

# The Mass Observation Project

## Spring 2007 Directive

### Part 1: The new smoking ban and pubs

#### **This directive is about your own history in relation to smoking**

How would you describe yourself, a non-smoker or 'social' smoker, a reformed smoker or cigar smoker, perhaps?

#### **Smokers (past and present):**

When did you start? Have you ever tried to quit?

What do (or did) you smoke?

Where do (or did) you smoke and when?

#### **Non-smokers**

How do you feel in the company of smokers, especially with close friends and members of your family? Has the habit ever tempted you?

#### **Going to the pub**

Do you go to the pub and if so, how often and what type of pub do you choose? Tell us a bit about it. And, if you do not go to the pub please say why, or if you used to, why you have stopped?

Will the ban mean you will go to the pub more or less? Will you perhaps consider eating more often in pubs with the ban in place? What is there to enjoy in the pub that cannot be found elsewhere?

#### **Health information about smoking**

Large-print public health warnings were made compulsory on all tobacco products in 2003, yet still many people continue to smoke. Why do you think this is?

Do you think the ban will be successful in helping people to quit smoking?

Do you have an opinion about smokers starting private smoking clubs?

What do you consider the positive and negative aspects of smoking and non-smoking environments? Do you mind people smoking around you?

#### **The social impact of the smoking ban**

Bans on smoking in pubs are said to be proving very successful in other places, Ireland for example. But there have been concerns about possible pub redundancies and how the government have gone about imposing the ban. Tell us what you think.

How, for example, do you feel about bans in general and this one in particular? What might it mean for the pub in terms of its overall atmosphere, clientele and workers? Did you agree with the 24 hour licensing law?

As usual, please start each part of your directive reply on a new sheet of paper with your MO number, (NOT name), sex, age, marital status, the town or village where you live and your occupation or former occupation.

Remember not to identify yourself or other people inadvertently within your reply.

Please clearly state your age at the start of this section as well as your other biographical information.

## Part 2: Violence in the home

*In this part of the directive we are exploring the issue of domestic violence. We know this is a sensitive subject which is often shrouded in secrecy and fear, but we would appreciate your candour. We are of course looking for your opinions but we would also value accounts of direct experience which you have had either personally or with friends, workmates or family members. Your reply is anonymous as always but we advise you to take special care not to use real names or other identifiable pieces of information when describing actual experiences.*

### **Your opinions**

First of all, how would you define domestic violence?

Is this something you have always been aware of? How did you first come across the issue? Do you feel it's a new issue?

What do you feel are the factors which produce domestic violence? Do you think it's more likely to occur in some situations rather than others?

### **Your experience**

Have you ever had any professional or work-related involvement in domestic violence? For example, you may have been involved in a women's refuge, or in social work, health care, law work, teaching or policing.

Have you personally ever had any experience of domestic violence either directly and in your immediate circle of friends and family? You must decide for yourself how much you want to say about this but of course, the more you feel able to write, the more useful your reply will be.

Supposing you suspected that one of your neighbours was being abused? Would you feel able to help? And if so, what would you do? Has this ever occurred?

### **Your views on wider responsibilities**

Does society have any responsibilities on this issue? If so, who is responsible? Who do you think *should* be responsible?

Is this a subject which should be discussed more widely? Raised in schools and colleges?

### **About this directive**

Have you any reservations about answering this directive? Do you feel it's an important social issue. Please be frank.

---

Please post your response to:

**The Mass Observation Archive  
FREEPOST BR 2112  
The Library  
University of Sussex  
Brighton BN1 1ZX**

Or by email to: [moa@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:moa@sussex.ac.uk)

DS/March 2007/Directive No. 80