

## Select stories in the media – January 2007

| Date      | Title   | Journalist/Author                  | Page | Paper/Source                     | Summary   |
|-----------|---|------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------|---|
| 31 Jan 07 | <b>Change is easier said than done</b>            | Huslin, Anita                      | 2    | West Australian (Perth) – Health | Research synthesised by the US National Academy of Sciences suggests that there may be combinations of genes and environmental factors that make it hard for some people to maintain control over their habits.   |
| 30 Jan 07 | <b>Kicking the habit</b>                          | Readfearn, Graham                  | 53   | Courier Mail (Brisbane) - Today  | Collection of smoking cessation stories.  |
| 30 Jan 07 | <b>Councils at loss on smokes bans</b>            | Bolling, Mary                      | 10   | Herald Sun (Melbourne)           | A Community Advocacy on Gambling report found that a number of councils do not have procedures to enforce the new tobacco control laws that commence in July 2007.  |
| 29 Jan 07 | <b>Anger at no-smoke club ruling</b>              | Houston, Cameron                   | 3    | Age (Melbourne)                  | The Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal has rejected a proposal for a double storey nightclub in Windsor citing that it did not comply with smoking laws.   |
| 29 Jan 07 | <b>Clubs campaign to tackle smoke ban</b>         | Sikora, Kate                       | 10   | Daily Telegraph (Sydney)         | A new TV campaign promoting clubs in NSW will target families in an attempt to “shed their pokie palace image”. Notes that one club in NSW has been ordered by the NSW Health Department to retract a newspaper ad because it promoted outdoor smoking. |
| 28 Jan 07 | <b>Ban this gimmick: cigs aimed at kids</b>       | Hinde, Suellen                     | 22   | Sunday Herald Sun (Melbourne)    | The Victorian government will consider banning the DJ mix fruit flavoured cigarettes.   |
| 27 Jan 07 | <b>Science pinpoints smoking addiction</b>        | Radowitz, Jon von; Kleinig, Xanthe | 26   | Adelaide Advertiser              | Smokers who suffered damage to the insula (a 2.5cm wide pleasure centre deep within the brain) were able to quit more easily. Reports on research published in <i>Science</i> .   |
| 25 Jan 07 | <b>Clubs win smoking row</b>                      |                                    | 7    | Daily Telegraph (Sydney)         | The NSW Department of Health reversed their position on the erection of outdoor smoking area signs in clubs.  |
| 20 Jan 07 | <b>Tobacco firms boost nicotine to hook users</b> | Szep, Jason                        | 14   | Weekend Australian               | Story from Boston reporting on health records analysis research conducted by the Harvard School of Public Health that found the amount of nicotine in cigarettes rose by an average of 1.6 per cent between 1998 and 2005.                              |
| 18 Jan 07 | <b>Smoke shops to get three months' grace</b>     | Mason, Graham; Rule, Peta          | 34   | West Australian (Perth)          | Tobacco retailers have been given a three month grace period to fully implement the new point of sale advertising regulations.  |

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| 17 Jan 07 | <b>Territory funding tobacco industry</b>                                    | Mannheim, Markus                 | 1  | Canberra Times            | ACT Treasury documents reveal that the ACT government has \$9 million invested in three international tobacco companies (Altria, Japan Tobacco and Swedish Match) through superannuation investments.  |
| 16 Jan 07 | <b>By gum, BAT looks for more suckers as cigarette sales run out of puff</b> | Pagnamenta, Robin                | 20 | Australian                | Times London article. British American Tobacco are exploring marketing Snus. Paul Adams plays down the controversy the tobacco industry is embroiled in over the impact of smoking on public health. Adams: "The consensus is that the environment has become less threatening. A lot of big class-action lawsuits have materially diminished or gone away. So I don't think it's the threat it was." Adams legitimises his role as head of BAT: "Tobacco is a legitimate business. We make and sell products that are harmful. That business needs to be run extremely well and responsibly, which we think we do. Given that there are going to be people who smoke – roughly a billion, so that's 20 per cent of the world's population – who do you want running that business? Do you want a large, transparent, public listed, accountable company, or do you want something else? So I think I'm on the side of the angels. I'm running a business which sells risky products and I see myself making a contribution to running that in a responsible way." |
| 15 Jan 07 | <b>Pubs rush on outdoor areas to beat smoking ban</b>                        | Lucas, Clay;<br>Houston, Cameron | 3  | Age (Melbourne)           | Pubs and gaming venues are preparing for the July 2007 smoking bans by applying to Councils to create beer gardens, balconies and roof-top terraces.   |
| 15 Jan 07 | <b>Smoke alarm works</b>   | McArthur, Grant                  | 15 | Herald Sun (Melbourne)    | Since the implementation of graphic health warnings on cigarette packets in March 2006, the number of calls to the national Quitline has dramatically increased.   |
| 15 Jan 07 | <b>Burning issue</b>   | Barnsley, Kathy                  | 14 | Hobart Mercury            | Letter to the editor advocating further development of the reduced ignition propensity (RIP) standard for cigarettes.  |
| 14 Jan 07 | <b>Don't give up on quitting the habit</b>                                   | Read, Genevieve                  | 22 | Sunday Tasmanian (Hobart) | Smoking cessation story.   |
| 14 Jan 07 | <b>Smokers to lose on points</b>   | Weaver, Clair                    | 2  | Sunday Telegraph (Sydney) | Queensland banned tobacco products from loyalty programs in 2006 and the NSW government is considering to prohibit the inclusion of tobacco products in retailer shopper loyalty programs.   |

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| 12 Jan 07 | <b>Pubs breathe easy on smoking lapses</b>             | Clennell, Andrew | 3  | Sydney Morning Herald       | NSW Health has inspected 1200 hotels and found 40 premises were not complying with the new tobacco control laws.  |
| 11 Jan 07 | <b>Victoria's pub smoking ban stubs out CBD tavern</b> | Dunckley, Mathew | 5  | Australian Financial Review | The Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal has blocked a proposal for a 460-patron tavern on Exhibition Street in the CBD deeming that people smoking outside would be an unacceptable risk to traffic and public order.   |
| 8 Jan 07  | <b>Drivers warned to butt out</b>                      |                  | 14 | Hobart Mercury              | Letter to the editor re: smoking in cars. Health issue as well as a bushfire threat when cigarettes are thrown out of car windows.  |
| 7 Jan 07  | <b>Surgery ban for smokers ruled out</b>               |                  | 2  | Sunday Telegraph (Sydney)   | The NSW Health Minister has rejected the proposal to refuse elective surgery to patients who refuse to quit smoking.  |
| 6 Jan 07  | <b>Nipple ad attracts the most viewer ire</b>          | Lord, Gillian    | 6  | Canberra Times              | The Advertising Standards Bureau has issued statistics for 2006 and the second most complained about advertisement was an antismoking TV advertisement (mouth cancer ad).   |
| 5 Jan 07  | <b>Doc's cutting off smokers</b>                       |                  | 10 | Herald Sun (Melbourne)      | Australian doctor, Matthew Peters, says that denying some types of elective surgery to smokers is justified because their operations are riskier and costlier.  |
| 4 Jan 07  | <b>Who'll ban fruit kids' cigarettes</b>               | Masters, Clare   | 13 | Daily Telegraph (Sydney)    | The South Australian government banned the sale of DJ mix fruit flavoured cigarettes in November 2006. The NSW government is lobbying the federal government to ban fruit flavoured cigarettes nationally, but is not moving to legislate on a state level.                                     |
| 4 Jan 07  | <b>Next step on smoking [letter to the editor]</b>     | Sexton, Peter    | 22 | Hobart Mercury              | Letter by the president of the Heart Foundation Tasmania lauding the success of the pub and club smoking bans and calls for Michael Aird's support to ban smoking in private cars carrying children.  |
| 3 Jan 07  | <b>Deadly custom in steady decline</b>                 | Chapman, Simon   | 10 | Australian                  | "Smoking is slowly but surely dying in Australia, despite some obstinate myths about the habit".  |
| 3 Jan 07  | <b>Group condemns pack</b>                             | Doherty, Megan   | 12 | Canberra Times              | Todd Harper from the Cancer Council Victoria calls for plain packages for cigarettes.   |
| 3 Jan 07  | <b>Car smoking ban soon: Tassie's radical new law</b>  | Neales, Sue      | 13 | Hobart Mercury              | Proposed new tobacco control laws banning smoking in private cars carrying children will be presented to the Tasmanian parliament in early 2007. South Australia is the only state to take the matter seriously and effective from 1 January 2007 has banned smoking in cars carrying children. |

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| 3 Jan 07 | <b>No time to draw breath [editorial]</b>                 |                  | 22 | Hobart Mercury          | Editorial identifying the successful implementation of new tobacco laws in Tasmania in 2006 but emphasises there is a need to continually refine laws in the "war against smoking".   |
| 3 Jan 07 | <b>Smokes link to cervical cancer</b>                     |                  | 6  | West Australian (Perth) | Women who carry HPV (human papilloma virus) are more likely to develop cervical cancer if they smoke.   |
| 1 Jan 07 | <b>Coalition backs Whitlam ban on tobacco advertising</b> | Skelton, Russell | 7  | Age (Melbourne)         | The 1976 cabinet papers reveal that the cabinet endorsed the Whitlam government's radio and television ban on cigarettes and tobacco products after extensive debate. The ban was opposed by Eric Robinson (communications minister) and Eric Robinson (industry and commerce minister). Health minister Ralph Hunt pushed for the advertising ban: "It is my firm view that our credibility as a government would be destroyed if we allowed vested interests to make us turn a blind eye to the proven damage cigarette smoking has done and is doing to the health of our people." |