

# FAMILY REUNION INSTITUTE'S

## STICKY REUNION SITUATION

### INTOXICATED FAMILY MEMBERS

December 2022

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#### The Situation:

When we debriefed our first family reunion, the one thing everyone said they were all proud of was that no one got drunk, especially during the picnic. We've had several milestone reunions since then and we're glad to see the reunion continues to thrive. However, that early reunion proud moment is no more as some family members show up at the reunion with alcohol they think they've cleverly concealed (not!) and the distinctive scent of weed can be smelled as well. Both are illegal in the parks that we secure for the family picnic and could cost us fines if discovered, and one family was removed from the hotel we secured for the reunion (which could potentially make it difficult for us to negotiate and/or secure better rates for future reunions).

With more and more states legalizing marijuana, and more family members wanting to "execute their right to indulge" what's a family to do in order to restore a peaceful and respectful gathering as well as set an example to the youngest family members?

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#### The Fix:



**Doug Harris**

My suggestion: Ask the reunion host hotel for a second smaller hospitality room for ADULTS ONLY. Now that alcohol *and* marijuana are legal in many states, new ways must be found to accommodate those who choose to indulge. On the other hand, since children of all ages attend the reunion, activities that make some parents uncomfortable should not be encouraged.

One way to cover costs for the Adults Only room would be to charge a fee to those who intend to indulge. It can cover the cost if you cannot negotiate a second comped room. Keep in mind: hotels are willing to negotiate depending on the size and length of your reunion. Be armed with your projection for the number of room nights for your reunion and be specific about what you want.

You might also consider an ADULTS ONLY time in the hospitality room that everybody knows about in advance.

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