

Though I agree with not permitting youth to have access to Tobacco products, Alcohol, marijuana and E-cigarettes. I believe we as a society are missing the key elements here.

The OLCC will have enough to deal with after passing measure 91 legalizing marijuana. New laws, on an already full plate. It is already hard enough for them to keep alcohol out of the hands of our youth. You can't tell me that isn't an issue, I know it is, it was a issue when I was a kid and I'm almost 53. Now marijuana, kids have had access to that as well. If we are so concerned with the well being of our youth. Why don't we get to the real issue that is affecting our children. The lack in our society to maintain good family values. Many of these kids who partake in use of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs are already at risk children whose behavior is precipitated by their environment. They are being raised by parents who are addicted, in the penal system and wards of the state, or parents who are so preoccupied with meeting their own emotional needs they neglect the emotional needs of their children. Meth use is totally out of control in this country, I see it on a daily basis. Many grandparents are currently raising their grandchildren due to the meth problem in this state alone. Parents need to be parents! Keep things up out of reach of small children (child proof your house parents) it isn't rocket science it is common sense. If you don't want them to smoke, drink or use drugs be an example don't use these substances, make your "FAMILY your priority". Maybe instead of making more laws we need to reach out farther to these at risk children by implementing more mentoring programs that address the emotional needs of these children. They aren't the 10% of the population who tends to stay in line with what is expected of them. They are the norm of our society. They are children who have a deep emotional need to be accepted (being cool), understood (being important) and loved. These are the same youth that become involved in violent crime, sexual promiscuity and attempt suicide. The same needs that have plagued our society for years and still go unfulfilled. Let's not create another generation of lost and forgotten children, who become lost and forgotten parents and, the cycle still continues. It's cause and effect. I am a product of this cycle.

Thank you,

Concerned Oregon resident