

Locust Valley Veterinary Clinic



Dr. Stuart E. Gross

FALSE PREGNANCY???

Clients think I am kidding when I make this diagnosis. In actuality, false pregnancy can and does occur in dogs, cats, mice and occasionally in humans. It is a bizarre condition that can be explained medically and physiologically. Medically, it is known as pseudocyesis. It is caused by an imbalance of hormones and is seen most frequently in unsprayed dogs, and less so in unsprayed cats. The "pregnancy" hormone,

SAFE'S PRIDE COALITION PARENT COMMITTEE

Teen Drinking and Driving in Glen Cove

Talking to Your Teen About the Dangers of Drinking and Driving

It's a fact: Teens in Glen Cove are drinking and driving. According to the most recent Bach-Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment Survey administered by SAFE Inc. and the Glen Cove School District, drinking and driving rates are as high as 20 percent in the 12th grade. Furthermore, many teens who use alcohol report getting it from friends and family, some finding alcohol readily available in their own homes and those of friends and relatives.

This sobering reality is a cause for concern. According to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's most recent National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 27.9 percent of teens ages 12-20 reported drinking alcohol in the past month. Of teens ages 16-17 years old, 7.8 percent reported driving under the influence of alcohol in the past month. Of teens 18-20 years old, this percentage jumps to a staggering 18.3 percent.

Teen drinking and driving is a serious problem that affects us all. SAFE Inc. is committed to eliminating teen alcohol use in Glen Cove. Through a combination of prevention, education, and law enforcement efforts, SAFE Inc. combats the dev-



SAFE, Inc.

Substance Abuse Free Environment

astating effects that can result from underage drinking in order to build a safer Glen Cove.

SAFE Inc. continues to encourage parents in Glen Cove to talk to their teens about the dangers of underage drinking before it's too late. Tips for talking with your teens include:

- Establish firm ground rules and expectations regarding underage drinking.

- Before social outings with friends, be clear on their transportation plans.

- If your teen's transportation is a teen driver, communicate your expectations with the teen driver's parents.

- Always make sure your teen has a back-up transportation plan in case of emergency – a teen should never feel pressure to get into a car with a driver who has been drinking.

- Keep your lines of communication open. Encourage your teens to talk to you about concerns they may have about underage drinking or substance use.

The need for prevention strategies and consistent law enforcement of underage consumption of alcohol and sales has been an ongoing goal for SAFE Inc.'s PRIDE Project Coalition. In 2004, and again in 2008, SAFE, Inc. received a Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grant from the Office of National Drug Control Policy, making it one of only 224 agencies nationwide to be so awarded. SAFE continues to take proactive steps to stem the tide of abuse among youth and teens through prevention, education, treatment options, community awareness, and increased policing. In addition, the Coalition works in conjunction with the Glen Cove Police Department under a grant for the Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws.

For more information regarding SAFE, Inc and the PRIDE Coalition, or to view SAFE Inc.'s Public Service Announcement, visit www.safeglencove.org, or call the SAFE, Inc office at 676-2008.