

Smoking ban in the mall is a good start

Smoking in the local malls has recently been banned by the state. It was established that it was hazardous to the health of the customers who shopped there.

Although the ban on smoking in public facilities is a good start, it should be banned and considered an illegal drug that is not accessible to anyone. Smoking has been known to be a direct cause of lung cancer and other problems with the liver. Despite the well known risks, the American government continues to condone the smoking of cigarettes. The government has prohibited many other drugs such as marijuana due to health hazards. I can't fathom prohibiting a drug that does not result in serious health defects and allowing a drug that is known for causing a serious disease to remain legal. This decision to do so just verifies that America is still very much a capitalistic society. We are more concerned with the revenue cigarettes produce than the fatalistic health effects.

The smoking ban in places such as the mall will begin to prove to America that smoking is more detrimental than beneficial. The statistics of diseases caused by smoking will start to diminish. It may make smokers more susceptible to kicking their habit. It may also increase the revenue in other areas such as retail. Customers will be more apt to coming to the mall because the air will be cleaner. The customers will be able to walk around and not have to fret over whether they or their children may be developing some disease as a result of someone else's decision to smoke.

Society may not be aware of the advantages of this ban immediately, but the futuristic results will prove that this is one of best choices they could have possibly made.

The opinion expressed in this column is that of the author and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the entire Bennett Banner staff.

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STUDENT OPINION POLL:

Bellespeak

Do you agree with the new law banning smoking in the mall? Photos by Leah Whaley-Holmes, Banner Photographer



OBIAMAKA MELIFONWU
CLASS: SOPHOMORE
MAJOR: BUS. ADMIN
HOME STATE: WASHINGTON, D.C.

I smoke cigarettes but I think the ban of smoking in the mall is a good idea. Children and adults with respiratory problems and those who don't like smoke period should not be exposed.



MAYAH BANKS
CLASS: SOPHOMORE
MAJOR: PSYCHOLOGY
HOME STATE: CALIFORNIA

It is a great idea to ban smoking in local malls. If you are a smoker and need to light up that bad go outside and do so. It is not fair to make people suffer who do not smoke.



TRINA HARE-HAYES
CLASS: SOPHOMORE
MAJOR: BIOLOGY
HOME STATE: CONNECTICUT

I think this [smoking ban] is good. I have allergies and the smoking ban is good for the environment and people's health especially children's.



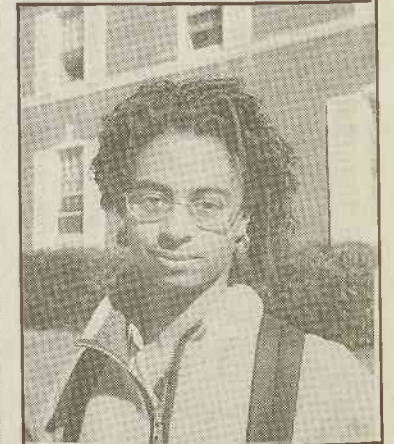
DAYDRA WILKES
CLASS: SENIOR
MAJOR: ELEM. ED.
HOME STATE: MISSOURI

I am a smoker, but I don't think that the general public should have to suffer because of my habit. It is common courtesy for any smoker to think of the people around them and their health before lighting up.



CYNTHIA EDGE
CLASS: SOPHOMORE
MAJOR: SPECIAL ED.
HOME STATE: SOUTH CAROLINA

I am glad to finally see that change in the mall. Back home there is no smoking in the mall and I love it.



MELODY CALDWELL
CLASS: FRESHWOMAN
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The ban on smoking in the malls is good because it is a public facility. Many people that are in the mall have health conditions. Second hand smoking is worse than the actual smoking so the people around the smoke suffer more.