



131. Alcoholism

W: Sarah, how is the alcohol consumption within the university?

Sarah: are you thinking about this new phenomenon called binge drinking?

W: Yes, I heard about it and found it quite scary.

Sarah: well I think it is especially famous in England, but France has not been spared, where apparently binge drinkers are even younger than in England.

W: To my mind the issue probably comes from the lack of anti-drinking campaigns.

Sarah: do you think so? I do think that we should first ban the advertising of alcohol, raise the minimum drinking age, and eventually the legal blood alcohol limit for driving should be lowered.

W: you're certainly right. It is difficult to fathom what drives people to drink to excess: group dynamics, stress, anger probably all play a part. Every year in the UK alcohol lands one hundred fifty thousand people in hospital through illness and accidents.

Sarah: We all know that bingeing is linked to increased risk of thrombosis, high blood pressure and sudden cardiac death.

W: unfortunately I don't think that might prevent people from drinking, as just in the US, alcohol contributes to a hundred thousand deaths a year, and per capita consumption of alcohol in the UK has doubled since nineteen sixty.

Sarah: well at least to restrict the hours of sale would help decrease the convenience of purchasing.

W: maybe. It's a vast subject anyway.



GLOSSARY:

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| Alcoholism: l'alcoolisme | The advertising : la publicité |
| To be spared: être épargné | Minimum drinking age : l'âge legal pour consommer de l'alcool |
| To raise: élever | legal blood alcohol limit: le taux d'alcool autorisé |
| To lower: baisser | Group dynamics: l'effet de groupe |
| To fathom: comprendre, sonder | Anger : la colère |
| To drive: conduire | Illness : la maladie |
| To drink to excess: boire à l'excès | Thrombosis: thrombose |
| To land: atterrir, ici se retrouver | High blood pressure: l'hypertension |
| To binge : prendre une cuite | Sudden cardiac death: crise cardiaque mortelle |
| To link : lier | A vast subject: un vaste sujet |
| To play a part : jouer un rôle | The hours of sale: les heures de vente |
| To prevent from : empêcher de | The convenience of purchasing: la facilité d'achat |
| To contribute : contribuer | Within: au sein de |
| To double : doubler | Younger : plus jeune |
| To restrict : restreindre | Eventually : enfin, pour finir |
| To purchase : acheter | Through : par, à cause de |
| The alcohol consumption : la consommation d'alcool | Per capita: par personne |
| A new phenomenon : un nouveau phénomène | At least : au moins |
| Binge drinking : la biture express, l'alcool-défoncé | |
| Binge drinkers : les adeptes de la biture express | |
| The issue : le problème | |
| The lack : le manque | |
| Anti-drinking campaign : une campagne anti-alcoolique | |