be found in violation of its Code.

Why Big Alcohol Can't Police Itself: A Review of Advertising Self-Regulation in the Distilled Spirits Industry (2004-2007)



#### How alcohol industry influences

- Consolidate into multinational conglomerates
- Target vulnerable populations: youth, women, disenfranchised
- Create trade & front organizations
- Misdirect with voluntary self-regulation charade
- Fund public relations/education/"responsibility" programs
- Lobby to undermine effective public policy



## Big Alcohol







#### DIAGEO









#### More Big Alcohol















#### **Global Alcohol Producers Group**

#### Links

Alcohol Policy Think Tank

International Center for Alcohol Policies

#### Trade Associations

Beer Institute

**Brewers of Europe** 

Brewers Association of Japan

British Beer & Pub Association

Comité Européen des Entreprises Vins

Distilled Spirits Association (New Zealand)

Distilled Spirits Council of the United States (DISCUS)

The European Spirits Organisation - CEPS

Federacion Espanola de Bebidas Espirituosas

Scotch Whiskey Association (SWA)

Wine Federation of Australia

Wine Institute

Worldwide Brewing Alliance

World Spirits Alliance

World Wine Trade Group

# Trade groups





#### Front groups



Anheuser-Busch InBev

**Asahi Breweries** 

Bacardi-Martini

Beam Global

Brown-Forman

Diageo

Heineken

Molson Coors

Pernod Ricard

SABMiller



#### What we can do

#### Enact the most effective public health policies

- Increase alcohol prices
- Decrease outlet density
- Stop dangerous products such as alcopops
- Restrict alcohol advertising, especially that targets youth
- Refuse Big Alcohol sponsorship and involvement
- Support state alcohol control, regulation



## South Africa proposes alcohol ad ban





#### The evidence is clear

We face a global production and supply machine, global producer-funded organizations actively promoting ineffective policies and global consumer marketing using global media to interact with an increasingly global youth culture.

A strong, well-funded, global response is essential and urgent.



#### Take action, & join us

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