

## **IMPORTANT QUESTIONS TO ASK**

2006-2007

Parents,

Most likely, your adolescent will be invited to numerous social functions this year. The gatherings may be very large groups of kids or small ones. Either way, here are four groups of quick, easy, and very important questions to ask the parents where your child will be going. These can apply whether it's a party, sleepover, or just for a visit. Obviously, if you know the family well, you already know the answers to these questions. Remember, you have the right to know this information. **It's not pestering, it's parenting.** If the adults in charge of the social function are upset by your inquiries, that may be enough of an answer for you right there. Bottom line is your child's safety. Some MMS parents, whose kids were on my team in years past, compiled this list. They are such a good idea that I wanted to share them with you.

Questions to ask:

1. How many kids are attending this party (or whatever) and how many adult chaperones will there be? Will these chaperones be mingling within the group of kids or absent from where the party is taking place. (For example, in another part of the house)
2. Will alcohol be served to minors at this party? Will the adult chaperones be drinking alcoholic beverages at this party? If someone arrives with alcohol, will you allow it to be consumed by the minors at the party? How will you handle this?
3. Do you have firearms in the house and if you do, are they locked away from the kids attending the party?
4. If you are showing a video or movie, what is the rating of the movie?

**PLEASE REMEMBER, *WE* ARE THE ADULTS AND *WE* SET THE RULES AND THE CONSEQUENCES AS PARENTS. EVEN IF YOUR CHILD IS UPSET BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT ALLOWED TO ATTEND SOME SOCIAL FUNCTION, THEY'LL GET OVER IT. 😊**