ENFORCEMENT OF TOBACCO PUP LAWS IN RELATION TO YOUTH SMOKING BEHAVIOR

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Introduction

PUP Laws:
- Possession, use, and purchase (PUP) laws are public, informal tobacco control policies that regulate youth access to tobacco products, either through regulations, prohibitions, restrictions, or by charging a cost.
- There are state PUP laws and local PUP ordinances.
- Recent trends indicate an increase in the number of state PUP laws and local PUP ordinances, with little empirical data on their effectiveness.

Mean Number of PUP Laws Per State — United States, 1988-2003

Methods

MEASURES: Dependent variable
- Current smoking (past month smoking, yes/no)
- Gender, race, age, parent education, risk, total student income: from MTF student-level data
- Strength of SFA laws – RPCI researchers incorporating strength of protection and enforcement
- Cigarette price - Tax Burden on Tobacco

DATA COLLECTION: Control variables
- Existence of state PUP laws
- Existence of local PUP ordinances
- SEI for state PUP laws:
- LEI for local possession laws:
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MEASURES: Independent variable
- Possession, use, and purchase (PUP) laws
- Rating:
  - 0 = no ordinance
  - 1 = ordinance exists
  - 2 = ordinance is moderate
  - 3 = ordinance is high

RESULTS:

Logit analyses were conducted using STATA 3.0:
- Statistical PUP analyses controlled for same county, community, and demographic study level tobacco control policies.
- Analyses conducted with race, gender, age; at least one parent being a smoker.
- Analyses were conducted with race, gender, age; at least one parent being a smoker.
- Demographic study level tobacco control policies.

LIMITATIONS:

- State purchase laws were associated with lower odds of smoking.
- No plausible support for this finding, which may be confounded by other state and local tobacco control efforts.
- In the absence of local possession laws, local laws were associated with increased odds of youth smoking.
- There was no dose-response relationship between local and youth smoking behavior for state or local possession laws.
- Local possession ordinances were associated with lower odds of youth smoking.
- The association was especially observed in the absence of state possession laws for all levels of local enforcement.

Conclusion

- Comprehensive tobacco control policies and programs, focusing on youth, youth and adults are important.
- Several tools can be used to prevent youth tobacco use.

A COMPREHENSIVE TOBACCO CONTROL APPROACH CAN ACHIEVE THE MAXIMUM BENEFIT FOR THE ENTIRE POPULATION.