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# Long tradition of alcohol restrictions

- State monopoly for the sale of all beverages with more than 3.5 % alcohol. Drinks expensive due to high taxation
- DWI limit is  $BAC > 0.02$  % - Driving licence suspension if violated
- Zero tolerance for DUI of illegal drugs and narcotics

# 1997 The Vision Zero

- Nobody should get killed or seriously wounded in road traffic
- Shared responsibility between Man, Road, and Vehicle
- Reduction of fatalities from 540 (1997) to 397 (2008)

## Trial program 1999-2009

- Three counties
- Only private cars
- Two years program
- The whole country
- Also trucks and buses
- 4,000 – 5,000 participants

## Rules common for the whole trial period

- All DWI offenders welcome
- Participation 2 years instead of suspension
- Medical control every third month
- Normal biomarkers during the 2nd year
- Unless drug abusers
- Breath test failures not tolerated
- No driving outside Sweden
- New full licence with the former categories issued after fulfilled program.

## Bad experience

- **Only 11-13 % of the target group apply for participation**
- **No low BAC offenders apply**
- **High costs an excluding factor (10,1000 AUD)**
- **40-50 % of the participants drop out**
- **DWI required for participation**

## Good experience

- **Success for those who fulfil the program**
- **Lasting changes in the alcohol and driving habits**
- **Less recidivism**
- **Reduced number of traffic accidents**
- **Reduced need for hospital treatment**
- **Reduced sick-leave**
- **Reduced alcohol consumption**
- **“Saved our marriage”**
- **“Could keep my job”**

## Considerations for a permanent program

- Mandatory interlocks for all DWI offenders before relicensing?
- The costs should be kept down
- Test failures should not automatically mean exclusion
- Open up the program for problem drinkers without DWI

# Proposal for Permanent Programs

## **System requirements**

- **simple**
- **cheap**
- **differentiated**
- **Two different programs**
- **Rent or buy your interlock**
- **No application fee**
- **Less medical controls**

## High Risk Offender Group

- **DWI above 0.1**
- **More than one DWI during 5 years**
- **Dependency or abuse diagnose, or**
- **Unreliable drinking habits**
- **2 years participation time**
- **Less medical controls within the program**
- **No automatic driving licence after completion**

**Alternative:**

**Suspension period of at least 2 years**

## **”Low” Risk Offender Group**

- **First time offenders with a BAC below 0,1**
- **No diagnosed alcohol problems**
- **The participation time is one year**
- **Alternative to participation: longer suspension time than today, at least one year**

# Who will win the Nobel prize for solving the DWI problem?

