

Title of Paper: Functions of Attitudes toward Cigarette Smoking among Adolescents: An Initial Investigation and Possible Implications for Anti-Smoking Messages

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Abstract

This study was an initial attempt to examine psychological functions associated with adolescent attitudes toward smoking and to examine which functions would be predictive of cigarette smoking susceptibility. Among a sample of 390 middle- and high-school-aged participants, utilitarian and social-adjustive attitudes were predictive of susceptibility to smoking. Value-expressive and ego-defensive attitudes were not predictive of susceptibility. Additionally, girls were found to have stronger social-adjustive attitudes than boys, and younger adolescents were found to have stronger social-adjustive attitudes than older adolescents. Possible implications for anti-smoking campaigns are discussed.

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