

LOST JOB EQUALS 10 PACKS PER DAY

Unemployment is more dangerous than smoking 10 packs of cigarettes per day. Unlike direct smoking, 2nd hand smoke or ETS is shown by risk analysis to be a trivial danger.

Bernard Cohen, a brilliant University of Pittsburgh physicist, calculated the risk of unemployment versus smoking. His outstanding work shows a lost job is as dangerous as smoking 10 packs of cigarettes per day.

The neighborhood tavern smoking ban threatens the health of people who lose their jobs or income. 2nd hand smoke is a trivial risk compared to job loss. Richard Wilson, of Harvard University, published a brilliant dissertation on relative risk. His outstanding contribution to the science of risk analysis showed identical risk for the following activities:

- living 2 months with a smoker
- living in a stone or brick house 2 months
- eating 40 tablespoons of peanut butter
- spending 1 hour in a coal mine
- paddling 6 minutes in a canoe
- making 7 trips in an automobile

The neighborhood tavern smoking ban, passed by the city council and mayor, has created a danger equivalent to smoking 10 cigarette packs per day to eliminate a 2nd hand smoking risk equivalent to 7 auto trips or paddling a canoe 6 minutes.