

Letters to The Editor

Dear Big Tobacco,

You should stop making tobacco. Tobacco is very, very bad. All you do to make people use tobacco is put pretty girls in advertisements and put them in the paper. Each day you guys spend \$415,000 in Iowa on advertisements for tobacco. You put people having fun, like playing basketball when they smoke. But, if you smoke and play sports, you get shortness of breath. When you put pretty woman in an advertisement, it is not true. When you smoke, you get wrinkles and it makes you look older. When you put girls in an advertisement, they don't look like that. You know that 2% of 6th graders smoke and 20% of adults smoke because of you. You should not make tobacco. It is bad! You should not make other people use it because it is bad!

Sincerely,

Connor Whalen

Dear Editor,

In our 6th grade class at North Winneshiek School we have been learning about the pressure on tobacco use and how many adults and kids are using it. Twenty percent of adults and 2% of 6th graders are using tobacco. The tobacco companies spend \$415,000 each day in Iowa advertising tobacco. People will live happier and longer if people would stop pressuring others to use tobacco. Smoking can give you cancer, yellow teeth, bad breath and you could lose your friends if they don't smoke and don't like the secondhand smoke. My Grandpa Orvil passed away January 26th, 2008 because he was smoking. He had lung cancer and it was hard for him to breathe. This is why you do not smoke!

Sincerely,

Karissa Bruins

Dear Editor,

I am a student in Mr. Stone's 6th grade class at Ridgeway Elementary School. We have been studying a unit on tobacco. A lot of people in the U.S. have problems with smoke and you are just making it worse for them. There are over 400,000 people who die each year from smoking. Twenty percent of adults and 2% of kids my age smoke. If you want to go somewhere, but you can't afford to go, your problem is cigarettes because they cost you money. People who advertise cigarettes lie to you. It doesn't make you cool, glamorous, brave or even make you look good. It's all the opposite. Remember, you are hurting yourself and others. Please stop!

Thank you,

Bekah Johnson

Dear Editor,

I am a student in Mr. Runyan's 6th grade class at Crestwood Jr. High and I have been studying tobacco use.

I truly think that anyone in the world can stop smoking. I think this because all you have to do is put it down and then use discipline. If you want to keep chewing or smoking you might as well dig a grave in your billfold now, or even in the ground. You are even harming your friends, family, or even the environment. Your friends and family don't feel like having to smell you or drive you up to Rochester or a nearest hospital. I mean we are proud if you can **try** to stop, but that isn't good enough to actually stop. You have to totally stop and stop forever. So I strongly suggest to you that you quit or stop chewing or smoking if you want to have a better chance to live to age 50.

Thanks,

Hunter Slifka

Dear Editor

I'm from Mr. Stone's 6th grade class in Ridgeway Elementary School and have been learning a unit on tobacco.

Did you know that approximately 400,000 people die each year to tobacco-related illnesses? In Iowa, 20% of adults smoke. That's 1/5 of the state!

When I'm around people that smoke, it makes me cough.

Sincerely,

Paige Wemark

If you take tobacco, then it makes you wacko.

If you take a dip, you will have a death slip.

If you buy it and use a dollar, then it will make your wallet smaller.

So now can you see, we don't have to flee!

Sincerely,

Jackson Hendericks

Dear Editor,

I am a student in Mr. Runyan's 6th grade class at Crestwood Junior High School and I have been studying a unit in science about tobacco. We all have learned about the consequences of tobacco use. I really don't like any type of tobacco use and I really want other people to know about the consequences of use. The consequence I hate most is the air pollution that smoking does. Kids my age are exposed to smoke almost every day! I learned that young people my age get tobacco from a friend, or they know where their parents keep it. If you are a person who uses tobacco, please take action and don't leave it where a child or their friend can find it. Thank you for listening to what I have to say about tobacco use.

Thank you,

Ashley Haw

Dear Editor,

I am a student in Mr. Runyan's 6th grade class at Crestwood junior high school and we have been studying a unit on tobacco.

I know a lot of people that smoke but probably half of them don't know the consequences of using tobacco. Some simple consequences are yellow teeth, bad breath, cancer, diseases and a lot more. The ones that bother me the most are the bad breath and the smoke in the air. I don't like bad breath because when you talk to people you breathe on them and they smell bad too. Not only that, but the smoke in the air. It's always going to be there and people breathe it in and then it's just like smoking and sometimes worse.

Everyone thinks about one thing when it comes to tobacco which is the cost of it. If you do use tobacco make sure your kids don't know where it is because many young people find it and give it to their friends and themselves.

So the next time you smoke a cigarette or chew or even use tobacco, think about your future, your kid's future and even the world's future. Anything can happen in a blink of an eye so think about that.

Thank you for reading what I had to say about tobacco!

Hayley Sobolik

Dear Editor,

I am a student in Mr. Stone's 6th grade class at Ridgeway Elementary School and we have been studying TNT, Towards No Tobacco. This is my opinion on tobacco use.

Tobacco is an awful product. Over 400,000 people die per year from tobacco. Cancer, yellow teeth, smelly clothes, and dying young are just some of the consequences of using tobacco. Tobacco companies spend about \$415,000 per day advertising their product in Iowa. But don't be fooled. Even through all those advertising pitches, the truth is tobacco companies don't care what happens to you. They're only in it for the money. In my opinion, the tobacco products should be banned, because you only hurt yourself and others when you use them. Remember, you only have one life and it shouldn't be cut short from tobacco use.

Kayley Tucheck