



GASP's Position on Secondhand Marijuana Smoke Exposure

The public became more concerned about restricting smoking in public places and workplaces as the science demonstrated the link between exposure to secondhand smoke with death and disease. In 2006 the US Surgeon General's report on secondhand smoke indicated that there is no safe exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke and that exposure could cause death and other health problems. According to internal documents the tobacco industry had to release due to the Master Settlement, the industry knew secondhand smoke was dangerous as early as the 1970s.

The mission of the Group to Alleviate Smoking Pollution's (GASP of Colorado) is to eliminate secondhand smoke exposure at work, in public places, and in multiunit housing using education and through policy change. GASP takes no position on whether marijuana should be legal. Like tobacco, GASP has no objection to people using marijuana as long as it is done in places where it will not harm others through secondhand-smoke exposure and with the use of alternatives that can be taken internally. **Nobody should have to breathe secondhand marijuana smoke against their will at work, in public, or where they live.**

While the scientific research on the effects of secondhand marijuana smoke is not as extensive as the research about secondhand tobacco smoke, studies indicate that secondhand marijuana smoke contains some of the same harmful chemicals as tobacco smoke and may impair blood vessel function. In fact, a 2021 study found that marijuana joints produce 3.5 times the average fine-particle emission rate of Marlboro tobacco cigarettes, the most popular US cigarette brand. The average emission rate of the cannabis bong was 67% that of the joint; the glass pipe was 54% that of the joint, and the vaping pen was 44% that of the joint. **That is why the public should avoid exposure to secondhand marijuana smoke in public places, workplaces, and multiunit residential buildings.**

The Group to Alleviate Smoking Pollution (GASP of Colorado) is a 501-C-3 statewide nonprofit organization working to eliminate secondhand smoke from the air we breathe at work, in public places, and in multiunit housing. Visit gaspforair.org for more information.

Visit smokeissmoke.com for more information about secondhand marijuana smoke.