

The War On Smoking Just Got Even Sillier

By **Alexander Baron** - Oct 3, 2015



3
SHARES

The late Judith Hatton did some sterling research on **the non-perils of smoking**. A lifelong smoker herself, she lived to a decent age, unlike her colleague, non-smoker and fitness fanatic **Chris Tame** who was struck down by a particularly virulent form of bone cancer, dying far too soon at 56.

One point Judith made was that smoking had become progressively more dangerous over the years until passive smoking was found by at least one medical study to be more dangerous than the real thing. Chris had the answer for this, at the end of the day, smoking was a civil liberties issue, and if educated, informed adults wanted to engage in it knowing the risk, then that was down to them. On the other hand, passive smoking was not a free choice, it was breathing in somebody else's smoke, while even worse was

children forced to breath in other people's smoke. As he was fond of saying, when they talk about protecting your children, what they really mean is destroying your rights.

As of October 1, 2015, your right to smoke in your car when there is anyone under the age of 18 present has been destroyed. Even if you have the windows open. This new edict of the health fascist lobby is backed up by a swathe of evidence, so-called, from the usual suspects. Last year, Action on Smoking and Health produced a **report** that claimed passive smoking was responsible for everything from asthma and infections of the middle ear to school absenteeism! Now, that constant drip, drip, drip of anti-smoking propaganda has led to these further fruits. What do the police think about this? Unlike their American cousins who will even stoop to fining young men who **wear their trousers too low**, the forces in England and Wales think this is a bad idea.

Speaking on Sky TV hours after the ban came in, Steve White of the Police Federation said it was wrong for the police to be put in the position of enforcing what he called an unenforceable law at a time of massive cuts to the police service. His was not a lone voice.

Alas, it is not only your kids they want to protect from the demon weed but those who prey on you, because next year, smoking will be **banned in prisons too**. The ban will begin in Wales and the South-West. Prisoners are of course right at the bottom of the food chain, and many of them have substance abuse issues, but smoking can help relieve stress and even boredom, and shouldn't even prisoners have some rights?

The real question though is what comes next, if people can't smoke in their own cars, prisons and other public buildings, where will they be permitted to smoke if the anti-smoking lobby has its way? Alas, that is a rhetorical question, because if these people *do* get their way, no one will be permitted to smoke at all, something that would doubtless have pleased history's most notorious anti-smoker, Adolf Hitler.

3

SHARES