

Free and confidential telephone counseling for quitting.

### CALL TODAY!

When asked how you heard about the program, please credit BUILT, or give your union's name and local number.

English 1-800-NO-BUTTS (1-800-662-8887)

Spanish 1-800-45-NO-FUME (1-800-456-6386)

Mandarin & Cantonese 1-800-400-0866

Vietnamese 1-800-778-8440

Korean 1-800-556-5564

TDD/TTY 1-800-933-4TDD (1-800-933-4833)

**Chewing Tobacco** 1-800-844-CHEW (1-800-844-2439)



# **Chewing Tobacco**

Smokeless tobacco is *not* a safe alternative to smoking. Chewing tobacco causes cancer of the mouth, larynx and esophagus.8 Badly discolored teeth, receding gums, bad breath and chronic sores are common among users. Long-term snuff

users are 50 times more likely to get cancer of the cheek and gum than non-users.

Chewing tobacco puts many harmful chemicals into your body, including arsenic, cyanide, lead and benzene.9

Smokeless tobacco delivers more than twice the dose of nicotine than does cigarettes. It's as hard to quit using smokeless tobacco as it is to quit smoking.

## **Secondhand Smoke**

Secondhand smoke hurts kids by causing respiratory problems. You don't want to bring lead dust home and you don't want to bring tobacco home, either.10

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has classified secondhand smoke as a Group A carcinogen a substance known to cause cancer in humans. There is no safe level of exposure to Group A carcinogens which also include asbestos and benzene.<sup>11</sup>

Secondhand smoke is the third-leading preventable cause of death in America, killing 53,000 nonsmokers each year.12

Smoke from the tip of a cigarette has 20 times the carcinogens as the smoke inhaled by a smoker.13



# What's the Law?

California law prohibits smoking in indoor workplaces. 'Indoor' means 4 walls and a ceiling. It doesn't matter whether there are windows, louvers or sliding doors that open.

Smoking is permitted in outdoor workplaces, unless an employer or a local ordinance bans it.

Employers may provide breakrooms for smokers, as long as they meet ventilation requirements and as long as they also provide non-smoking breakrooms.

# **Building Trades Workers**

Building trades workers and their children smoke and chew tobacco at a higher rate than the general U.S. population.<sup>14</sup>

General Population:

**Building Trades Workers:** 39-45% (depending on trade)

# built

### **Butane**

Arsenic

A deadly

Makes vour

your breath

lips burn,

turn bad.

poison.

Highly flammable. A component of gasoline.

### Acetone

One of the active ingredients in nail polish remover

### **Ammonia**

Helps you absorb more nicotine, keeping you hooked on smoking.

Damages brain. nerves, kidnevs and reproductive system; causes anemia and stomach problems

Found in batteries. Damages liver, kidneys and brain. Stays in body for years.

Cadmium

Phenol Used in

Lead

disinfectants. Weakens your lungs.

### **Benzene**

Found in pesticides and gasoline. Causes leukemia.

> Hydrogen Cvanide Used in the gas chamber.

> > lungs.

Weakens your

# **BUILDING TRADES**

UNIONS

IGNITE

**TOBACCO** 

LESS

union

Yes -

tobacco





**Formaldehyde** 

Embalming fluid.

Causes cancer,

lungs, skin and

Benzopyrene

One of the

cancer-

causing

chemicals.

Toluene

thinner

Highly toxic.

Used in paint

Propylene

Glycol

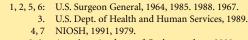
de-icer.

Found in

most potent

digestive system.

can damage



8. 9: American Academy of Otolaryngology, 2000. 10. 11: U.S. EPA, Office of Research and Development, December 1992.

12: Glantz, Stanton and Parmley, William W., "Passive Smoking and Heart

Disease; Epidemiology, Physiology and Biochemistry," 1991. U.S. OSHA, "Secondhand Smoke: Is it a Hazard?" January 1995

14. Nelson DE, Emont SL, Brackbill RM, Cameron LL, Peddicord J, Fiore M (1994), "Cigarette Smoking Prevalence by Occupation in the United States: A Comparison Between 1978 to 1980 and 1987 to 1990."

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# Give tobacco th

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For decades, the tobacco industry has hidden the facts about the addictive nature of nicotine and the deadly effects of tobacco use. Our goal is to provide accurate information about tobacco to members of building trades unions and their families—and to help them quit.

**BUILT** is an educational program of the State Building and Construction Trades Council that reaches out to union members through:

- Local Unions who distribute educational materials to their members:
- Health and Welfare Trust Funds, who provide information about tobacco and the benefits of quitting smoking to members and their families;
- Joint Apprenticeship Training Committees, who include information about tobacco and toxic hazards in their health and safety training for apprentices; and
- Labor-Management Committees, who develop worksite tobacco policies.

Tobacco and your

healtl

### Tobacco use causes deadly diseases

Including: lung cancer, heart disease, emphysema, and stroke.<sup>1</sup>

### Tobacco use causes impotence<sup>1</sup>

### Tobacco use makes your job more dangerous

Tobacco smoke damages your lungs so they're more easily hurt by other hazardous substances you're exposed to on the job.

When construction workers are exposed to toxic hazards on the job such as silica, formaldehyde, benzene and lead, they know to take special precautions, like wearing respirators, gloves, and wetting down surfaces. But cigarettes contain many of the same toxic substances and there are no precautions that the smoker can take.

Not only the smoker is exposed. Secondhand smoke is made up of over 4,000 chemicals and is considered a cancer-causing chemical by the Environmental Protection agency (EPA).<sup>4</sup>

If you smoke and work with toxic chemicals, your health risks are greatly increased. For example:

- = If you smoke, your risk of lung cancer is increased 11 times.
- = If you work with asbestos, your risk of lung cancer is increased 5 times.
- But, if you smoke and you work with asbestos, your risk of lung cancer increases more than 50 times!<sup>2</sup>



Quitting smoking can reverse many of these effects quickly When smokers quit, their lungs immediately begin to clean themselves. Their risk of disease will begin to drop. Daily smoking-related health problems, such as smoker's cough and shortness of breath, improve.<sup>1</sup>



The average smoker dies seven years earlier than they would if they never smoked. Heavy smokers can begin to get seriously ill in their fifties or even younger. Those hard-earned retirement years can't be enjoyed if you are suffering from tobacco-related illnesses.

### All members' benefits are affected by smoking.

More money can go into wages and pensions if it doesn't have to be used for health care costs for tobacco-related illness. Health insurance costs are

affected by smoking-related claims that result in higher premiums for both employers and employees. When Health and Welfare Trust Funds pay out on large claims, this is a direct cost to every member who participates in the fund.

### Less money in your pocket

Smoking is expensive! Buying just one pack of cigarettes a day for a year costs more than \$1,000.





...and costs money