The Lighter Side

Anti-tobacco cartoons support tobacco control in at least two ways. They help educate the public about the hazards of tobacco use and the tactics of the tobacco industry, complementing other health education efforts. They also provide a welcome dose of comic relief to those who see firsthand the devastation caused by tobacco use. In the words of Philippe Boucher, editor of this column, cartoons provide “moments of joy in a social fight that is not always funny.”

Readers are encouraged to nominate cartoons for inclusion in this column. We hope to publish a diverse mix of cartoons from around the world. Photocopies of cartoons should be sent to Philippe Boucher at the address given on this page. Contributors should indicate whether a fee is required to receive permission to reproduce the cartoon and whether a high quality reproduction is available from the publisher or artist.

They should also include English translations of non-English captions or other wording. Readers will find anti-tobacco cartoons published in the newsletters of many tobacco control advocacy groups. Other sources include:


Spence W, Herschberger V. Smoking is no laughing matter. Waco, Texas: HEALTH EDCO, 1986.—ED

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