Economics of Smoking

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What Next?

Measure of smoking:

1. <u>compensatory behaviour of smokers</u> When taxes go up, smokers compensate by extracting more nicotine per cigarette

2. <u>displacement of smoking from public</u> to private places Smoking bans

outline

- 1. Taxes, Cigarette Consumption and Smoking Intensity (Adda and Cornaglia, 2006)
- 2. The Effects of Bans and Taxes on Passive Smoking (Adda and Cornaglia, 2006)

1. Taxes, Cigarette Consumption and Smoking Intensity

- This paper analyses the compensatory behavior of smokers.
- Exploiting data on cotinine we show that smokers compensate tax hikes by extracting more nicotine per cigarette.

Two important contributions:

- 1. our results question the usefulness of tax increases.
- 2. we show that the previous empirical results suffer from severe estimation biases.

Plan of the talk

o Introduction.

- A simple model of smoking and smoking intensity. Empirical Strategy.
- Data and descriptive statistics.
- The effect of prices on quantities and intensity.
- Other determinants of smoking intensity.
- Bias in the economic literature.
- o Conclusion.

1. Taxes, Cigarette Consumption and Smoking Intensity

Some Empirical Evidence...





- Other disciplines have shown that smoking topography matters:
 - Differences in the way smokers smoke a cigarette:
 - Cigarette size & yield.
 - o Number of puffs.
 - \circ Depth of inhalation, blocking of ventilation holes.
 - Smokers compensate low yield cigarettes and fewer cigarettes by smoking more intensively.

Results in Epidemiology Literature

- $\,\circ\,$ Cotinine is the best biological marker to study smoking behavior.
- Variation in cotinine levels, conditional on the number of cigarette smoked: behavioral adjustments.
 Bridges et al (1990), Wagenknecht et al (1990), Kozlowski et al (1980).
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 Smokers compensate light cigarettes with higher intensity.
 Frost et al (1995), Withey et al (1992)
- Frost et al (1995), Withey et al (1992)
 Racial and SES differences in smoking behavior
 Caraballo et al (1998), McCarthy et al (1992), Kozlowsky et al (1980), Wagenknecht et al (1990), Patterson et al (2003), Jarvis et al ().
- Misreporting of smoking status is very limited
 Caraballo et al (2001), Clark et al (1996)

Introduction. Previous Economic Literature on Smoking

- Smoking is measured by the number of cigarettes smoked per day.
- Evaluate the effect of prices on smoking using the number of cigarettes:
 - significant (negative) price elasticity.
- Assumes that cigarettes are a homogenous consumption product :
 - all cigarettes are the same.
 - all cigarettes are consumed in the same way.

Contribution

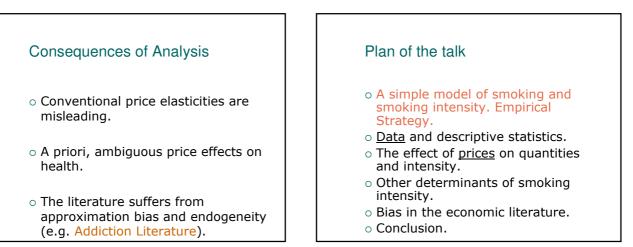
- OWe introduce a new dimension: Intensity of smoking
- OWe consider the case where the agent can choose:
 - The number of cigarettes to smoke.
 - The effort, or smoking intensity, exerted to smoke a cigarette.
- Therefore, SMOKING = N. OF CIGARETTES * INTENSITY
- OAs measure for smoking we use data on <u>cotinine</u> <u>concentration</u> in blood or saliva.
- O Analysis of smoking intensity, using large data sets on smokers over time in the US .

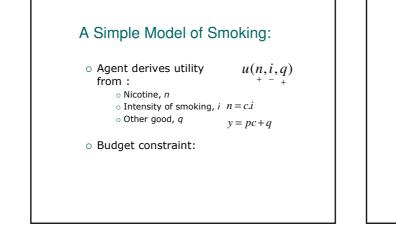
What is cotinine?

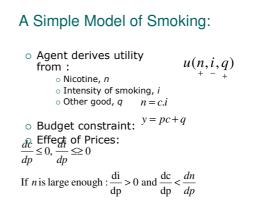
- $\circ\;$ An individual exposed to smoke absorbs nicotine.
- Nicotine is transformed into cotinine (half life of 18
- hours).Octinine measured in saliva samples.
- Advantage:
 - Precise measure of exposure.
 - Pick up changes in policy very quickly.
 - Minimal measurement error.
 - Nicotine is highly correlated:
 - with tar (0.96)
 - and carbon monoxide (0.85)
 - cotinine is a good marker of absorption of
 - hazardous chemicals due to smoking.
- $\circ\;$ We define smoking as the level of cotinine in the body.

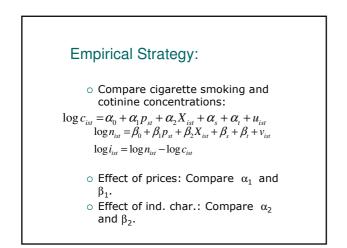
Key Points

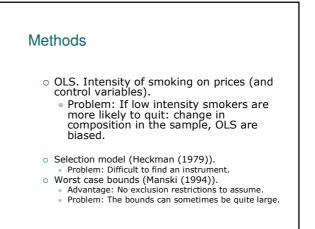
- We document the extensive heterogeneity in smoking intensity.
- Smokers compensate higher prices by smoking more intensively.
- Prices have no effect on nicotine intakes.
- Smoking intensity varies with socioeconomic position, gender, race, cohort and time.

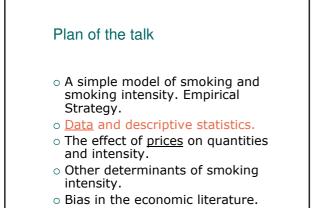




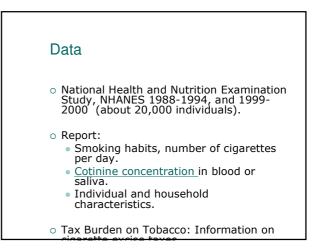






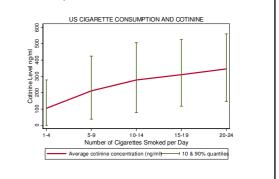


o Conclusion.



		US	
	All	Smokers	Non Smokers
# of observations	20050	4641	13882
average # of cigarettes	10	18.8	0
average level of cotinine (ng/ml)	78	230	0.44
average age	44	39	45
sex (% male)	47.7	51	43
% white	84.1	84.0	84.6
% education high	40	27	47
% education medium	49	63	41
% education low	11	10	11

Cotinine Concentration and Cigarette Consumption.



%	US 1988-	26%	26%	-	-	-
Explained Variance of	94	[4122]	[4122]	-	-	
cotinine	US 1999-	22%	-	24%	35%	36%
concentratio n	00	[840]		[776]	[776]	[776]
Number of cigar	ettes smoked	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Time / Day of Ex	amination	No	Yes	No	No	No
Nicotine yield of	cigarette	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Brand of Cigaret	te	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Size, filter, ment	hol	No	No	No	No	Yes

Plan of the talk A simple model of smoking and smoking intensity. Empirical Strategy. Data and descriptive statistics. The effect of prices on quantities and intensity. Other determinants of smoking intensity. Bias in the economic literature. Conclusion.

	Baseline	Baseline + Excluding cotinine level<200 ng/ml(media n value)	Baseline + Additional controls: height, day and time of examination	Baseline + Excluding those started after 1988	Baseline+ Excluding late starters
Elasticity Smoking	0.47**	0.55**	0.46**	0.43**	0.34**
Intensity	(0.18)	(0.19)	(0.20)	(0.18)	(0.14)
Elasticity Number of	-0.20	-0.49**	-0.19	-0.13	-0.73**
Cigarettes	(0.37)	(0.21)	(0.34)	(0.38)	(0.27)
Elasticity Cotinine	0.28	0.06	0.27	0.30	-0.39
	(0.25)	(0.05)	(0.26)	(0.27)	(0.35)

	NHANES 1999-2000	NHANES 1999-2000 Additional Controls: Cigarette length and nicotine yield
Elasticity Smoking Intensity	0.11** (0.04)	0.10** (0.04)
Elasticity Number of Cigarettes	-0.15** (0.04)	-0.15** (0.04)
Elasticity Cotinine	-0.03 (0.04)	-0.04 (0.07)

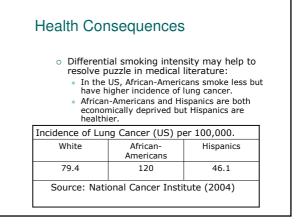
Plan of the talk

- A simple model of smoking and smoking intensity. Empirical Strategy.
- o Data and descriptive statistics.
- The effect of <u>prices</u> on quantities and intensity.
- Other determinants of smoking intensity.
- \circ Bias in the economic literature.
- o Conclusion.

US: Individual Characteristics

	Log(Cig)	Log(Cot)	Log(Cot/Cig)
Men	-0.05 (0.040)	-0.11 (0.060)	-0.06 (0.040)
Age	0.05** (0.006)	0.05** (0.008)	-0.01 (0.007)
Age squared (*100)	-0.1** (0.001)	-0.04** (0.010)	0.01 (0.007)
Log Income	-0.02 (0.026)	-0.05 (0.035)	-0.03 (0.027)
Education (years)	-0.01 (0.007)	-0.03** (0.009)	-0.02** (0.007)
Size of house (number of bedrooms)	-0.04** (0.009)	-0.09** (0.010)	-0.05** (0.009)
White	0.39** (0.094)	0.36** (0.130)	-0.03 (0.100)
African-American	-0.05 (0.102)	0.51** (0.140)	0.56** (0.100)
Family size	0.01 (0.010)	0.05** (0.020)	0.04** (0.010)
Attending church	-0.17** (0.030)	-0.08** (0.040)	0.09** (0.030)
Living in urban area	-0.10** (0.030)	-0.04 (0.041)	0.06* (0.030)
Height (inches)	0.01* (0.005)	0.01 (0.007)	-0.00 (0.006)
Married	0.19** (0.060)	0.10 (0.090)	-0.09 (0.07)
Age started smoking	-0.02** (0.003)	-0.03** (0.004)	-0.00 (0.003)

- US: Individual Gh	Log Cot/Cig) NHANES 1999-2000
Men	0.11 (0.120)
Age	0.00 (0.021)
Age squared (*100)	-0.00 (0.022)
Log Income	0.03 (0.020)
Education (years)	-0.04 (0.061)
White	0.16 (0.129)
African-American	0.64** (0.140)
Height (inches)	-0.01 (0.007)
Married	-0.02 (0.101)
Age started smoking	-0.00 (0.010)
Filter	0.40 (0.372)
Nicotine Yield	0.76** (0.190)
Length of Cigarette (cm)	0.06 (0.051)
Mentholated	0.09 (0.110)



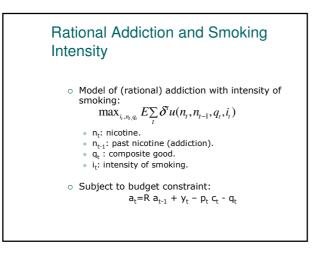


- A simple model of smoking and smoking intensity.
- <u>Data</u> and descriptive statistics.
- \circ The effect of $\underline{\text{prices}}$ on quantities and intensity.
- Other determinants of smoking intensity.
- o Bias in the economic literature.
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Are estimates in the economic literature biased?

Rational Addiction Models:

- Becker and Murphy JPE (1988).
- Becker, Grossman, Murphy AER (1994).
- Chaloupka JPE (1991).
- A number of subsequent papers.
- $\circ~$ Only margin of adjustment is the number of cigarettes.
- $\,\circ\,$ Empirical results on cigarette consumption support the model.



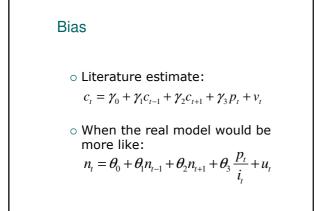
Rational Addiction and Smoking Intensity

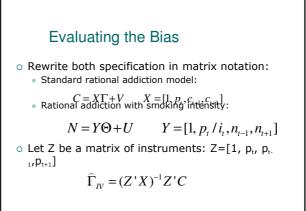
• First Order Condition:

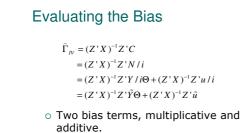
$$n_t = \theta_0 + \theta_1 n_{t-1} + \theta_2 n_{t+1} + \theta_3 \frac{p_t}{i_t} + u_t$$

Theory imposes:

 $\theta_1 \ge 0, \ \theta_2 \ge 0, \ \theta_3 \le 0$

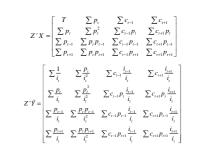






- The first matrix is not necessarily the identity matrix.
- Z'ŭ is not necessarily zero in expectation.

Evaluating the bias



	(2	Z'X) ⁻¹ Z'Y/i	
-0.03	-0.35	-0.55	14.63
-0.00	0.01	-0.00	-0.07
-0.00	0.03	0.95	-1.64
-0.00	0.02	0.17	0.23

Ripe	whon	estimating	addiction	modale
Dias	WIICII	Commanna	audiction	IIIUUEIS

Implied Values	for 0 in Rational Add	iction Model.
	Estimated parameters in rational addiction model	Implied parameters in full model with smoking intensity
Price Effect	γ ₁ = - 1.5	θ ₁ = 0.16
Past Smoking	γ ₂ = 0.5	θ ₂ = 42.90
Future Smoking	γ ₃ = 0.5	θ ₃ = - 0.91

Conclusion

- Economic literature has overlooked an important margin of adjustment.
- First paper to characterize smoking intensity and its determinants.
- o Question the real effect of prices.
- Question the estimation of models of smoking behavior.

Future Developments

- The economic literature on smoking has much to gain from exploiting information on cotinine concentration:
 - Better understand the process of addiction.
 - differences in quitting rates across ethnic or socio-economic groups
 - Effect of changes in taxes and regulations on <u>non smokers</u>?

The Effect of Taxes and Bans on Passive Smoking

Motivation

- o Smokers impose a negative externality on non-smokers.
 - Link with lung cancer, cardio-vascular diseases, respiratory diseases, cot-death...
 - 35,000 deaths per year from heart diseases.
 - 3,000 lung cancer deaths.
 - 200,000 lower respiratory tracts infections in <u>young children</u>, resulting in 10,000 hospitalizations per year.

Motivation

- Smokers impose a negative externality on non-smokers.
- o Passive smoking is widespread:

chemicals in body fluids.

15% of the US population is smoking,
84% of the US *non smoking* population has detectable traces of tobacco related

Motivation

- Smokers impose a negative externality on non-smokers.
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- o Public opinion has turned against passive smoking since the eighties.

2000 20

Motivation

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- o Increased limitation of smoking:
 - restrict or ban smoking in public places.
 - raising taxes on cigarettes.

Motivation

- Smokers impose a negative externality on non-smokers.
- Passive smoking is widespread.
- Public opinion has turned against passive smoking since the eighties.
- Increased limitation of smoking:
 - restrict or ban smoking in public places.raising taxes on cigarettes.
- o How effective are these measures on non-smokers?

Previous Economic Literature on Smoking * Effect on <u>non-smokers</u>: not much has been done

- The economic literature has focused on the effect of prices or taxes on *smokers*:
 - Prices/taxes have an effect on cigarette consumption.Becker et al., 1994; Chaloupka, 1991; Chaloupka and Warner, 1999
 - Workplace bans decrease smoking. Evans et al., 1999
 - Cigarette prices do not affect initiation at young ages. DeCicca et al (2002)
 - Smokers compensate by smoking more intensively a given cigarette.
 Adda and Cornaglia (2006)

Contribution *

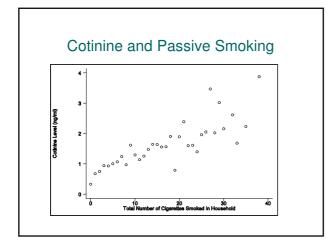
- We use a novel measure for passive smoking:
 - cotinine concentration in body fluids.
- Exploit time and state variations in excise taxes and in smoking regulations.
- This allows us to directly quantify the effect of cigarette taxes and smoking bans on non smokers.

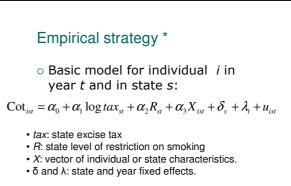
Contribution *

- o We show that:
 - On aggregate, bans have little effect on non-smokers.
 - Evidence of displacement of smoking: increase in exposure in <u>children</u> following bans in recreational public places.
 - Bans in recreational public places have no effects on <u>adults</u>.
 - Bans appears to be efficient in other places (eg public transport, shopping malls), especially to protect children.

Road Map

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Empirical Strategy
- 3. Data and Descriptives
- 4. Effect of Taxes and Bans
- 5. Conclusion







- Basic model for individual *i* in year *t* and in state *s*:
- $\operatorname{Cot}_{ist} = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \log tax_{st} + \alpha_2 R_{st} + \alpha_3 X_{ist} + \delta_s + \lambda_t + u_{ist}$
 - tax: state excise tax
 - *R*: state level of restriction on smoking
 - X: vector of individual or state characteristics.
 - + δ and $\lambda:$ state and year fixed effects.

• Estimation by OLS. Standard errors clustered at state level. Allow for serial correlation in error term.

Effect of Taxes and Bans

 <u>Direct effect</u>: smoking bans prevent exposure of non smokers to tobacco smoke.

Effect of Taxes and Bans

- <u>Direct effect</u>: smoking bans prevent exposure of non smokers to tobacco smoke.
- <u>Indirect effect</u>: (operates through the behaviour of smokers)
 - taxes decrease smoking.
 - bans change the behaviour of smokers: displacement, across time or places.

Endogeneity of anti-smoking policy

- Bans and taxes are correlated with anti-tobacco sentiments, which also determine smoking and exposure to tobacco smoke.
 - We deal with this problem by controlling for <u>state fixed effects</u>. Identification through changes within states.

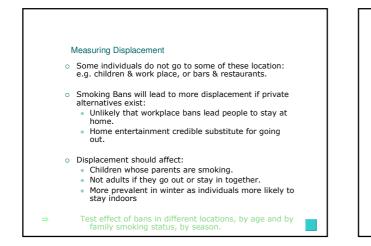
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- Identification through changes within states. • Changes in exposure can lead to the introduction of anti-smoking
 - policies: $$\circ$$ Politically easier to ban smoking if smoking is on the
 - decline.
 - \circ Tougher health policies may be introduced in periods when smoking is on the increase.
 - We proxy for this by using <u>lagged smoking prevalence at state</u> <u>level</u>.

Differential Effect of Smoking Bans across Locations

 $\operatorname{Cot}_{ist} = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \log t \frac{\alpha_{st} + \alpha_2 G O_{st} + \alpha_3 P T_{st} + \alpha_4 S M_{st} + \alpha_5 M_{st} + \alpha_6 S_{st}}{+ \alpha_7 X_{ist} + \delta_s + \lambda_1 + u_{ist}}$

GO: "Going out" i.e. bars, restaurants, recreational places...
PT: Public transportation.
SM: Shopping malls.
WP: Work place.
S: Schools.



Road Map

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Data

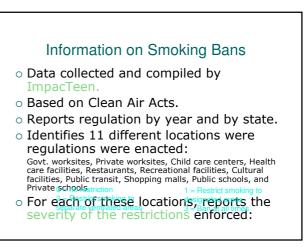
- Our analysis uses the National Health and Nutrition Examination Study (NHANES). 0
- Representative of the US civilian population.
- Reports the cotinine levels in saliva.
 Covers the years 1988-1994, 1999-2000 and 2001-2002.
- $\circ~$ We merge information on state excise taxes (Tax Burden on Tobacco).
- Information on state level bans from ImpactTeen, based on Clean Air Acts.

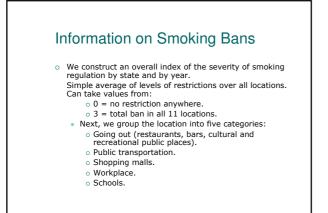
Sample Selection

- o All non-smoking individuals with a valid cotinine measure.
- Non-smoking status:
 - Self-declared non-smokers.
 - Self-declared non user of chewing tobacco or snuff.
 - Cotinine level < 10ng/ml.

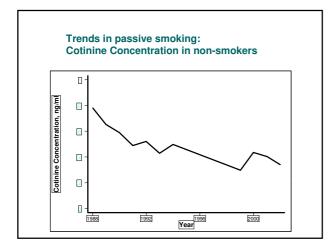
Descriptive Statistics

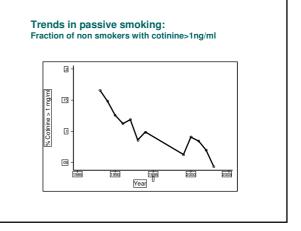
# of observations	29687	5770	23897
average level of cotinine (ng/ml)	0.44	1.47	0.26
	(1.02)	(1.59)	(0.75)
Proportion with detectable cotinine measure (>0.035ng/ml)	84%	99%	79%
average age	33.5	22.7	35.7
Age range	4-90	4-90	4-90
sex (% male)	46	46.8	45.8
% white	74	72	74
% black	12	18	11
Note: Standard deviations in parenthesis. 7 a valid cotinine measure lower than 10ng/n		mple consists of all non-s	moking individuals who ha

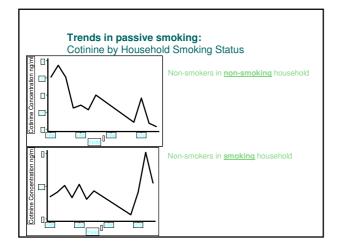


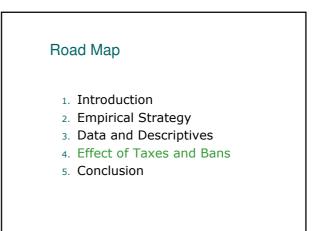


			g Regula		
	Average	Level	Range		Within State Standard dev.
Log tax	3.4	3	0.97-4.6	2	0.27
Average Regulation	0.7	9	0-2.63		0.22
Bans Going-out	0.7	6	0-2.67		0.25
Bans public transportation	1.2	4	0-3		0.31
Bans shopping mall	0.2	7	0-3		0.31
Bans workplace	0.7	0	0-3		0.28
Bans schools	0.8	5	0-2		0.27
Within State Correlation:					
	0 1 1 3	7 1 1			
	School W	/orkplace	Going out	Shopping	Public Transpo
School	School W 1 0.47	/orkplace	Going out	Shopping	Public Transpo
School Workplace	1	/orkplace 1 0.71	Going out	Shopping	Public Transpo
School	1 0.47	1	Going out 1 0.88	Shopping 1	Public Transpo









	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Log Tax	-0.02*	-0.03**				-0.04**	-0.05**
	(0.012)	(0.012)				(0.015)	(0.019)
Regulations			-0.032**	-0.012**	-0.006	0.005	0.004
			(0.009)	(0.002)	(0.008)	(0.006)	(0.005)
Controls:							
Year Dummies		х			х	х	Х
State Dummies		х		Х	х	х	Х
Age, sex, race, state GDP	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х
State smoking prevalence							х

Taxes and Regulation Elasticity of Passive Smoking

- No evidence of a global effect of regulations.
- Effect difficult to evaluate over the whole population.
- Analysis requires more detailed examination:
 - by age group
 - family smoking status season
 - different locations were regulations were enacted

Effects of One Standard Deviati of Enforcement *	All ages	
Average Cotinine Level (Standard Deviation)	0.44ng/ml (1.00)	
Log Tax	-0.04** (0.02)	
Regulation Going out	0.21** (0.07)	
Regulation Public Transport	0.05 (0.04)	
Regulation Shopping Mall	-0.28** (0.10)	
Regulation Workplace	-0.001 (0.01)	
Regulation Schools	-0.04** (0.015)	
Controls:		
Year Dummies	Х	
State Dummies	Х	
Age, sex, race, state GDP	Х	

Characterizing Displacement Effect

To uncover displacement effects due to tougher smoking regulations in places where people go out, we focus on non smokers who would not be directly affected by such regulations: children

- 1. It is likely that children are less prone than adults to go to "going out" places
- 2. Displacement effect should be larger for children whose parents are smoking Displacement effect should be larger in winter
- з.

enforcement	and age				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	All ages	Age<8	Age 8-12	Age 13-20	Age 20+
Average Cotinine Level	0.44ng/ml	0.94 ng/ml	0.63 ng/ml	0.74 ng/ml	0.43 ng/n
(Standard Deviation)	(1.00)	(1.47)	(1.03)	(1.26)	(0.84)
Log Tax Regulation Going out	-0.04** (0.02) 0.21**	-0.20** (0.06) 0.65**	-0.12** (0.03) 0.46**	-0.01 (0.05) 0.07	-0.01 (0.02) -0.03
Regulation Public Transport	(0.07)	(0.14)	(0.10)	(0.11)	(0.14)
	0.05	-0.04	-0.01	-0.03	0.04
Regulation Shopping Mall	(0.04)	(0.10)	(0.06)	(0.09)	(0.04)
	-0.28**	-0.60**	-0.45**	-0.01	-0.19
	(0.10)	(0.22)	(0.17)	(0.15)	(0.11)
Regulation Workplace	-0.001 (0.01)				0.07 (0.08)
Regulation Schools	-0.04** (0.015)	0.06 (0.06)	-0.10** (0.05)	-0.04 (0.03)	

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
All ages	Age<8	Age 8-12	Age 13-20	Age 20+
0.44ng/ml	0.94 ng/ml	0.63 ng/ml	0.74 ng/ml	0.43 ng/ml
(1.00)	(1.47)	(1.03)	(1.26)	(0.84)
-0.04**	-0.20**	-0.12**	-0.01	-0.01
(0.02)	(0.06)	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.02)
0.21**	0.65**	0.46**	0.07	-0.03
				(0.14)
				0.04
				(0.04)
				-0.19
	(0.22)	(0.17)	(0.15)	(0.11)
	1			0.07
	0.06	0 1088	0.04	(0.08)
-0.04***	0.00	-0.10***	-0.04	
	All ages 0.44ng/ml (1.00) -0.04** (0.02)	All ages Agec8 0.44ng/ml 0.94 ng/ml (1.00) (1.47) -0.04** (0.02)** (0.02)** (0.65** (0.07) (0.14) 0.04 (0.10) -0.28** -0.60** (0.10) -0.60* (0.10) (0.21)	All ages Age-8 Age 8-12 0.44ng/ml 0.94 ng/ml 0.63 ng/ml (1.00) (1.47) (1.03) -0.04** -0.20** -0.12** (0.02) (0.06) (0.03) 0.21** 0.65** 0.46** (0.07) (0.14) (0.10) 0.05 -0.04 -0.01 (0.04) (0.10) (0.06) -0.28** -0.66** -0.45** (0.10) (0.22) (0.17) -0.001 (0.21) -0.17*	All ages Age-c8 Age 8-12 Age 13-20 0.44 ag/ml 0.04 ag/ml 0.03 ag/ml 0.74 ag/ml (1.00) 0.94 ag/ml 0.63 ag/ml 0.74 ag/ml (1.00) 0.94 ag/ml 0.63 ag/ml 0.74 ag/ml (1.00) 0.94 ag/ml 0.63 ag/ml 0.74 ag/ml (1.00) 0.94 ag/ml 0.01 (1.25) 0.001 0.021** 0.010 (0.05) 0.05* 0.07 0.21** 0.65** 0.46** 0.07 (0.14) (0.10) (0.11) 0.05 0.04 0.01 0.066 (0.09) -0.28** -0.01 0.040+ (0.10) (0.06) (0.09) -0.28** -0.01 0.021** -0.66** -0.45** -0.01 (0.15) -0.061** -0.45** -0.01 (0.15) -0.001 (0.22) (0.17) (0.15)

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	(1)	(2)
	Non Smoking Households	Smoking Household
Average Cotinine Level	0.27 ng/ml	1.97 ng/m
(Standard Deviation)	(0.44)	(1.85)
Log Tax	0.012	-0.30**
	(0.02)	(0.06)
Regulation Going Out	0.03	1.08**
0 0	(0.04)	(0.15)
Regulation Public	0.03	-0.03
Transport	(0.02)	(0.13)
Regulation Shopping	0.01	-1.05**
Mall	(0.07)	(0.23)
Regulation Schools	0.008	-0.09
°	(0.01)	(0.07)
Controls:		
Year Dummies	х	х
State Dummies	X	х
Age, sex, race, state GDP	Х	х
State smoking prevalence	X	х

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Summary: Effect of Regulations

- $\circ~$ Displacement effect of regulation in $\underline{restaurants}$ and $\underline{cultural}~\underline{public}$ places.
- Suggest that smoking adults go home and smoke
- \rightarrow increase the exposure of young children.
- Bans in recreational public places have no effects on adults.
- Bans appears to be efficient in other places (eg public transport, shopping malls), especially to protect children.

Winter		Households
	0.001 (0.04)	0.59**
Log Tax	-0.13 (0.09)	(0.21) 0.04 (0.08)
Tax*Winter	0.12 (0.09)	-0.27** (0.12)
Going Out	0.07 (0.05)	0.08 (0.11)
Going out*Winter	0.002 (0.16)	0.70** (0.32)
Other regulation	-0.05 (0.04)	-0.02 (0.13)
Other regulation*Winter	-0.02 (0.13)	-0.95** (0.31)

Health and Economic Consequences of Anti-Smoking Policies (Children)

- Health effects of passive smoking (children):

 - Asthma (prevalence 10%)
 An increase of 1ng/ml of cotinine is associated to an increase in prevalence of asthma of 0.8 percentage point.
- Cost of asthma: \$ 791 per year. 2.48 days of school missed (Wang et al, 2005)

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- Cost of asthma: \$ 791 per year. 2.48 days of school missed (Wang et al, 2005)
- 1 st dev increase in excise taxes nationally:
- Saves 45,000 cases of asthma. \$ 36 m and 116,000 school days not missed.
- $\circ~$ 1 st dev increase in restriction in going out nationally: 160000 new cases of asthma. \$ 126 m and 396,000 school days missed.

Conclusions

- The effect of anti smoking policy interventions on non-smokers is not straightforward:
 - How do smokers and non smokers interact?
 - Where do smokers smoke? With whom?

 - Which cigarettes are cut down?
 - Where do they smoke if bans are in place?
- $\circ~$ Induce changes in behaviours which can offset these polices.
- Although smoking bans appear to be a good way of limiting exposure, not everybody benefit from these policies (eg children) 0

- Rising trend of regulations (US, UK, Ireland...)
 Consequences on non smokers? Importance of distinguishing between different public places when designing public policies aimed at reducing FTS
- Consequences on health inequalities.

Smoking bans (BBC, Oct.2006)

By 2008, the UK could be a largely smoke-free zone.
 The government has said it will introduce a smoking ban in almost all public places by then.

Anti-smoking and medical organisations have long been campaigning for a full ban on smoking in the workplace, pubs and restaurants.

• What are the arguments?

Arguments for:

- For: Supporters of a ban say that evidence about the risks of passive smoking is too compelling to ignore. Some of the arguments they put forward are listed below.
- 1. **Passive smoking is dangerous:** Second-hand smoking in the workplace causes a large number of deaths each year.
- A majority of people favour a smoking ban: A smoking ban in workplaces including pubs and bars is supported by a majority of people.
- 3. A ban would encourage more smokers to quit.
- The "voluntary approach" has failed: The Wanless report on public health said the voluntary approach to smoking in the workplace had only limited success - pubs and bars still allow smoking.
- People have a right to protect themselves from smoke inhalation: <u>The British Medical Association argues</u> that 70% of the population are currently denied the freedom to go about their lives in a smoke-free environment.

Arguments against:

- Against: Opponents of a smoking ban say that freedom of choice would be affected. Some of the arguments they put forward are listed below.
- 1. People want restrictions not a ban.

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- 2. People should have freedom of choice.
- Smoking bans damage business: A smoking ban could lead to a significant fall in takings from bars, restaurants and casinos. Licensed Victuallers Wales says the ban could lead to the <u>closure</u> of more than a quarter of pubs in Wales.
- The link between passive smoking and ill health is unproven: Forest maintains there is no clear link between exposure to passive smoke and illness in non-smokers.
- Self regulation is the solution: Left to market forces, pubs, bars and restaurants will introduce smoke-free areas and better ventilation tailored to customers' needs.