### How to Stop Big Alcohol from Making Its Mark on Our Communities

Sarah Mart, MS, MPH Research & Policy Manager Marin Institute

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## **Marin Institute Strategies**

Monitor and expose the alcohol industry's harmful products, practices, and promotion

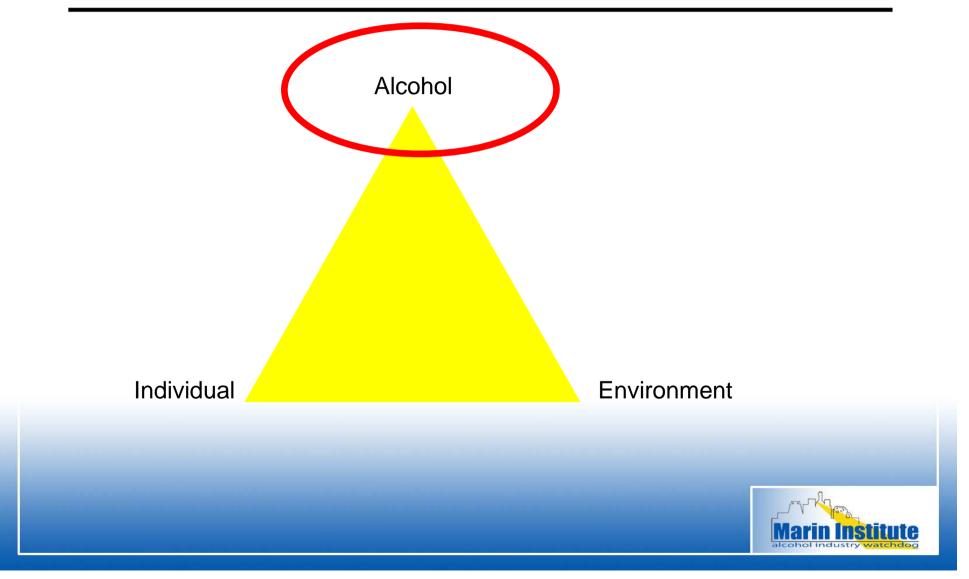
Research viable policy solutions to reduce alcoholrelated harm

Support communities, coalitions and organizers in rejecting Big Alcohol's damaging actions

Frame the issues from a reasonable public health perspective



### **Public Health Framework**



# **Big Alcohol's Tactics**

- Consolidate into transnational firms
- Market: Get kids hooked
- □ Lobby: undermine effective prevention
- Public Relations: Blame parents (schools, servers, cops)
- Public Relations: Fund ineffective prevention





**ABInBev:** 

\$395 million advertising 9 beers
\$3,460,000 federal lobbying
\$373,500 federal campaign contributions

- Parent companies HQ in Belgium and England
- 80% of the U.S. beer market

MillerCoors: •\$315 million advertising 7 beers •\$1,367,000 federal lobbying •\$426,930 fed campaign contrib





- □ HQ: England
- Top spirits producer
- □ \$99 million advertising
- □ \$1.96 million federal lobbying
- □ \$161,578 fed contributions







- □ HQ: France
- Top spirits producer
- □ \$42 million advertising
- \$1,105,000 federal lobbying









- HQ: Bermuda
- Top spirits producer
- □ \$42 million advertising
- \$710,000 federal lobbying
- \$123,251 federal contributions

# **Lobbying Arms**



**BEER INSTITUTE** 

Distillers fighting drunk driving and underage drinking





DISTILLED SPIRITS COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES

\$3,500,000 federal lobbying \$23,118 federal contributions



## **Front Groups**

Bacardi U.S.A. Beam Global **Brown-Forman Constellation Brands** DIAGEO Hood River Distillers Pernod-Ricard



Distillers fighting drunk driving and underage drinking

Sidney Frank Importing Co.

Anheuser-Busch InBev Asahi Breweries **Bacardi-Martini Beam Global Brown-Forman** Diageo Heineken **Molson Coors** Pernod Ricard SABMiller





International Center for Alcohol Policies

Analysis. Balance. Partnership.

# **Big Alcohol's Tactics**

- Consolidate into transnational firms
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### What can we do?

- Increase alcohol prices (taxes and fees)
- □ Stop youth-oriented products (AEDs, alcopops)
- Restrict alcohol advertising
- Refuse Big Alcohol funding and messages
- Expose industry PR, lobbying, marketing



### **Increase Alcohol Prices**

One of the most effective prevention strategies

Youth are especially sensitive to price

Alcohol taxes can generate new revenue for states

Revenue can fund necessary alcohol programs



### **Increase Alcohol Prices**

For example, a 50% increase in price from a tax change would reduce:

•Underage drinking by 32.5%

•The number of heavy (more than 9 drinking occasions in last month) underage drinkers by 21%

•The number of youth traffic fatalities by 15.5%





### **Increase Alcohol Prices**

□ A 10% increase in price would reduce traffic crashes by 5 - 10%, with even larger reductions (7 - 17%) for youth

□ A 10% increase in price would reduce cirrhosis mortality from 8.3 - 12.8%

Higher prices can reduce rates of homicide, suicide, domestic violence and child abuse



#### What Happened this Legislative Session

- At least half of the states proposed tax increases
- Most bills are already dead
- Some are still pending or are in 2-year sessions
- Increases in:
  - Kentucky
     Massachusetts
  - New York New Jersey
  - Illinois North Carolina



### What Happened this Legislative Session

Lifted Sales Tax Exemption	<u>Increase</u>
· · ·	

- Massachusetts
   6.5%
- Kentucky 6%

#### Raised Excise Tax

- New York
   11 cents (wine) & 3 cents (beer)
- New Jersey
- North Carolina

- 25 % (not beer)8.7 cents (wine) & 5 cents (beer\*)
- Illinois 64 cents
- 64 cents (spirits) \$4.05 (wine) 4.6 cents (beer)

Illinois tax is being challenged in court

\* per liter, all others per gallon



#### **What Happened this Legislative Session**

At least 13 states had bills that died:

- Arkansas
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Indiana
- Kentucky\*
- Maryland
- Minnesota

Montana Nevada New Hampshire New Mexico New York\* Oregon

Others in 2-year sessions, many will be back in 2010

\*States with additional higher tax proposals than what passed.



### **Bottom of the Beer Barrel**

\$0.02 \$0.06 \$0.06	1935 1971	
	1971	
\$0.06		
ψυιου	1969	
\$0.08	1976	
\$0.08	1982	
\$0.08	1977	
\$0.08	1947	
\$0.09	1972	
\$0.09	1989	
\$0.10	1989	
\$0.11	1975	
\$0.11	2001	
\$0.12	1992	
\$0.12	1981	
	\$0.08 \$0.08 \$0.09 \$0.09 \$0.10 \$0.11 \$0.11 \$0.11 \$0.12	\$0.08 \$0.08 \$0.08 \$0.08 1977 \$0.08 1947 \$0.09 1972 \$0.09 1989 \$0.10 1989 \$0.10 1989 \$0.11 1975 \$0.11 1975 \$0.11 1975 \$0.11 1992



### **Stop Youth-Oriented Products**



### **Restrict Alcohol Advertising**

- Assess local environment for out of home alcohol ads
- Limit ads to adultoriented media



Monitor to ensure enforcement



# **Turn Down Big Alcohol Funding**

- Big Alcohol pays for activities that don't work
  - Guest speakers
  - Information/awareness educational materials: posters, flyers, brochures, online info, ads
  - Awareness events, chotchkes, banners, signs

#### □ They do not pay for initiatives to:

- Increase alcohol taxes
- Decrease access and availability
- Restrict alcohol advertising to youth



# **Turn Down Big Alcohol Funding**

Big Alcohol spends money to add positive value to brand and company image



#### THE #1 CAN, FOR THE #1 FAN'





# **Turn Down Big Alcohol Funding**

Big Alcohol does not fund prevention strategies that reduce product sales

Our company is and always will be a **sales-driven organization**...In 2008, steps were taken to ensure we become a truly **consumer-centric company**...

...we leveraged our leading brands to encourage the right consumption behavior; regular, but moderate and with a full understanding of the negative personal and social consequences of excessive drinking. Increased taxes:

**Lobbied against** 

Restricted advertising:

**Lobbied against** 

Reduced availability:

**Lobbied against** 



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# **Take Action, Join Us**

www.MarinInstitute.org

Sarah Mart, MS, MPH Research & Policy Manager

sarahm@MarinInstitute.org 415/257.2487 (direct)



