

10 June 2004

The Secretary
Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
Suite S1 59
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

INQUIRY INTO TOBACCO ADVERTISING PROHIBITION

Smoking is not a right. It is a wrong. It is harmful to smokers; to others in the community, especially to children in smoking households, and to the environment. Cigarette butts are the most frequent cause of litter and together with cigarette lighters and matches are a cause of bushfires.

Despite claims of legality, tobacco products are of limited legality, with ever increasing restrictions on the type of product, the growing, manufacture, importation, promotion, sale and consumption of tobacco.

The costs to the community far outweigh the profits made by the growers, manufacturers, promoters and sellers.

Legislation that further restricts overt and covert promotion of tobacco products is a step towards the elimination of the noxious weed. The fewer who smoke, the greater the support by non-smokers and by smokers for further restrictions.

The proposed legislation has my support.



Geraldine Spencer
life member Canberra ASH Incorporated
former editor *ASHES TO DUST*
member Non-Smokers Movement of Australia

