

Prevent the Sale!

Newsletter for Idaho Tobacco Retailers

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Sponsored by Idaho Department of Health & Welfare

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Global Citizenship and Responsibility

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Facts and Stats

"B" Average for NOVEMBER

According to Idaho Code 39-5701 the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare must inspect each business that sells tobacco to ensure that it does not sell tobacco to minors. In NOVEMBER 2008

- ❖ 285 Vendors were inspected.*
- ❖ 38 Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.
- ❖ The compliance rate for the month of November 2008 was 86.67%

*Inspections where purchase attempts were made.

Prevent the Sale Web site

www.preventthesale.com/idaho

- Learn about the law
- Take the tobacco quiz
- See what the ID's look like
- Play the Game "Would You Sell to This Person?"

2009 Tobacco Permits Available

You must renew your tobacco permit before Dec. 31, 2008 to avoid penalties. You can renew single or multiple permits for free at:

<http://www.tobacopermits.com/Idaho/>

Penalties for Selling Tobacco Without a Permit

The state of Idaho requires all tobacco vendors to register with the Department of Health & Welfare by taking out a permit. These permits are free of charge and take just minutes to obtain using the above web site.

Selling tobacco without obtaining a permit is a criminal offense. The Idaho code concerning tobacco sales (Idaho Code 39-5709) states:

"The sale or distribution of tobacco products without a permit shall constitute a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment not exceeding six (6) months in the county jail, a fine of three hundred dollars (\$300), or by both such fine and imprisonment. If the sale or distribution of tobacco products was to a minor, the fine shall be no less than five hundred dollars (\$500) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

In addition to the penalties above, the court may impose an additional fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per day beginning the day following the date of citation as long as the illegal tobacco sales or distribution continues. The first seven (7) days of additional fines may be suspended provided that the business or seller is able to prove that the business or seller has applied for the permit within seven (7) days of the citation." (Idaho Code 39-5709)

Global Citizenship and Tobacco

Global citizenship—the trendy new tagline that calls for Americans to become models for the world—will most likely include some reformation policies when it comes to tobacco. Part of that reformation needs to be telling the truth about tobacco.

"Part of being a good citizen is telling the truth," said Peter Fromuth in the Christian Science Monitor. "So our first step is to expose the fiction that tobacco is an ordinary product. In fact, tobacco is the only consumer 'good' that, used properly, produces death in 50 percent of habitual users, a characteristic that seems not so much ordinary as uniquely lethal."

In 1994 R.J. Reynolds, America's tobacco giant, claimed access to 90 percent of the world's markets compared to 40 percent a decade earlier. As a result, 100,000 people now become smokers every day, and most of those are children.

The World Health Organization says that 10 times more people will die from smoking in this century than in the last. The bottom line is that tobacco trade produces economic losses and makes more people worse off than they were before. Fromuth suggests that tobacco should not be included in ordinary trade rules for these reasons.

The centerpiece for reforming the trade market for tobacco has been created. It's called the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and is the world's first global public health treaty (FCTC). If the effort becomes ratified by the Senate, we may see some first efforts in becoming good global citizens when it comes to tobacco.



Happy Holidays!

The Negative Outcomes of Tobacco

We've talked at length about the negative health effects of tobacco, but the truth is, health is not the ONLY negative effect. Here are some others in light of our global responsibility:

- ◆ Tobacco increases poverty*
- ◆ Tobacco contributes to world hunger by diverting prime land away from food production
- ◆ Tobacco production damages the environment
- ◆ Tobacco reduces economic productivity
- ◆ Tobacco can be considered an example of wasted labor, capital and resources.

*"Tobacco and poverty are inextricably linked. Many studies have shown that in the poorest households in some low-income countries as much as 10% of total household expenditure is on tobacco [and therefore] less money to spend on basic items such as food, education and health care. In addition to its direct health effects, tobacco leads to malnutrition, increased health care costs and premature death. It also contributes to a higher illiteracy rate, since money that could have been used for education is spent on tobacco instead. Tobacco's role in exacerbating poverty has been largely ignored by researchers in both fields." ~World Health Organization

Becoming a Good Global Citizen

What all this means to us is we have to do our part—no matter where we are in life. Those who have direct control over the access to tobacco products can consistently say No to minors who try to purchase tobacco products, and parents and teachers can educate children about the effects of using tobacco.

"In addition to the high public health costs of treating tobacco-caused diseases, tobacco kills people at the height of their productivity, depriving families of breadwinners and nations of a healthy workforce. Tobacco users are also less productive while they are alive due to increased sickness."

As we look ahead to 2009 and make our New Years' Resolutions, let's work together to continue saying NO to minors who try to buy tobacco...not just because it's the law, but because it makes us good citizens here in Idaho and across the globe.



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Tobacco Retailers

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
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What's Inside:

- Renew Tobacco Permits
- Global Citizenship
- Negative Outcomes of Tobacco
- Become a Good Global Citizen

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES