

# *Why Many Youths Love to Drink*

by Bona Rae Villarta (April 6, 2011)

Around the world, youths engage in drinking alcohol, sometimes doing it illegally (due to the age guidelines, which vary from area to area). In the Philippines, 18 is the legal drinking age, yet I know of many youths who had their first drink much earlier than that. Also, certain faiths explicitly prohibit their followers from drinking alcohol, that's why there are many teetotalers here.

I don't drink, and I won't ever drink  
Because it just harms the body over all of its good claims  
You can socialize without involving alcohol  
But it's hard to do that for most of us.

Our age is an age of discovery  
In which we are partly free from our parents,  
And want to try everything out there  
But there are good and bad things out there,  
One of the mixed bags is drinking alcohol.

Here, alcohol is sometimes combined with smoking  
Either alone or with friends, it doesn't matter  
Some claim that drinking takes all their worries away  
And take that claim with it for maybe the rest of their lives.

While we are still young, one of our ways to bond is through drinking  
And it shows that we are mild drinkers after all  
While there are some of us whose religious beliefs or medical conditions  
Overpower tradition and temptation,  
Yet drinking is a tradition that will continue forevermore.

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