

I strongly support this bill to ban smoking in al fresco areas, outdoor playing areas and safe swimming areas. I would like to see it extended to all public outdoor areas.

I was recently at a concert at the Belvoir Amphitheatre and was appalled to find myself assailed by smoke, both legal and illegal. I do not appreciate breathing in smoke and, due to the quantity of people doing so, it was impossible to get away from it other than by leaving the concert. In this day, when we know so much about passive smoking, to allow it to happen in an area where many non-smokers are is not satisfactory. You could, of course, say that I could have left the concert. Which is quite true. However, as the majority of people do not smoke nowadays, I think it's time that the smoking was instructed to leave!

As a taxpayer I am appalled at how much money the government needs to spend on trying to discourage smoking and the further very large sum of money spent treating smoking related illnesses from both active and passive smoking and dealing with the knock-on effects on the carers for those who are ill and the families left without their breadwinner when they are unable to work due to illness or death.

As an active person myself I am appalled at how often my efforts at keeping well are attacked indirectly by passive smoking at concerts, the beach, walking between work the train stations and at pubs (drifting from the designated smoking section which is hardly cordoned off!) and most recently at the Fremantle Australia Day fireworks.

We are not leading the world in this matter, we are trailing it.

My strong preference would be that smoking can only occur in private places where people choose to go. I hope this legislation is passed and I hope that is quickly followed up by more wide-reaching legislation extending to all public places.

Regards

Claire

