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86 Buckingham Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
CAMBRIDGE, MA
March 30, 1987

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Reagan:

I have a very simple solution for part of the homeless problem. It would deal with the so-called hopeless cases, derelicts who cannot fend for themselves, mainly alcoholics, who create a serious health threat to our cities and towns.

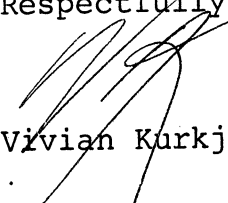
The liquor industry should be required to set aside a portion of their profits to provide shelter for this group. Very likely, they played a role in creating this problem.

And I would also like to see tobacco companies open up smoke shops where people who apparently have nothing to do all day but smoke and talk, can congregate instead of polluting restaurants, coffee shops and our city streets and parks.

I live in the Harvard Square vicinity of Cambridge. The most striking thing I have noticed in the last year is the proliferation of chain-smokers, particularly teenagers and those in their twenties. I have heard that smoking cigarettes is the gateway to drugs. If they could be educated to the hazards of smoking AND the hazards of second-hand smoke at a very early age, everyone would benefit.

I thank you for any consideration you can give to these issues.

Respectfully yours,


Vivian Kurkjian

cc: Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, M. Dukakis
Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy, II
Senator Edward F. Kennedy
Mayor of the City of Cambridge, MA and City Council ✓

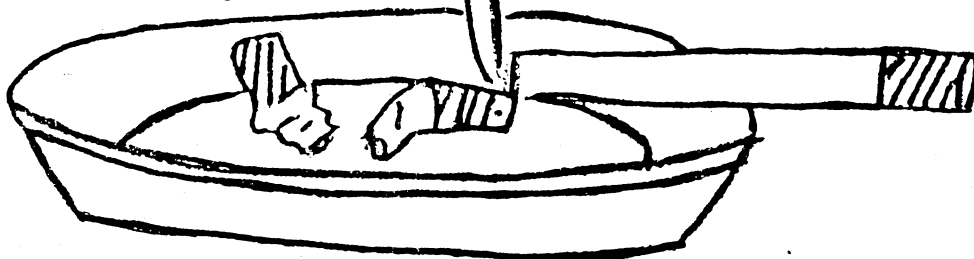
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CAMBRIDGE MA.

SECOND-HAND SMOKE

HYDROQUINONE METHACROLEIN METHYL ALCOHOL METHYLAMINE NICKLE COMPOUNDS PYRIDINE
CARBON DIOXIDE CROTONONITRILE DIMETHYLAMINE ENDRIN ETHYLAMINE FURFURAL CADMIUM
CARBON MONOXIDE METHYL NITRITE AMMONIA FORMALDEHYDE HYDROGEN SULFIDE
BENZO (A) PYRENE NICOTINE DDT ETHANE ACETYLENE METHANOL NITROGEN DIOXIDE
ACETONE METHYL CHLORIDE PHENOL CRESOL METHANE ISOPRENE PROPANE ACROLEIN
ACETALDEHYDE ETHYLENE METHYL ETHYL KETONE "TAR" HYDROGEN CYANIDE METALS
HYDROCYANIC ACID NITRIC OXIDE ACETONITRILE ACRYLONITRILE
BENZENE 2,3, -- BUTYLAMINE

EXCEEDS:

- OCCUPATIONAL THRESHOLD LIMIT VALUE FOR A NORMAL WORK PERIOD
- MAXIMUM LEGAL LIMITS FOR AIR POLLUTION FOR AMBIENT AIR QUALITY.



1 FAMILY CIRCLE 4/14/87

Survey: Smoking restricted in up to 56% of workplaces

United Press International

ATLANTA — Surveys show as many as 56 percent of American businesses are banning or restricting on-the-job smoking, but bosses who smoke and small businesses are trailing in such action, federal health officials said yesterday.

Dr. Ronald Davis of the CDC's Office of Smoking and Health said the trend toward restricting or stopping smoking at work began before the December 1986 release of the surgeon general's report showing the adverse health effects of involuntary smoking, "but that trend has increased in pace significantly since."

State legislation restricts smoking in the workplace for public sector employees in 22 states and for private sector workers in nine states, the CDC said.

The Boston Herald, Letters

Keep smoking off menu

Beverly Hills has outlawed smoking in restaurants. One weeping owner complains there was no warning. Others claim the law puts them in an "unreasonable position."

Where have these people been living for the past 20 years? Can they be unaware that many folks like to eat good food without having to breathe smoke at the same time? Do they find it reasonable to have some customers annoy and poison others?

I eat in many Boston-area restaurants. Some have better air than others, but I have yet to dine in one that succeeds in keeping the smoke from others away from my lungs.

I hope the noise from Beverly Hills will wake our local restaurateurs up to the obvious needs and desires of the nonsmokers who make up the majority of diners.

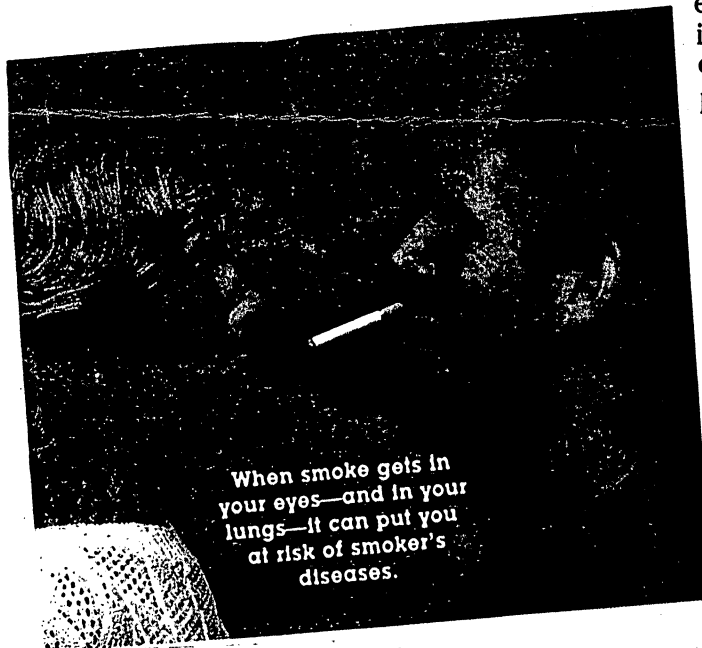
Secondhand Smoke

Nonsmokers, beware! Constantly inhaling the smoke from the cigars, cigarettes or pipes of people around you may put you at risk of "smoker's diseases." A special committee of the National Academy of Sciences reviewed thousands of studies related to the effects of passive smoking. Their findings:

- Children of smokers—particularly infants—experience about 50% more respiratory problems than the children of nonsmokers.
- Spouses of smokers show a 30% increase in lung cancer.
- Many nonsmokers suffer from symptoms that can persist even after they've left a smoke-filled room. These symptoms include headaches, severe allergy attacks and irritated eyes, nose and throat.

• Other people's smoke exposes nonsmokers to more than 3,800 different chemical compounds, including such toxic substances as ammonia, benzopyrene and carbon monoxide.

University News Bureau,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Earth 'to heat up' by 2030

WASHINGTON — In 43 years, Earth's temperatures could be hotter than any since the dawn of civilization, but vigorous efforts to cut oil, coal and natural gas use can substantially delay the warming of the planet, an environmental group says.

The reason for the warming is the "greenhouse effect," which occurs when gases in the atmosphere, most notably carbon dioxide produced by burning fossil fuels, trap infrared radiation, warming the planet.

—AP

How does smoke hurt nonsmokers?

- If you're in a room where just one person is smoking, you could suffer from headache, nausea, eye irritation, coughing and breathing difficulty.
- If you work near smokers, your lungs suffer the same harm as if you smoked up to ten cigarettes a day.
- If your spouse is a smoker, you're two to four times as likely to die of lung cancer.
- Young children whose parents smoke at home suffer from reduced lung functions and develop respiratory illness twice as often as children of nonsmoking parents.
- Even if you don't notice its effects right away, tobacco smoke raises your blood pressure, makes your heart work harder, and exposes you to radioactive particles.

4. S-331

Comm. from Vivian Kurkjian Re: the plight of the homeless & suggesting that the liquor industry set aside a portion of their profits to assist the homeless.

In City Council,

May 11, 1987

*Referred to Mayor's
Committee on Homeless*