

Secondhand Smoke and Kids

Everyone wants to protect their kids from harm, yet many people are not aware of the serious health risks that secondhand smoke can cause their young children.

Secondhand smoke contains a complex mixture of over 4,000 chemicals, more than 60 of which are known to cause cancer. Children are especially vulnerable to the harmful effects of secondhand smoke because their bodies are smaller and their immune system is not fully developed yet, putting them at much greater risk for secondhand smoke related illness and mental development deficiencies. As a parent there are precautions you can take to protect your kids from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke:

- Have a no smoking policy in your home.
- Encourage friends and family members to quit.
- Refer a smoker to 1-800-QUIT-NOW.
- Talk to your kids about the harmful effects of smoking and secondhand smoke.
- Visit tobaccofreeliving.org for tips on creating a 100% smoke-free environment where you live, work, and play.

Act No. 838

Smoking in cars prohibited

In August 2006, it became illegal to smoke in a vehicle with a child under the age of 13 regardless of whether the windows are open.

Fines for violation include no less than \$150 per offense or, at the discretion of the judge, shall be sentenced to no less than 24 hours of community service.

Law enforcement officers may stop a vehicle based solely on clear violation of the law, however an officer may not search a vehicle, its contents, the driver, or a passenger based solely on violation of this law.

Violation of this law is considered a non-moving violation and an issued citation should not be added to the driver's operating record.

For more information: www.latobaccocontrol.com

