

SECONDHAND SMOKE IMPACTS CHILDREN

WHAT IS SECONDHAND SMOKE?

Secondhand smoke (SHS) is smoke exhaled by smokers and from the burning end of a cigarette, cigar, or other combustible tobacco product. Tobacco smoke contains at least 70 chemicals known to **cause cancer** and other health problems.¹

INFANT DEATH

Over 100K babies have died in the last 50 years from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and other premature and pregnancy problems due to parental smoking.³

POOR RESPIRATORY FUNCTION

At least **200K children** experience worsened asthma due to SHS.⁴ It is linked to poorer lung functioning and the onset of asthma.⁵

LOWER RESPIRATORY ILLNESS

150K-300K children under 18 months contract lower respiratory illnesses related to SHS each year.⁶

EAR INFECTIONS

2 million cases of ear infections in children are caused by exposure to SHS annually.⁷

ADDICTION

Youth exposed to SHS at home are primed for **addiction** and are **1.5 - 2 times more likely to start smoking**.⁶



WHO IS AFFECTED?

Smokers are not the only people affected by tobacco smoke. Tobacco smoke harms anyone who comes into contact with it.

Young children are the most affected by SHS and are the **LEAST** able to avoid it.²

There is **no safe level of SHS exposure**.²

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Quit smoking if you are not already a nonsmoker. Children learn by example.



Teach children and others around you to stay away from SHS.



Join our coalition to help reduce SHS in your community.

LEARN MORE AT
www.apifm.org/top-team/

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