



*Washer*

Subject: Smoking and Health

Date: June 14, 1979

To: Ron Sustana  
Tobacco CPR Staff

From: Mark Gutsche

Attached for your files is a good summary of the federal government's involvement in smoking and health.

MLG/11

Attachment

The Federal Government  
Chronology of Intervention in the  
Smoking and Health Controversy

1955:

September: Federal Trade Commission (FTC) tells cigarette manufacturers to make no health inferences in their advertising.

1957:

July: Surgeon General Burney says statistics indicate that excessive cigarette smoking is a causative factor in lung cancer.

1960:

January: FTC tells cigarette manufacturers to stop "tar derby" advertising and cease referring to improved health effects of filters.

American Cancer Society and other fund-raising groups request that the White House establish a commission to study tobacco and health questions.

1962:

May: In an extensive report on smoking and health, the Royal College of Physicians in England claims, "Cigarette smoking is a cause of lung cancer and bronchitis, and probably contributes to the development of coronary heart disease and various other less common diseases."

June: Surgeon General Terry announces the formation of an Advisory Committee on Smoking and Health.

1964:

January: Surgeon General's Advisory Committee issues its report, claiming cigarette smoking is causally related to lung cancer in males, is one of the most important of the causes of chronic bronchitis in the U.S., may contribute to other diseases and is "a health hazard of sufficient importance...to warrant remedial action."

FTC proposes a severe health warning on cigarette packages and advertising. Senate hearings followed.

June-July: House of Representatives holds committee hearings on smoking and health. FTC holds off its warning proposal pending Congressional action. Senate hearings followed.

1965:

January: National Clearinghouse for Smoking and Health, an organ of the U.S. Public Health Service, is established.

July: Cigarette Labeling Act enacted. The Act ensures that "the public may be adequately informed that cigarette smoking may be hazardous to health," and commerce may be protected against "confusing" regulations. Principle provisions:

1. Cigarette packs must bear a health caution label.
2. Federal and state agencies may not make other labeling or advertising requirements in connection with smoking and health at least until July 1, 1969.
3. FTC and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) are to keep Congress informed on the issue through annual reports.

1966:

March: FTC reverses its 1960 position on filters by allowing the listing of "tar" and nicotine levels in cigarette advertising. But there should be no implications of reduced health hazards.

1967:

May: HEW issues a household survey of "morbidity," asserting links between cigarette smoking and sickness.

June: Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules that stations which air cigarette commercials must, under the "fairness doctrine," broadcast anti-smoking announcements.

November: FTC publishes results of the first of semi-annual tests of "tar" and nicotine content of U. S. cigarettes.

1969:

February: FCC proposes ban on broadcast cigarette advertising.

March-June: House holds committee hearings on extension of Cigarette Labeling Act. Finds "nothing new" in scientific evidence since 1965 hearings.

May: FTC renews 1964 proposal to require extensive health warning in cigarette advertisements.

July: Senate committee holds hearings on extension of Cigarette Labeling Act. Cigarette manufacturers seek anti-trust law exception to permit inter-company agreement to voluntarily discontinue broadcast advertising.

1970:

April: President Nixon signs new Cigarette Labeling Act. Its purpose is reiterated that the public should be "adequately informed that cigarette smoking may be hazardous to health." Principal provisions:

1. Formalizing an offer by the cigarette industry to voluntarily end its radio-tv advertising; such advertising is prohibited beginning Jan. 2, 1971.
2. Package "caution" label is revised to a "warning."
3. States and localities may impose on cigarette advertising and promotion "no requirements or prohibition based on smoking and health."
4. FTC may not further its warning-in-advertising trade regulation proposal until at least July, 1971. After this date it must give Congress six months to consider further regulation.
5. FTC and HEW must continue their annual reports to Congress on smoking-health issue.

July: U. S. Senate votes 52-15 to defeat Sen. Moss' (D-Utah) Agriculture Appropriations bill amendment to kill all government programs for tobacco price support loans, export subsidies, overseas sales promotion and inspection and grading.

August: FTC proposes required "tar"/nicotine scores in cigarette advertisements.

October: Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) holds hearings on a Ralph Nader petition to prohibit smoking on buses.

November: New cigarette package labels become effective. They state, "Warning: The Surgeon General Has Determined That Cigarette Smoking is Dangerous to Your Health."

The Federal Highway Administration denies a Nader petition to prohibit smoking on buses.

December: FTC accepts industry proposal to display voluntarily "tar"/nicotine scores in its advertising.

FCC announces that after cigarette commercials leave broadcasting on Jan. 2, 1971, the "fairness doctrine" will no longer apply to smoking; broadcasters may assume there is no more controversy about its ill effects. Anti-smoking announcements may be broadcast as "public service announcements."

Columnist Jack Anderson writes that "insiders" informed him of a yet-to-be-released, joint Federal Aviation Agency (FAA)-Public Health Service study that will say tobacco smoke does not represent a health hazard to nonsmoking commercial airline passengers. (see Jan. 1972)

1971:

January: Claiming health hazard to nonsmokers, Surgeon General Steinfeld proposes government ban on smoking in public places.

New Congressional bills propose limits or bans on cigarette smoking aboard aircraft, trains, buses, and vessels carrying passengers. (First one, introduced in late 1969, received little or no attention.)

The FTC accepts the tobacco industry's proposal for voluntary display of "tar" and nicotine content in brand advertisements.

March: U. S. Court of Appeals for D.C. refuses a Ralph Nader request to ban smoking aboard commercial air carriers.

April: Tobacco Institute announces its member companies will henceforth voluntarily display the package warning label in all media advertising.

July: FTC votes not to activate its Congressionally embargoed proposal to require a severe health warning in cigarette ads. Instead, the commission plans negotiations with each manufacturer to require a more "clear" and "conspicuous" package warning in cigarette ads.

Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) writes to U. S. government department heads demanding smoker segregation in offices and a total ban on smoking in public areas of government buildings.

Clearinghouse for Smoking and Health retains a New York advertising agency for \$156,000 to prepare anti-smoking ads for broadcast and print media.

November: U. S. District Court in Washington rejects the plea of six broadcasters to declare unconstitutional the cigarette ad broadcast ban. In a two-to-one decision the court says: "Congress has the power to prohibit the advertising of cigarettes in any media."

Sen. Hartke (D-Ind.) introduces a bill mandating cigarette advertisements to depict the portion of the pack bearing the Surgeon General's health warning.

ICC orders smoking sections in the rear of interstate buses. Effective January 6, 1972, the area cannot exceed twenty percent of the seats.

December: ICC postpones "indefinitely" its order to segregate smokers in buses.

1972:

January: Further fragmentary reports appear in newspapers of an FAA and U. S. Public Health Service joint study on the effects of tobacco smoke in air transport. The 85-page report says tobacco smoke is "judged not to represent a health hazard to the nonsmoking passengers."

Major cigarette advertisers and the FTC agree on a new method to display package warning in advertisements.

February: Sen. Moss, chairman of the Senate Consumer subcommittee, holds hearings on his proposed bill to regulate the "tar" and nicotine content of cigarettes. No further action taken.

March: Resulting from a suit by six radio stations and the National Association of Broadcasters, the Supreme Court upholds an appellate court finding of constitutionality of the 1970 law which prohibits broadcast cigarette advertising.

September: Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) proposes segregated seating for smokers and nonsmokers.

1973:

January: FTC denies petition from John Banzhaf, director of Action on Smoking & Health, requesting the ban of "little cigar" broadcast ads. FTC says any action on "little cigars" should be handled by Congress.

HEW submits its annual report on smoking and health to Congress.

The first report to omit legislative recommendations, the document suggests special hazards for women smokers and their unborn children.

February: Sen. Young (R-Fla.) reintroduces a bill to segregate smokers and nonsmokers on all public conveyances.

March: Sen. Moss introduces bills to prohibit broadcast advertising of "little cigars," to impose a "tar" tax, and disallow business expense tax deductions for cigarette advertisements.

April: Senate passes and sends to the House a bill prohibiting commercial broadcast advertising of "little cigars."

May: CAB orders commercial airliners to separate smokers and nonsmokers because voluntary arrangements aren't working thoroughly.

August: Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Chairman Richard O. Simpson tells the New York Times he's prepared to seek a ban on all or some cigarettes if an examination confirms the surgeon general's findings on the asserted hazards of cigarettes. Numerous Congressmen and The Tobacco Institute point out that the Consumer Product Safety Act, which set up the Commission, specifically exempts tobacco from CPSC jurisdiction.

September: CPSC Chairman Simpson makes public the Commission's "consumer product hazard index" and puts tobacco in an area of "questionable jurisdiction."

The House passes a bill prohibiting broadcast advertising of "little cigars." President Nixon signs the bill September 23rd. It goes into effect 30 days later.

December: CAB urges its employees to be "observers" when they travel by air by reporting violations of smoking regulations and actions taken by the airplane crew to enforce the rules.

1974:

January: Extensive media coverage reminds Americans of the tenth anniversary of the smoking-health report of the Surgeon General's Advisory Committee.

February: Sen. Moss and the American Public Health Association petition CPSC to prohibit sales of cigarettes yielding more than 21 mg. "tar," noting that the limit "will remove the most dangerous varieties of cigarettes from the market."

April: ICC implements rule limiting 20 percent of seats on interstate buses to smoking passengers.

Comptroller General of the U. S. rules that CPSC "does not have the authority to act" on the Moss petition to ban sale of high "tar" and nicotine cigarettes.

FTC begins investigating the size of the warnings on cigarette advertisements.

May: CPSC decides it lacks authority to set mandatory cigarette "tar" levels as urged in the Moss petition.

July: In transmitting the 1974 annual HEW report to Congress, Sec. Weinberger asks Congress to regulate "tar," nicotine, "and other ingredients shown to be injurious to health" in cigarettes.

FCC decides to limit application of "fairness doctrine" to broadcast viewpoints rather than to product commercials, thus reversing its 1967 decision which applied the "doctrine" to a whole category of product advertising, cigarettes.

August: In Washington, Sen. Moss, the American Public Health Assn., and the Columbia Lung Assn. petition a Federal District Court to rule that the CPSC has authority to ban cigarettes yielding more than 21 mgs "tar" from interstate commerce.

September: CPSC rejects a furniture manufacturers' petition to regulate cigarette burning time before regulating upholstery flammability, claiming lack of jurisdiction over cigarettes.

October: HEW moves the National Clearinghouse for Smoking and Health from Washington to Atlanta headquarters of the Center for Disease Control.

President Ford asks the National Cancer Advisory Board (NCAB) for an assessment of the scientific evidence supporting responsible regulation of cigarette "tar" and nicotine levels.

November: The NCAB makes a partial response to the President; the New York Times records his reaction as "cool."

U. S. District Court denies cigarette manufacturers' petition to dismiss the Moss suit allowing CPSC to regulate "tar"/nicotine levels.

December: Furniture manufacturers seek court judgment that CPSC does have jurisdiction over cigarette burning rates.

U. S. Attorney and cigarette companies again request court dismissal of Moss suit, claiming CPSC lacks jurisdiction over cigarette "tar" and nicotine.

1975:

March: FTC issues its report to Congress for 1974, again criticizing cigarette advertising and repeating earlier legislative recommendations. It makes no reference to the advertising investigation begun the previous April.



Moss, without referring to his court suit, introduces a bill to give CPSC jurisdiction to regulate "tar" and nicotine.

May: U. S. District Court rules in the Moss suit that CPSC does have authority to regulate "tar" and nicotine. House and Senate consider bills to exempt tobacco from CPSC jurisdiction.

July: ASH asks ICC for tighter smoking restrictions on interstate passenger trains.

August: "Leaks" that the FTC plans charges against cigarette companies for violations of the 1972 agreement to display health warnings in advertisements lead the companies to release a 62-page statement to FTC demonstrating their compliance.

October: Despite recommendations by tobacco land congressmen, President Ford vetoes a bill authorizing increased tobacco price support levels.

Both the House and Senate pass the Consumer Product Safety Commission Improvement Act; it exempts "tobacco and tobacco products" from the jurisdiction of CPSC.

FTC gets \$50,000 from the National Cancer Institute to develop a means to measure carbon monoxide yields along with its "tar" and nicotine measurements begun in 1967.

November: Rep. Drinan (D-Mass.) introduces a bill to stiffen the cigarette health warning, require "tar" and nicotine yields on packages, end the federal preemption of state smoking/health legislation, segregate or prohibit smoking in federal buildings and interstate transportation, and increase the federal cigarette tax to fund further heart/lung research.

1976:

January: Responding to ASH request of July, 1975, ICC administrative law judge proposes prohibition of smoking in railroad food service cars.

February: Sens. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Hart (D-Colo.) introduce a bill to increase federal cigarette excises according to "tar" and nicotine yields. The bill earmarks the resulting estimated \$9 billion annual revenue increase for government health research.

Sen. Hatfield (R-Ore.) and Rep. Drinan (D-Mass.) introduce measures to outlaw smoking in many areas of federal buildings.

March: ASH petitions ICC to prohibit smoking in bus depots and petitions the CAB to prohibit cigar and pipe smoking on planes.

April: President Ford tells news reporters "I am against the Kennedy-Hart added tax bill on tobacco products," and that current cigarette regulation is adequate because it permits "freedom of choice, and that is pretty important in this country."

May: Ralph Nader asks the FAA to prohibit smoking in airplane cockpits.

FTC's annual report to Congress says it is investigating cigarette advertising "to determine whether there may be deception and unfairness."

Ford signs legislation to exempt tobacco from CPSC regulation, mooting the Moss lawsuit and the furniture manufacturers' effort to obtain regulation of cigarette burning time.

ICC forbids smoking in railroad dining cars but allows its continuance in lounge cars. ICC also orders separate coach cars for smoking and nonsmoking passengers.

June: Releasing its survey of 12,500 people on smoking customs and attitudes, the National Clearinghouse for Smoking and Health claims majority sentiment to prohibit cigarette advertising and public smoking.

July: The General Accounting Office urges Congress to tighten smoking regulations.

August: Senate defeats, 60-25, an effort to add the Hart-Kennedy "tar"/nicotine scale tax to a pending tax bill.

September: HEW's "Forward Plan for Health" claims ads influence people toward harmful behavior. It stated, "A basic premise of the government's role in health education must be to strike a better balance or to offset the present lopsided bias toward indiscriminate consumption of liquor, food, drugs, or tobacco with little regard to the consequences."

October: Responding to ASH petition in March, CAB proposes regulation to ban pipe and cigar smoking in aircraft.

ICC amends 1974 regulation allotting rear 20 percent of bus seats for smokers, expanding allotment to 30 percent. Bus operators had requested 50 percent.

Claiming tobacco smoke and radioactivity are an unhealthy combination, the National Park Service bans smoking in federally-owned caves.

General Services Administration issues guidelines that nonsmoking areas be established in GSA cafeterias and forbids smoking in GSA auditoriums, elevators, and shuttle vehicles.

1977:

February: FTC announces plans to test carbon monoxide levels in cigarette brands.

March: Rep. Broomfield (R-Mich) introduces legislation to end the price support program for tobacco.

President Carter proclaims April as Cancer Control month, stating, "The fight against cancer also depends on the willingness of the American people to alter their eating, drinking, and smoking habits and to seek early and appropriate medical care."

Rep. Harkin (D-Iowa) introduces a bill to deny tax deductions for monies paid to advertise tobacco products.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC), part of HEW, issues, a 73-page report on state legislation on smoking and health, 1976.

April: Sen. Hart (D-Colo), introduces a Health Protection Tax Act of 1977, imposing a cigarette tax based on "tar" and nicotine contents.

The FTC holds a closed door hearing on cigarette ads and labeling. The Commission announces that it has sued in Washington's U. S. District Court to "require the six major domestic cigarette manufacturers to file special reports on cigarette advertising and labeling."

May: HEW Sec. Califano announces that a top priority of the Administration's health plan will be decreasing the number of smokers.

FAA agrees to prohibit smoking in mobile lounges used to transport passengers between planes at Dulles International Airport.

The House amends the foreign aid bill to exclude tobacco from PL 480.

June: FTC Chairman, Michael Pertschek, says there is "strong evidence" that "consumers are still not adequately warned of the hazards of smoking."

Senate votes to include tobacco sales in the PL 480 program but gives mandatory priority to food and fiber commodities.

HEW Sec. Califano announces plans to put his department behind a "vigorous" anti-smoking campaign.

July: House defeats a bill to eliminate the tobacco price support program.

Congressional Conference Committee retains tobacco in the PL 480 program.

August: FTC again urges Congress to strengthen the cigarette warning label. It also recommends that all "tar" and nicotine levels be printed on packages and that "little cigars" be required to carry the warning label.

The CAB agrees to review the Eastern Airlines smokers' segregation decision which sets aside 65 percent of its seats for nonsmokers. Without that review, the policy would become effective August 19.

September: FAA denies a Nader health group petition to ban smoking in airplane cockpits and prohibit flight crews from smoking during the hours prior to flight.

October: HEW Sec. Califano orders the removal of ashtrays from HEW conference rooms and the posting of no-smoking signs in these areas and elevators.

Food and Drug Administration Advisory Commission votes to ask the agency to regulate cigarette filters as medical devices, asserting that ads imply health claims.

The Richmond Memo leaks to the press. Written by Surgeon General Julius Richmond, it enumerates plans for HEW's anti-smoking program. Recommendations include: 1) establishing a "no-smoking" day, 2) gradually ending the federal tobacco program, 3) social welfare programs to ease the losses of small tobacco farmers, 4) tax cigarette advertisements 5) a new Surgeon General report on smoking and health, to be made a "media event," 6) prohibition of cigarette sales in HEW buildings, 7) increase anti-smoking ads, maybe allowing low "tar" cigarette ads on television, 8) strengthening the package warning, 9) increasing the federal cigarette tax, 10) granting time off work for stop smoking programs; the government would help cover costs.

November: Dr. Peter Bourne, Pres. Carter's special assistant for health, speaks to the American Cancer Society's Ad-Hoc Committee on Tobacco and Smoking Research. He says, "no matter how much we may favor prohibition of tobacco products, we are three hundred years too late....The bulk of our research dollars should be expended on the acquisition of basic knowledge rather than in search of an effective 'cure.'"

After much criticism of Richmond's proposal to end the tobacco price support program, Califano tells the press that he will not "tilt at that windmill."

December: CAB instructs its staff to draft an order banning cigar and pipe smoking on commercial airlines.

HEW submits the 1976 "Health Consequences of Smoking" to Congress; it is identical to the 1975 report.

FDA denies a petition by ASH to regulate cigarettes as a drug.

1978:

January: HEW Sec. Califano announces his anti-smoking campaign on Jan. 11, the 14th anniversary of the Surgeon General's report. Declaring cigarette smoking "public enemy number one," his program includes:

- o A "no-smoking" policy in all HEW buildings, except in designated areas,
- o Writing letters to the General Services Administration and the nation's top 500 executives, urging them to impose similar smoking restrictions in their buildings,
- o Urging smoking bans on all commercial aircrafts,
- o Writing governors of the 22 states without "clean air laws," asking them to implement this legislation,
- o Asking insurance companies to give lower rates to non-smokers,
- o Directing NIOSH to increase its efforts to develop standards for restricting smoking in hazardous settings,
- o Ordering research into: 1) a less hazardous cigarette, 2) passive smoking, 3) persons at high risk 4) reasons people smoke, 5) smoking dependence, 6) ways to overcome smoking "addiction,"
- o Changing the National Clearinghouse on Smoking and Health to the Office on Smoking and Health, located in Washington,
- o Ordering a new Surgeon General's report on smoking and health; scheduled for publication the following January,
- o Considering strengthening the warning label on cigarette packages, adding "tar," nicotine, and carbon monoxide levels. Also recommending the establishment of a maximum "tar" and nicotine levels.
- o Asking the Treasury to consider whether higher cigarette taxes would discourage smoking,
- o Asking broadcasters to increase time allotted for anti-smoking public service announcements.

President Carter, when asked if the White House staff would set an example by not smoking replies, "No, sir." He says it is not Califano's "responsibility to tell a particular American citizen whether they can or cannot smoke." He adds that it is Califano's responsibility to point out "that smoking is a danger to health."

February: FDA announces that effective April 3, birth control pill packages will contain a warning that women who use the pill should not smoke.

The Carter Administration budget calls for a more than \$5 million cut in agricultural production research, including \$3.3 million for tobacco.

March: North Carolina Gov. James Hunt and Sen. Robert Morgan meet with Pres. Carter to discuss the tobacco program and HEW's anti-smoking campaign. Carter reiterates his "strong support" for the tobacco price support system.

April: Califano defends his proposed \$30 million anti-smoking campaign as an educational program to protect teens from the tobacco industry's "sinister campaign" of brand advertising to encourage people to smoke.

FTC and HEW establish a task force to study newspaper cigarette ads to determine if they are deceptive.

FDA birth control pill warning goes into effect. It states: "Cigarette smoking increases the risk of serious adverse effects on the heart and blood vessels from oral contraceptive use. This risk increases with age and heavy smoking and is quite marked in women over 35 years of age. Women who use oral contraceptives should not smoke."

May: HEW and FTC urge the FCC to reconsider its decision requiring broadcasters to schedule more public service announcements during prime time, especially in the campaign to "better inform the public on the health dangers of smoking."

The Department of Defense (DoD) asks the Armed Services to sponsor educational programs to discourage smoking among employees exposed to asbestos.

The House rejects an amendment to eliminate tobacco from PL 480.

FTC announces that test results of cigarette carbon monoxide levels will be published in early 1979.

Sen. Kennedy introduces the "National Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Act of 1978." The bill restricts smoking in public buildings, applies a graduated cigarette tax based on "tar" levels, alternates package warnings, calls for a "major federal initiative" to prevent children from smoking, and asks HEW to report within two years on low "tar" and nicotine strategies.

The Senate increases appropriations for HEW's Office on Smoking and Health from the requested \$6.1 million to \$20 million.

June: Rep. Rogers (D-Fla.) announces a proposed plan to bar the Surgeon General from providing cigarettes to individuals in Public Health Service hospitals.

The House restores \$3.3 million for tobacco production research, eliminated from the Administration's budget proposal.

July: The General Services Administration denies a request to prohibit smoking in federal buildings.

August: HEW releases its 1977-78 "Health Consequences of Smoking." It claims hazards of smoking to the nonsmoker along with exceptional dangers to women who smoke.

Califano writes to the CAB, urging a ban of all smoking on domestic commercial airlines.

President Carter visits Wilson, NC and renews his commitment to the tobacco price support program.

Surgeon General Julius Richmond denounces the study by Dr. Gio Gori and Cornelius Lynch which claims that specific amounts of some cigarettes can be smoked "without apparent risk." Joining Richmond in condemning the findings are Drs. Arthur Upton of the National Cancer Institute and Robert Levy of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

September: HEW launches a public awareness program about health hazards associated with asbestos; smoking is included among the asserted risks.

The General Services Administration proposes smoking restrictions for 10,000 federal buildings which it rents or owns. Proposals require cafeterias to have nonsmoking sections while smoking is banned from conference rooms, auditoriums, classrooms, and shuttle vehicles.

October: Footnotes to the text of a Congressional hearing reveal that HEW's Office on Smoking and Health monitored at least 250 television stations to determine whether and how often they broadcast anti-smoking announcements.

Congress appropriates \$4.6 million for smoking and health "education"; the funds are divided between the National Institute of Environmental Health and National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

Congress passes the "Public Health Services Act," requiring study of the health risks of cigarette additives and varying amounts of "tar," nicotine, and carbon monoxide. It also appropriates \$30 million, beginning in FY 1980, toward biomedical and behavioral studies of youths' smoking and alcohol use.

HEW Secretary Califano announces an anti-smoking campaign aimed at children. The program, located in New Jersey, is boosted by a \$2.38 million federal grant.

November: Social Security Administration announces revision of its smoking policies, banning smoking in common work areas if

employees complain and trying to, "within practical limits," separate the offices of smokers and nonsmokers. The Administration will also allow its workers time to attend stop-smoking clinics.

December: HEW Secretary Califano orders the Center for Disease Control, the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, and the Labor Department to develop safety standards for workers who smoke and are exposed to industrial hazards.

In speeches to the American Cancer Society and the National Press Club Califano attacks cigarette advertising as deceiving young people.

1979:

January: Surgeon General Julius Richmond issues a 1,200 page, \$250,000 report on smoking and health. The book reiterates much of the 1964 report. HEW Sec. Califano writes in the foreword, "This document...demolishes the claims made by cigarette manufacturers and a few others fifteen years ago and today: that the scientific evidence is sketchy; that no link between smoking and cancer was 'proven.' Those claims, empty then, are utterly vacuous now." New conclusions in the '79 report maintain that 1) smoking is a major contributor to coronary heart disease, 2) women who smoke develop lung disease just as men who smoke, 3) certain occupations, such as asbestos or textiles, pose greater risks to workers who smoke, 4) smoking is causally related to cancers of the larynx, esophagus, and mouth, and 5) maternal smoking harms the unborn child. The report also deals with smoking among children and adolescents.

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