Knife crime and drinking (Guest blog)

blogs.lse.ac.uk/polis/2008/07/26/knife-crime-and-drinking-guest-blog/

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Does drinking contribute to teenage knife crime? Polis Summer School student Sarah Montz reports.

New concerns have emerged in London as violence amongst teenagers has reached a record high. According to recent numbers, one in four London teens has been involved in a gun or knife altercation at some point in their young life.

Many politicians have attributed this startling number to the endemic problem of binge drinking that has become increasingly more significant. For many, the obvious solution is to increase the drinking age in an attempt to prevent London youngsters from obtaining the suggested root of the problem.

Opinions concerning this issue have run rampant in past weeks as politicians argue about the impact that increasing the drinking age will have on the violence that has become pervasive on the streets of London.

The recent death of Nigerian native Damilola Taylor from a London stabbing will hold significant water in future legislation that will arise concerning this issue. But do you think that increasing the drinking age will help stop the knifings in London?

Sarah Montz is a Polis Summer School pupil.

sarahmuntz.bmp



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