

What this paper adds

Very little is known about the potential long-term effect on adolescents and young adults of having lived in a parental household where smoking was banned. This study provides evidence that a parental household smoking ban is transported to the living quarters once youths move out of the home.

residential housing policies¹⁴ out of 252 colleges and universities in Massachusetts.¹⁵ This suggests that the majority of college students had a choice about what type of housing smoking policy their college residence would have upon arrival. Furthermore, the smoking policy of the parental home retained a strong independent effect on the outcome even when this confounding factor (college residence) was accounted for in the multivariate models. Not surprisingly, youths who were themselves smokers or who lived with smokers were less likely to move to living quarters where smoking was not permitted.

This study found that a parental household smoking ban increases the odds of moving into smoke-free living quarters once youths leave the parental home above and beyond living situations and a host of individual-level predictors. This finding was present even among those who were smokers at follow-up. This suggests that promoting the adoption of household smoking bans in homes with youths may have an additional benefit beyond reducing secondhand smoke exposure and promoting non-smoking attitudes. It may be an effective way to transmit a non-smoking norm throughout a child's life and even across generations.

Funding: This work was supported by grants from the Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute (FAMRI) and the National Cancer Institute's (NCI's) State and Community Tobacco Control Interventions Research Grant Program (CA86257). FAMRI and NCI were not directly involved in the study design, in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of this brief report; or in the decision to submit this brief for publication.

Competing interests: None.

Ethical approval: This study was approved by the institutional review boards of the University of Massachusetts at Boston (survey administration and data collection site)

and the Boston University Medical Center (data analysis site for the study described in this brief report).

REFERENCES

1. **US Department of Health and Human Services.** *Children and secondhand smoke exposure. Excerpts from the health consequences of involuntary exposure to tobacco smoke: a report of the Surgeon General.* Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Coordinating Center for Health Promotion, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2007.
2. **US Department of Health and Human Services.** *The health consequences of involuntary exposure to tobacco smoke: a report of the Surgeon General.* Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Coordinating Center for Health Promotion, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2006.
3. **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.** State-specific prevalence of smoke-free home rules—United States, 1992–2003. *Morb Mort Wkly Rep* 2007;**56**:501–4.
4. **Albers AB, Biener L, Siegel M, et al.** Household smoking bans and adolescent anti-smoking attitudes and smoking initiation: findings from a longitudinal study of a Massachusetts youth cohort. *Am J Public Health* 2008;**98**:1886–93.
5. **Jackson C, Henriksen L.** Do as I say: parent smoking, antismoking socialization and smoking onset among children. *Addict Behav* 1997;**22**:107–14.
6. **Proescholdbell RJ, Chassin L, MacKinnon DP.** Home smoking restrictions and adolescent smoking. *Nicotine Tob Res* 2000;**2**:159–67.
7. **Fisher LB, Winickoff JP, Camargo CA, et al.** Household smoking restrictions and adolescent smoking. *Am J Health Promotion* 2007;**22**:15–21.
8. **Szabo E, White V, Hayman J.** Can home smoking restrictions influence adolescents' smoking behaviors if their parents and friends smoke? *Addict Behav* 2006;**31**:2298–303.
9. **Biener L, Albers AB.** Young adults: vulnerable new targets of tobacco marketing. *Am J Public Health* 2004;**94**:326–30.
10. **Wechsler H, Rigotti N, Gledhill-Hoyt J, et al.** Increased levels of cigarette use among college students. *JAMA* 1998;**280**:1673–8.
11. **Johnston LD, O'Malley PM, Bachman JG.** *Monitoring the future national survey results on drug use, 1975–2000. Vol II: College students and adults ages 19–40.* NIH Publication No 01–4925 2001. Bethesda, MD: National Institute on Drug Abuse, 2001.
12. **Lantz PM.** Smoking on the rise among young adults: implications for research and policy. *Tob Control* 2003;**12**(suppl 1):i60–70.
13. **Wechsler H, Lee JE, Rigotti NA.** Cigarette use by college students in smoke-free housing: Results of a national study. *Am J Prev Med* 2001;**20**:202–7.
14. **American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation.** *Municipalities with local 100% smoke-free laws: currently in effect as of October 5, 2004.* Berkeley, CA: American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation, 2004. Available at <http://www.no-smoke.org/100ordlisttbs.pdf>. Accessed 8 December 2004.
15. **College Search.** Available at <http://www.college-search.org/Massachusetts-college.html>.

Correction

In the last issue, the cover photographs were by Peter Ucko, as correctly credited in the cover caption, and not Andrew Kerr (From the Editor: the Diverse Dynamic new world of tobacco control. *Tobacco Control* 2009;**18**:75).

Tobacco Control 2009;**18**:248. doi:10.1136/tc.2009.029645corr1