

Smoking in public places



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All research carried out in the past 50 years has proved that smoking is harmful for passive and active smokers alike. A ban on smoking in all public places with immediate effect is therefore the only reasonable option. " Did you ever deeply inhale the cold cloud of smoke of someone standing in a public place? Every one of us faces these situations to a greater or lesser extent. No matter if it happens indoors or outdoors, non- smokers never benefit from it. The question is, why smokers are allowed to wallow in vice wherever they like, regardless of the people, especially children and also the environment, around them.

Smoking demands thousands of lives annually and risks the lives of second-hand smokers unintentionally. Therefore the state would do well to react to this issue and ban smoking in all public places with immediate effect. Cigarettes contain more than 4000 chemical compounds with at least 400 toxic substances which can have a harmful or even lethal outcome for smokers and several aftermaths for the state and its' population. The most dangerous and damaging product is tar, which is the most frequent cause of cancer. Nicotine is addictive and increases cholesterol levels in the body.

Carbon dioxide reduces oxygen in the blood which can lead to several organic disorders and a high blood pressure. Components of the gas can cause chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder. Smoking also contributes to diseases like asthma, macular degeneration, bad breath, ulcers and impotence. Health insurance funds face all these sicknesses and pay a lot for therapies and preventions of recrudescences of the smoking population and so spent more money on them as on non- smokers. In the end charges for health insurances rise for everyone, smokers like non- smokers.

Smoking not only harms those who smoke themselves, but those who get exposed to the dangerous fume. Babies who are born to mothers who smoke during pregnancy are twice as likely to be born prematurely and with a lower birth weight. Those are the ones who should be protected most. But there is not only a risk from smoking pregnant women. The side-stream smoke between two puffs is much more dangerous than the directly inhaled smoke. It is proven that children who grow up in a smokers' household or who get exposed to smoke have a higher risk to get asthma or bronchitis.

They also are more vulnerable to develop allergies. For adult passive smokers the risk to suffer from pulmonary disorders and lung cancer increases. An increased risk of heart disease is not yet conclusive but seems to have a relation to second- hand smoking. Another disturbing factor for non- smokers is, that wherever they face smokers in public and get exposed to smoke, their clothes and hair smell displeasing and the scent is noticeable for hours. The biggest problem with effects on the whole world is the destruction of the environment. Air pollution should not be underestimated.