



The truth is California has some work to do to safeguard the people and our communities from the impact of tobacco.

You say to yourself, "I don't smoke so tobacco doesn't impact me, it isn't my problem." But it is.

From the 36,000 youth who will become smokers this year, to the high insurance premiums we pay to cover the cost of smoking in the health care system and the nearly 40,000 Californians who die every year from smoking - tobacco is impacting our lives on a daily basis.

Think about the family members and friends you know who have been impacted by tobacco. Lung cancer, COPD, emphysema, asthma and the list goes on, we all have a story about someone we know.

The American Lung Association's State of Tobacco Control Report shows that California is getting two failing tobacco grades, and many of our cities and counties are a long way from creating the smoke-free places we all want. It's time to raise the grade.

Now is the time to make a difference at the state and local level and raise California's grades in tobacco control. With your help, a healthier California is possible.

Please visit our website at: [www.californialung.org/raisethegrade](http://www.californialung.org/raisethegrade) to see the tobacco grades earned by cities in your community and how you can help the American Lung Association fight tobacco, strengthen our communities and raise the grade.

Together in the fight to raise the grade,

***Jane***

Jane Warner  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Lung Association in California

