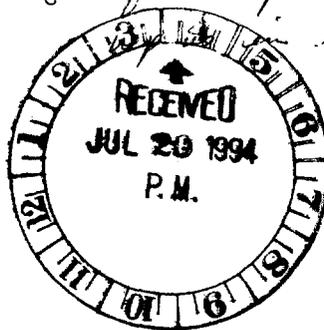


July 12, 1994

421 Murrysville Road  
Trafford, PA 15085

OSHA Docket  
Docket Number H-122  
Room N-2625  
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20210



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Dear OSHA Board Members:

I am writing to voice my opinion on banning smoking in public and commercial sectors. This is not only a ridiculous proposal but a hypocritical one as well.

So, let's get real. I don't advocate smoking nor alcohol nor food over-indulgence. But they exist, don't they? I smoke but the latter two I can't be accused of. However, no accusations regarding health costs are ever blamed on alcohol consumers or fat people. You HAVE to know they cost billions more in health costs. NIH estimates are 14 billion dollars for smokers and 46 billion related to alcohol. Don't you think you're beating the wrong kid?

This is just some of the information I personally can attest to:

- 1-My aunt died of primary lung cancer-never smoked or around cigarette smoke. When I asked her oncologist about the rarity of primary lung cancer, it was a struggle to get him to admit it, and very sheepishly since he is anti-smoking.
- 2-Three friends of my mother have the same profile but as yet are still alive.
- 3-My suspicions were aroused when a distant relative developed colon cancer. It metastasized into the liver and then the lungs. She smoked and the cause of death for NIH statistics was 'lung cancer due to cigarette smoke'.

Parents want their precious little children protected from the dreaded smoker. Yet, they take them to restaurants fattening up these kids that are already too fat with french-fries and hamburgers, etc. All the while these do-good parents are clogging up their kids with cholesterol, they are sitting there not only doing the same, but drinking alcohol. Oh, what fine examples they are, aren't they?

Let's look at prohibition on alcohol. Everyone says it was tried but didn't work. Well now, since you base your ideas on regulation because of health costs and indirect danger to others and now that you have figures on health costs for alcohol, let's try prohibition again since you use the premise that WE didn't know the costs and danger before. NOW we do so let's hear you go for it.

Let's continue on regarding alcohol. I truly do not know of anyone directly or indirectly affected by smoking. If there could be a better cigarette made safer then pursue that avenue. The real culprit is alcohol. There is not ONE person I know who has not been adversely affected by alcohol directly or indirectly. I know wives who are beaten by drunken husbands, battered children, and people who miss work with regularity. I have seen a motorcyclist who had been drinking killed. ALCOHOL is the number 1 cause of highway accidents. I HAVE NO CONTROL over who is next to me or coming toward me as I drive. There is NO accomodation. What about the cost of the EXXon Valdez oil spill??? And you sit there in your chairs and beat smokers over the head with your hypocrisy sticks.

Stop acting like you're the right hand of the moral-do-gooders society. You CANNOT justify promulgating the evils and costs of smoking without FIRST addressing alcohol and obesity. These MUST be addressed if you intend to act as a reasonable law-maker.

Elizabeth Ashford