

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Smoking Movies

To the Editor:

DVD's for the holidays? The AMA Alliance, of the American Medical association, committed to the promotion of public health would like to inform adults purchasing movies during the holidays that several of the popular PG and PG-13 movies contain smoking: Hostel: Part II - R (High incident of smoking); I now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry - PG-13 (Chuck is addicted to tobacco); American Gangster - R; Love in the Time of Cholera -R; Spider-Man 3 - PG13 (Secondhand Cigar smoke);

Minimal smoking: Mr. Brooks - R (extra smokes in background of one scene); Meet the Robinsons - G (One brief scene with unlit cigar); No country for Old Men - R; Saw IV - R;

No Smoking: Ratatouille - G; Deck the Halls -PG; Transformers - PG 13; Sicko - PG 13; License to Wed - PG 13; Beowulf - PG13; Bee Movie - PG; Fred Claus - PG; Mr. Magorium's Magic Emporium - G; Dan in Real Life - PG13; Lions for Lambs - R;

Research shows that movies deliver billions of glamorized pro-smoking messages to adolescents according to James Sargent, MD professor of pediatrics at Dartmouth Medical School. Research shows that children viewing images of smoking as glamorous in the movies influences smoking initiation. Parents can play a big role in reducing tobacco use by limiting the exposure to movies with tobacco imagery and by requesting the movie industry incorporate smoking into the movie rating label.

To see a list of movies depicting smoking and tobacco images visit the AMA Alliance web site at http://www.amaalliance.org/site/epage/43126_625.htm.

Enjoy the Holidays and for those who use tobacco consider quitting for the New Year, Remember Every Quit Counts!

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Printing imperfections present during scanning