

October 19, 2005

Stanton Glantz, Ph.D.
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Dear Dr. Glantz:

The increase in tobacco use in movies poses a serious public health concern. Ideally, this problem would be solved through a cooperative effort between those involved in the movie industry and the public health community. We have believed and continue to hope that the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) would work with us and others concerned about this problem on solutions that address this issue in ways that are sensitive to the movie industry's needs. Some in the movie industry on their own have taken steps to curtail tobacco use in movies and they deserve public recognition and support. We applaud their efforts and encourage others to do so as well.

However, we have also concluded that more must be done now. The Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids calls on the movie industry to take the following four significant steps on its own to reduce tobacco use in movies, consistent with the **Smoke Free Movies'** policy goals:

1. "R" Rating for All New Movies with Smoking

Any film that shows or implies tobacco use should be rated "R." The only exceptions should be when the presentation of tobacco clearly and unambiguously reflects the dangers and consequences of tobacco use or is necessary to represent the smoking of a real historical figure.

2. Certify No Pay Offs

The producers should post a certificate in the closing credits declaring that nobody on the production received anything of value (monetary payment, free cigarettes or other gifts, free publicity, interest-free loans or anything else) from anyone in exchange for using or displaying tobacco.

Letter to Stanton Glantz, Ph.D October 19, 2005 Page Two

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3. Require Strong Anti-Smoking Ads

Studios and theaters should require a genuinely strong anti-smoking ad (not one produced by a tobacco company) to run before any film with any tobacco presence, in any distribution channel, regardless of its MPAA rating.

4. Stop Identifying Brands

Matthew L. Myers

There should be no tobacco brand identification nor the presence of tobacco brand imagery (such as billboards) in the background of any movie scene.

Sincerely,

Matthew L. Myers

President