

It's Okay To Call Home

By Zach Chandler

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The sounds of loud music being blasted and the sounds of cars racing up and down the streets echoed through the air.

"We got a call of possible underage drinking at a house party. Officer John can you check it out?"

"I'm on it." Officer John replies, dreading the inevitable fate of having to call parents, sobriety test kids and do even more paperwork. He thinks he knows exactly how this night will end.

The morning was warm, partly cloudy but you could still see the sun. The day started off like any other. Kids walking through the halls, talking to friends and praying for that final bell to let them go home for a well deserved weekend. That is after some of them go to the halloween party being hosted that night. It's not the first time it's been hosted and it's surely not the last. High schoolers will jump at any opportunity to drink alcohol and try weed. Anything to look cool and fit in. It was that night around 9:00 pm when we got the call alarming us of underage drinking. We arrived soon after at 9:15 pm. My partner and I rolled up to the house quiet, no lights, no sirens. The kids were caught in a panic when they opened the front door to see two police officers standing there. The yells of kids echoing throughout the neighborhood as they run out the back door warning others that there were cops. Most ran straight to the woods and didn't stop until they had reached the park on the other side. Some others were stopped before they could get out and a couple ran for their cars. While running to his car Oliver gets spotted and chased by one of the cops.

"You get in that car and your life is over young man, you hear me." yelled Officer John.

The kid who'd only just gotten his license got into his moms old rusty Honda Accord and sped off without pause. The officer jumped in his cruiser and tried to follow him but the kid

was nowhere to be seen. Until he wasn't. The officer spotted his car head first into a tree. The kid was going too fast and was intoxicated causing him veer off the road slamming into the tree. He had been launched through the windshield when the car hit the tree and layed on the ground 10 feet away. I was the first person at the crash. I had been the officer who'd chased him and now I am the first one to find him lying on the ground. His body lying there in a pool of blood, with cuts littering his body. By the time the paramedics arrived he barely had a pulse. I stood there in utter silence trying to process what had just happened. In the 15 years I've been a police officer I could have never seen my night ending like this, so horrific and terrifying. It made me think how I'd feel if it was my kid. If that kid had never tried to drive. He could've called his parents and asked them for help. They would have much rather picked him up being intoxicated than having to see their son being sent to the hospital not knowing if he will live.