

## If you are a child and have no choice but to ride in a car with a driver who has been drinking:

- Sit in the back seat.
- Buckle-up tight and use your booster seat, if needed.
- Put all of your belongings on the floor.
- Do not bother the driver and stay quiet.
- Tell a trusted grown-up immediately about any unsafe ride.



#### Every child deserves a designated driver.

Children are our greatest resource and our future. MADD is taking action to help protect the children who are needlessly put in danger every day in this country. It is irresponsible to endanger an innocent child and should not be tolerated by a society that puts children first. Driving impaired with a child in the vehicle is a form of child abuse.

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1.800.GET.MADD www.madd.org

"Local chapter information here"



Every Child Deserves a Designated Driver

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# Every child deserves a designated driver.

#### If you see an adult who is visibly impaired attempting to drive with a child in the car:

- Calmly suggest alternative transportation, recommend the driver postpone travel or offer to drive the child, if appropriate. Avoid a heated altercation that can put the child in further danger.
- Call 911 with as much information as possible (such as name of the driver, vehicle description and/or license plate, and destination).
  Also be sure to give them your name and contact information for responding officers.
- Document the situation so that your notes can be used later.
- Notify another parent or caregiver of the situation.
- Teach children techniques for keeping themselves safe if they are ever forced to ride with an impaired driver.
- · Report your concerns to state or local child protective agencies.





If you are a parent dealing with repeat violations of impaired driving or child endangerment, as well as child custody and visitations:

- Ask a third-party, like a neighbor, to witness when the child is picked up. If a third-party is unavailable, video/audio record the exchange. Use caution when taping as taping in some states is illegal unless both parties know it is being done.
- Request a court-ordered alcohol/drug assessment for individuals with repeat violations and request the following provisions be considered:
  - Prohibiting children to ride with anyone who has documented drug/alcohol problems;
  - Suspending the offender's driver's license;
  - Requiring an ignition interlock device on the offender's vehicle;
  - Restricting visitation or supervised visitation program.

When life is forever changed, **MADD HELPS** survivors survive.

MADD provides services at **no cost** TO VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS of **drunk and drugged driving crashes.**  MADD's mission is to stop drunk driving, support the victims of this violent crime, and prevent underage drinking.

To be connected with a MADD Victim Advocate, please call our 24-Hour Victim Services Help Line at **877.MADD.HELP (623.3435)**.

madd.org



We are there for you... **EVERY STEP** of the way.



MADD Victim Services 24-Hour Help Line 877.MADD.HELP madd.org



#### MADD Victim Services

The impact of a substanceimpaired driving crash—from alcohol and/or drugs—goes far beyond the crash itself, sending shockwaves through families.

Victims/survivors are often left bereaved, injured, and emotionally and financially devastated.

MADD Victim Services helps victims/survivors with the challenges they face after a crash and as long as they need us throughout the healing journey. Services available include:

- Emotional support
- Advocacy in the criminal and civil justice systems
- Court accompaniment, where available
- Assistance with writing a Victim Impact Statement
- Access to support groups, counselors, and other community resources
- Connections with other victims/survivors
- Tributes to honor victims/survivors
- Informational brochures

To help with your healing journey:

- Know that your grief is personal, unique.
- Ask for help. Be careful not to isolate yourself.
- Develop a support system. Talk through your thoughts and feelings.
- Take care of your physical health. Give yourself permission to rest.
- Recognize that grief is a journey. Be prepared for rushes of emotions.
- Share happy memories.
- Don't overwhelm or over-commit yourself.
- Remember to include others who are grieving, especially children, in decisions.





### Coping with Grief