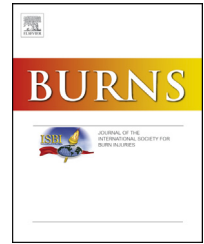




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Letter to the Editor

## Chaharshanbeh souri: Developing concerns and update

Dear Editor,

We read your invaluable comments on our article [1] entitled "Firework-related injuries in young people: an update and recent initiatives" by Venkatesh et al. [2]. We agree with the comments. Although using fireworks is banned in Iran, close to *Chaharshanbeh souri* a large amount of fireworks are smuggled into the country. Near 80% of fireworks are smuggled from outside, according to reports of Statistical Centre of Iran [3]. Because of high supply of fireworks, the government is unable to control the sales.

In addition, one of the developing concerns of the *Chaharshanbeh souri* festival is drinking alcohol. Due to Islamic rules, drinking alcohol is banned in Iran and Islamic punishments are applied for those people who utilize alcohol. However because of the changing culture of population, alcohol drinking is increasing in the country especially in celebrations like *Chaharshanbeh souri*. So far no evidence of this issue is available and it is necessary to do related empirical research on it in Iran.

### Conflict of interest

No conflict of interest could be declared to the authors of this letter to editor.

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