

I grew up with an alcoholic mother. I've ridden in the car with her countless times while she was drunk. I don't remember one time that I didn't think "what if". Drunk driving affects every single person in our society. Even if you are not the one in the car either driving drunk or the passenger of a drunk driver, it doesn't mean someone else driving on the road isn't drunk. I think that we all have to assume every driver is drunk in order to drive defensively.

My father always used to drive after having "a few" beers, I never thought much of it. I've also been a passenger to people have been drunk. Some times when I'd go out with friends they'd be a little tipsy and I'd let them drive anyway. I can recall at least 5 times that's happened. But since Matt's accident I always make sure there is a sober driver, otherwise I stay the night where I am or I drive because I know I'm sober. I have driven people home from parties that I didn't even go to. I didn't even know some of the people either. I've picked up friends at parties because they didn't have a designated driver or couldn't drive themselves. I am a 24/7 DD for all people who need one.

Growing up with a mother who had no disregard for her own child's safety, has made me realize that being intoxicated changes everything about you and will make you do things you wouldn't normally do if you were sober. I think that in order to stop drunk driving every car should be installed with a breathalyzer. You would have to blow it before you could start the car. Even though intoxicated people could get sober people to blow it for them I hope that no one would do that. You wouldn't give an intoxicated person a gun so why would you let them drive a car.