Think Before You Drink

By Editorial Staff

10 Reasons to Stay Away from Sodas and Energy Drinks

- 1. The average soda has no nutritional value only sugar, carbonated water, caramel color, natural flavors, caffeine, phosphoric acid and high-fructose corn syrup.
- 2. According to Harvard researchers, the risk of childhood obesity increases 1.6 times with each additional daily serving of soda consumed.
- 3. Soda adds more sugar to a typical 2-year-old's diet than cookies, candies and ice cream combined.
- 4. Numerous studies indicate that the sugar and acids in soda may cause tooth decay.
- 5. According to some household cleaning Web sites, soda can be used as a toilet cleaner and rust and grease remover.
 - A soda can. Copyright â Stock Photo / Register Mark
- 6. A Harvard study of teenage athletes identified a strong association between soda consumption and bone fractures in 14-year-old girls.
- 7. An average can of soda has 35-38 mg of caffeine and as much as 13 teaspoons of sugar.
- 8. Most energy drinks contain about 80 mg of caffeine, along with other legal stimulants like guarana and ginseng.
- 9. Certain energy drinks contain huge blasts of caffeine (up to 280 mg) almost triple the caffeine in a cup of coffee.
- 10. Energy drinks can boost heart rate and blood pressure, increase anxiety, dehydrate the body and cause insomnia.

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