Alcohol etc. (Scotland) Bill

James Kelly

I am totally against minimum pricing for alcohol. This will affect the majority of people who drink responsibly. I am making the assumption that you are trying to tackle the issue of people who binge drink and in particular teenagers. If this is the case then other appropriate action should be taken, and the most obvious one is education/support. I work with young people and if they abuse alcohol or drugs, they are using it as a coping mechanism for issues that are psychologically underlying. You may solve the problem to a certain extent but it will result in other indulgences. I feel that it is fundamental that the answer is to deal with the issue of why people are over indulging. I feel it is an attempt that has not been thought out properly. I am happy to be part of a working group to look at alternative ways to deal with the 'problem of binge drinking'. I would support the restriction on making certain alcohol products appear glamorous to purchase and consume.

James Kelly
12 January 2010