

SAMPLE PERSUASIVE SPEECH OUTLINE—Smoking should be illegal.

I) **INTRO:** How many of you want to die of lung cancer? How many of you think that esophageal cancer is the way to go? Anybody think skin cancer is desirable? I didn't think so. But that's just what can happen to you if you smoke. I think that smoking should be illegal because it is harmful to the smoker, is harmful to those around the smoker, and is harmful to the economy.

II) BODY:

A) First, smoking is harmful to the smoker.

1) cancers

a) lung

b) esophageal

c) skin

2) Other respiratory illnesses

a) emphysema

b) asthma/allergies

c) pneumonia

3) hygiene

4) death—3X higher than non-smokers

B) Next, smoking is harmful to those around the smoker.

1) second hand smoke

a) deadly diseases

b) other illnesses

2) no choice

3) new research on third hand smoke

C) Finally, smoking is harmful to the economy.

1) cost of cigarettes

a) \$5.76/pack=\$172.80 (1 pack a day for a month)=\$2073.60 a year

2) healthcare costs--\$170 billion

3) loss productivity in workplace—\$156 billion

III) **CONCLUSION:** To put tobacco's toll into perspective, smoking kills more Americans than AIDS, alcohol, illegal drug use, car accidents, fires, murders, and suicides *combined*. Smoking is harmful to the smoker, is harmful to those around the smoker, and is harmful to the economy. Therefore, I think it ought to be illegal. If you think you do not have a choice, then think again.