

LOS ANGELES BAPTIST PASTORS & MINISTERS

Conference
JOIN US

TOWN HALL SMOKE OUT

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2022 @11:00 A.M.

IN PERSON & VIA ZOOM

NEW MOUNT MORIAH M.B.C.
5400 11TH AVENUE - LOS ANGELES, CA
PASTOR BENJAMIN ISLAND, HOST
DR. AARON DUNCAN, PRESIDENT

guest
speaker

Dr. Phillip Gardiner

Founding
Member/Co-Chair
African American
Tobacco Control
Leadership Council
(AATCLC)

THE BEST DECISION IS AN INFORMED ONE - SO LET'S TALK!

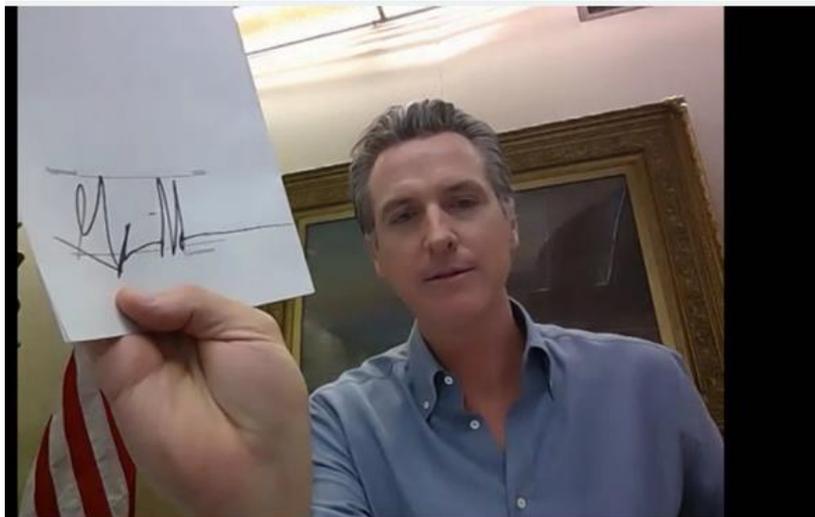


**Carol McGruder, Co-Chair
African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council**



Formed in 2008. We educate the African American community about tobacco use and cessation, partner with community stakeholders and public health agencies to inform and affect the direction of tobacco control policy, practices, and priorities, as it affects the lives of Black American and African immigrant populations.

Virtual Signing August 28, 2020

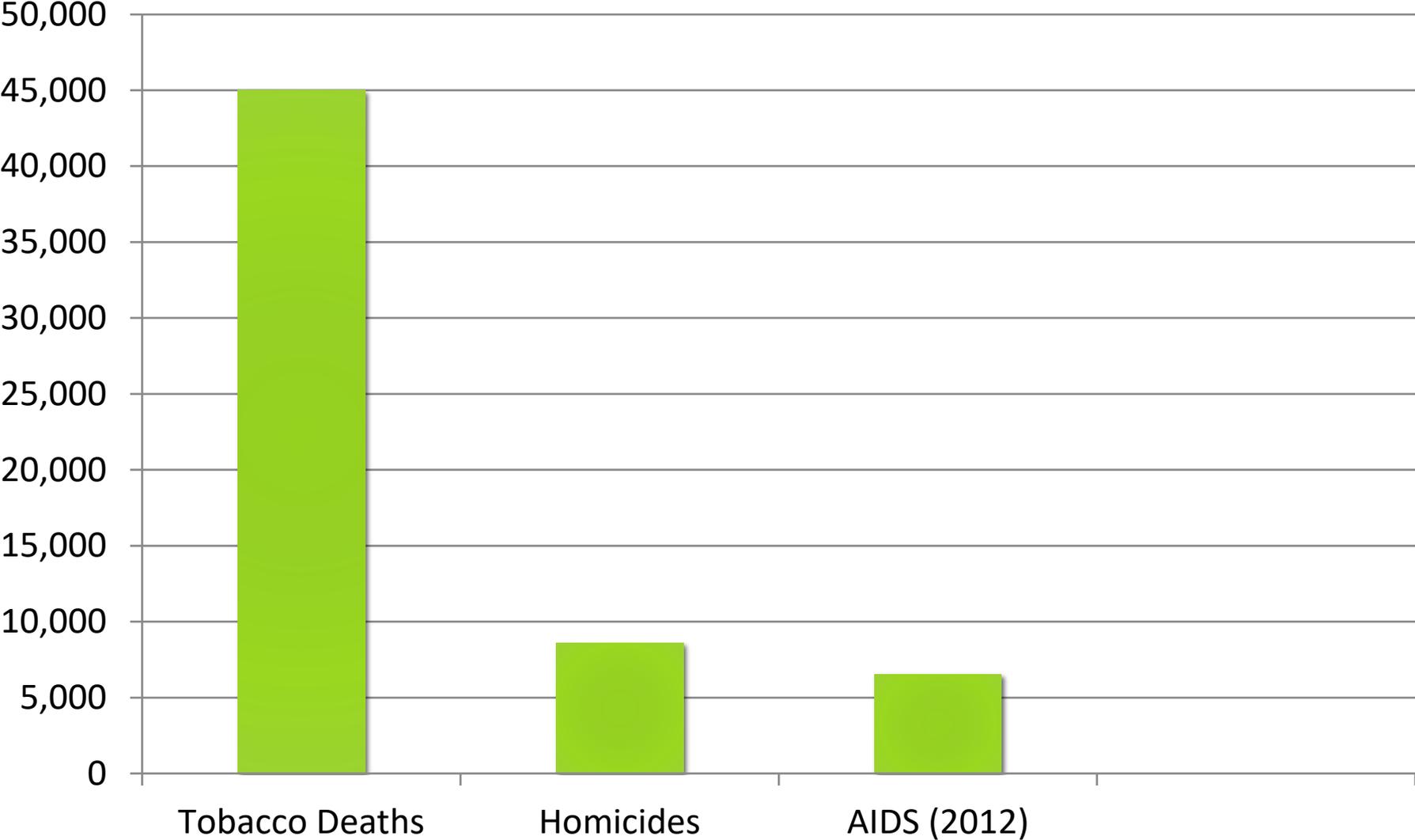


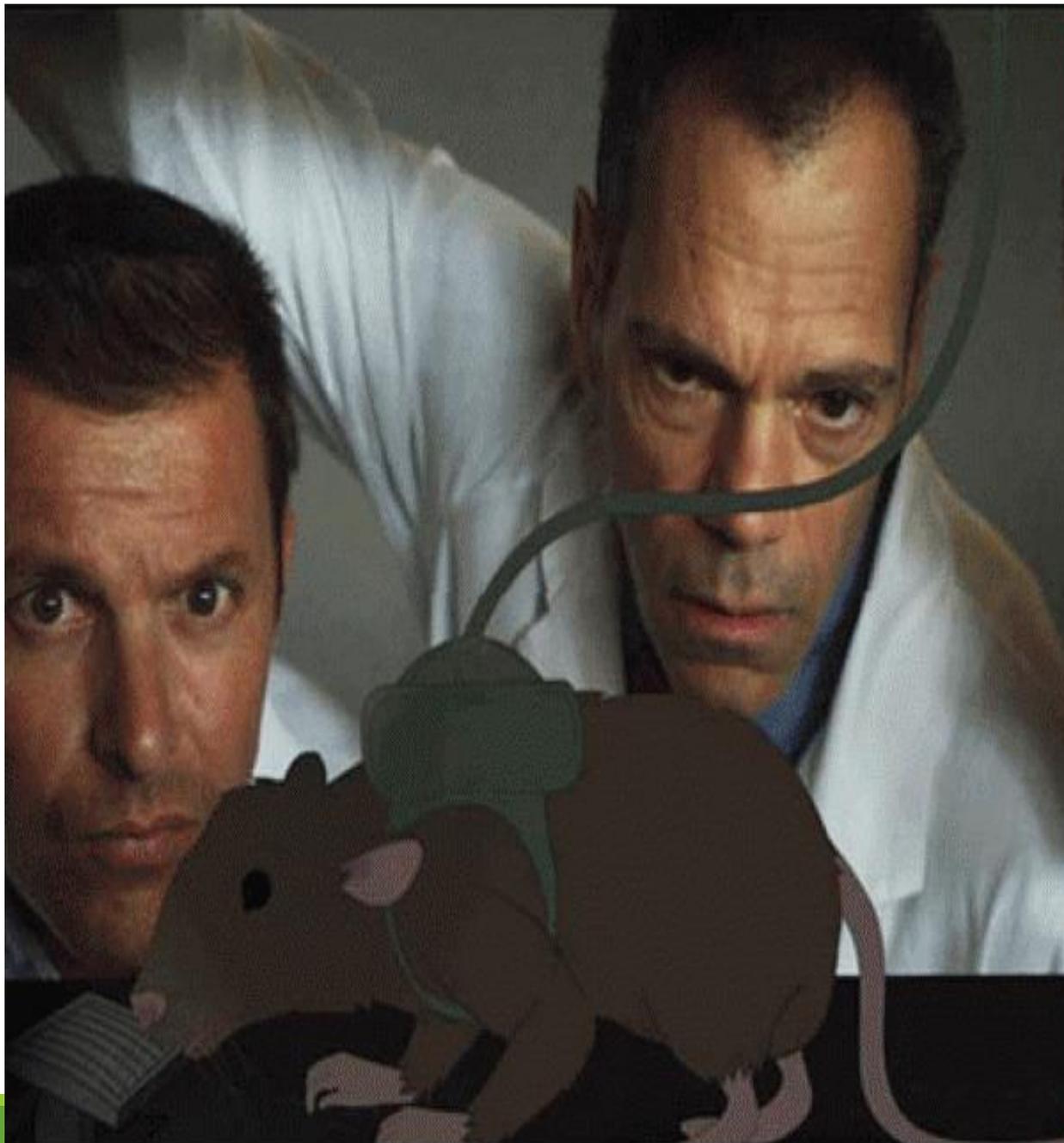
Governor Newsom Signs Landmark Bill to End the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products in Stores

A grid of 20 Zoom meeting tiles. The tiles show various participants: Matthew Myers, Carol McGruder, Bonnie Halpern-Fels..., Lisa Lu, Kellie Hawkins, Phil Gardiner, Annie Tegen, Lindsey Freitas, Kimberly Bankst... (with a hand icon), Eric Batch, Jano Dekermenji..., Jamie Morgan, Agamroop Kaur, Amanda Staples, Valerie Yerger, Candace Barger, Edward Sanders, Twlia Laster, Primo Castro (He/Hi...), AWei, Jennyfer Cortez, greg, Connor Lam, Jim Knox, and meredithberkman. A yellow sign in the bottom right of the grid reads: "END SALE OF CANDY-FLAVORED TOBACCO INCLUDING MENTHOL. YES ON 58 YES." There are navigation arrows on the left and right sides of the grid.

Smoking & Tobacco Related Diseases
Kill 45,000
African Americans Every Year

African American Mortality Chart Comparison





Chemistry + Access = ADDICTION



Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act, 2009

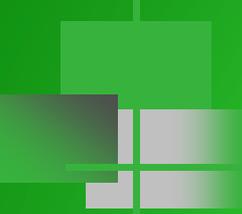
Granted the FDA the authority to regulate tobacco products to protect the public health

Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act, 2009

A CIGARETTE ...SHALL NOT CONTAIN... AN ARTIFICIAL OR NATURAL FLAVOR (OTHER THAN TOBACCO OR **MENTHOL**) OR AN HERB OR SPICE, INCLUDING STRAWBERRY, GRAPE, ORANGE, CLOVE, CINNAMON, PINEAPPLE, VANILLA, COCONUT, LICORICE, COCOA, CHOCOLATE, CHERRY, OR COFFEE, THAT IS A CHARACTERIZING FLAVOR OF THE TOBACCO PRODUCT OR TOBACCO SMOKE.

MEANT TO PROTECT CHILDREN, BUT IT DIDN'T PROTECT OUR BLACK CHILDREN.

Exclusion of Menthol wasn't based on science.



WHO WILL PROTECT OUR CHILDREN











Trickle Down Public Health Policy

African Americans-Menthol

- Perniciously targeted by all major tobacco companies
- “Urban” programs included
 - Co-optation of Black leadership, heavy media campaigns, free giveaways to children, van programs, retailers programs, event sponsorship
- Over 80% of African Americans smoke mentholated cigarettes
- Over 90% of Black youth initiate with menthol cigarettes
- Addiction is about science and opportunity
- Menthol is a Human Rights and Social Justice Issue

THE LEAST OF THESE: U.S. TOBACCO CONTROL POLICY, MENTHOLATED CIGARETTES, AND AFRICAN AMERICANS

Carol McGruder, BA; Phillip Gardiner, DrPH; and Valerie B. Yergor, ND
African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council, USA

World Conference on Tobacco or Health
Singapore 2012

Background

In June 2009, U.S. President Barack Obama signed the historic Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (The Act), which gave the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) the authority to regulate tobacco products in the United States. One of the provisions of the Act was the banning of all flavors in cigarettes, all flavors, that is, except menthol. Other flavors like chocolate, vanilla, cinnamon, strawberry and others were banned because it was widely recognized that these flavors attracted and encouraged young people to begin smoking.



And though 98% of young African American smokers initiate smoking with mentholated cigarettes, the health and welfare of these young people were not a priority of the initial legislation. Menthol's exclusion from the list of banned flavorings prompted seven former Secretaries of Health, including Drs. Joseph Califano and Louis Sullivan, and a former Surgeon General to write a joint letter with the National African American Tobacco Prevention Network that vehemently opposed the exclusion of menthol from the list of banned flavors.

With Dr. Califano further stating that The Act as written relegated, "Black children to the back of the [public health] bus." This public outcry led to an eleven hour amendment (initiated and co-authored by Congresswoman Donna Christensen and the U.S. Congressional Black Caucus) being added to the legislation.

This amendment mandated that the issue of mentholated cigarettes be given top priority by the newly formed FDA Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee (TPSAC).

Violence and Concerted Action Led To Menthol Amendment

- > African American Scholars and Researchers
- > National African American Tobacco Prevention Network
- > National Print and Video Media Outlets (New York Times)
- > Former Secretaries of Health/U.S. Surgeon General
- > United States Congressional Black Caucus

Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee - Progress

- > Convened Hearings
- > Issued Report March 2011
 - "Banning menthol would be in the interest of Public Health."
- > The FDA has decided to conduct further study on menthol

Predatory Tobacco Industry Targeting Doubled Menthol Smoking Prevalence Among U.S. African Americans

Predatory Tobacco Industry Activities Included

- > Programs targeted at African Americans in inner cities
- > FREE product giveaways
- > Co-Opting Black Leadership Groups
- > Targeted Media Campaigns



Starting in the late 1980's, Lorillard enticed Black children to smoke menthols by distributing free Newport cigarettes in urban neighborhoods. Marie Evans, one of those children, began smoking at age 13 and smoked for 46 years before dying of lung cancer at 54.



CONCLUSIONS

Though African Americans and other marginalized populations are the most burdened by tobacco-related diseases and the accompanying health inequities, they are usually the last to benefit from public health policies that are designed to safeguard and/or improve public health. Public health policies that in theory should be designed to protect those who are the most afflicted, "the least of these." These policies often sacrifice the needs of minority populations to protect the needs of the healthier majority population. Sometimes the health interests of minority populations are used as a bargaining chip in the negotiations.

This becomes a social justice issue as minority populations must defend their community from the predatory activities of the tobacco industry, while at the same time they must fight for parity and inclusion of their health interests in the public health arena.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

National African American Tobacco Prevention Network

The "Inner City" Youth Marie Evans

- Grew up in Boston public housing
- Given free Newports at the age of nine
- Addicted to cigarettes at age 13
- Dead at 54
- Family awarded \$152 million judgment
- Family Settled for \$79 million





PAVe is a national grassroots organization founded in 2018 by three New York City moms — **Dina Alessi, Meredith Berkman, and Dorian Fuhrman**

PAVe in ACTION



NYC Mayor De Blasio signs into law a complete ban on all e-cigarettes and vaping products.
Mayor Bill de Blasio today signed into law a ban on all flavored e-cigarettes and vaping products in New York City. The ban will take effect on October 1, 2019. The ban will also prohibit the sale of e-cigarettes that are flavored like tobacco or menthol.



New York Becomes First Large City To Ban Sale Of Flavored E-Cigarettes
NEW YORK (CBS2) - Mayor Bill de Blasio today signed into law a ban on all flavored e-cigarettes and vaping products in New York City. The ban will take effect on October 1, 2019. The ban will also prohibit the sale of e-cigarettes that are flavored like tobacco or menthol.



Trump at the White House
President Donald Trump today held a roundtable on vaping at the White House. The President was joined by several members of the administration and industry leaders. The roundtable was held in the Oval Office and lasted about an hour.

JUUL Hearing



Social Injustice

- The Tobacco Industry targets everyone
 - But they are particularly pernicious in the Black community
 - We have so many other issues to deal with
 - Tobacco control gets pushed to the back burner
 - Police Brutality/Systemic Institutional Racism is REAL
- Priority Populations are often a bargaining chip in public health policy negotiations
- Doing NOTHING is not an option

A Menthol Ban Would Save Thousands of Lives (2010-2050)

Ban Scenarios (Change in Initiation & Cessation)	Total U.S. Population	Black Population
10% change	323,107	91,744
20% change	478,154	164,465
30% change	633,252	237,317

What more evidence is needed? Remove menthol cigarettes from the marketplace—now

Dr. Valerie Yerger's powerful editorial in response to the recently published *Consequences of a match made in hell: the harm caused by menthol smoking to the African American population over 1980-2018*, by David Mendez and Thuy T T Le is a call to action for *all of us*.

"The disproportionate toll of menthol cigarettes among African Americans compared with the general population is a social injustice... There is simply no ethically acceptable reason to allow the tobacco industry to continue using a flavouring that makes it easier to start smoking and harder to quit." The time to remove menthol cigarettes from the marketplace is NOW.

"Now the evidence is irrefutable: menthol cigarettes are killing our people at a rate unmatched by any other assaults on our community."



Dr. Valerie Yerger
Co-Founder AATCLC



[Read the full editorial here](#)

[Read the full editorial here](#)



David Mendez



Thuy T T Le

Just published! New research paper, ***Consequences of a match made in hell: the harm caused by menthol smoking to the African American population over 1980–2018***, by David Mendez & Thuy T T Le, underscores the disproportionate health harm of menthol smoking on the African American community over 1980-2018 and the urgent need to remove menthol cigarettes from the market. Read more ***here***.

Consequences of A Match Made in Hell....between 1980-2019

- 1.5 million new African American smokers
- 157, 000 smoking-related premature deaths among African Americans
- 1.5 million life-years lost among African Americans

(Mendez & Le, 2021) (the full article and an accompanying editorial are also attached.)

African Americans Used As A Tool To Blunt Public Health For Everybody

Legitimate Concerns of the African American Community

Racism

Police Brutality

Officer Involved Killings

Anti-Smoking Laws Discriminate Against Blacks and Minorities.

OPINION

By James Hargrove

While making charges concerning health and well being, there are a number of anti-smoking ordinances being pushed in many parts of the country that will generally impact more heavily and negatively on minorities and the poor than on other Americans.

History has shown that these nuisance laws are very hard to enforce and that they also take police officers away from other police duties. In addition, since they require "selective" enforcement, that is the enforcement against a certain group of people—smokers in this instance—these laws also tend to generate disrespect for police.

I am compelled to speak out on these matters as a 20 year veteran of the New York City Police Department, a former president of the Guardians Association and a former chairperson of the National Black Police Association.

Some of the most dramatic proof of the harm done by anti-smoking laws has come out of the experiences of the highly publicized and subsequently discredited "Smokers' Court" in Chicago.

While this court had ostensibly been set up to protect the general public by preventing riders on public conveyances from smoking, the police actually used the court as a pretext to make countless searches of citizens and to arrest persons they called "suspects" for a variety of crimes.

A survey of arrests during a one month period showed that blacks made up more than 90 percent of the persons arrested and brought before the Smokers' Court. The study showed that of the 279 persons arrested for smoking, 255 were black, 12 were white, 7 Latin Americans and 5 were listed as "others".

I refuse to believe that only blacks broke the law by smoking on public conveyances in Chicago.

The truth is obvious. It was mostly blacks who were arrested and brought before the judge.

A Chicago-based NAACP leader, Frank J. Williams, said at the time that the analysis of the ar-

rests showed there is "a lot of validity to the charge that blacks were picked on more by the police" when such a law exists.

And a Minneapolis newspaper columnist, Will Jones, wrote: "the suspicion is strong that Chicago's Smokers' Court has absolutely nothing to do with promoting clean public air. The enforcement campaign does provide the law-and-order boys, however, with a good excuse to arrest a suspect on an innocent smoking charge and then conduct a search for drugs, weapons, stolen goods, or whatever."

While the Smokers' Court, as such, has been abandoned, the problem it dramatized is still with us and has grown in seriousness.

Many well-intentioned community activists are now attempting to pass a plethora of anti-smoking ordinances and are insisting that the police be used to enforce them.

They are, apparently, not fully aware of the consequences and especially not aware that this kind of police activity tends to generate disrespect for law enforcement officers.

During recent years, police departments nationwide have put a considerable amount of time, money and effort into community relations, into winning friends and supporters for good, honest law enforcement. It seems a real shame that such efforts could be blunted by their selective enforcement of anti-smoking ordinances.

Many persons among the anti-smoking forces apparently believe that the police departments have an excess number of officers and each of these officers has a considerable amount of free time.

This is not the case.

Most departments are short-staffed and the individual police officer's time is quite valuable to the community he serves, whether he walks a beat or operates a computer. He or she has been duly authorized by the community to protect people and property from a variety of criminal offenses.

While the police officer is a public servant committed to enforcing the laws of his community, the police officer does not do his or her job blindly. He or she knows very well what amounts to a serious crime and what does not.

There are more than enough real offenses committed on any given day to keep the police busy. To take officers away from the real job of keeping the peace and force him or her to become, essentially, a dissident's advocate in a continuing debate, amounts to a monumental misuse of the time of some of our most valuable and highly motivated public servants.

2026240976

The same narrative is used then and now. Many talking points like this one are recycled over time but the archives are kind enough to remind us of their origins.

The idea that tobacco product restrictions will criminalize African Americans is a narrative that was created by the tobacco industry.

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Presented in the public interest by Philip Morris Incorporated. Makers of fine cigarettes.



Join us for a Panel Examining the Criminal Justice System on Decriminalizing the Black Community

Special Community Town Hall Meeting with Rev. Al Sharpton



Tuesday October 11 2016

Community Town Hall Meeting 6:30pm

Location: Beebe Memorial Cathedral 3900 Telegraph Oakland CA 94609

Participating Panalist:
 Former Congressman Kendrick Meek
 President NOBLE: Chief John I Dixon III
 LEAP (Law Enforcement Against Prohibition): Major Neill Franklin
 DPA (Drug Policy Alliance): Art Way, Esq.

Community Leaders can RSVP: info@nanoakland.org or call (510) 629.4363

Sponsored by National Action Network & RAI

Eric Garner- “I Can’t Breathe”

BLACK LIVES MATTER

July 17, 2014, choked and left to die in handcuffs for allegedly selling “loose” single cigarettes in Staten Island, New York City.



This Is How a Ban on Tobacco Looks: Unintended Consequences

By Pastor KW Tulloss & Rev. William Smart

Published May 7, 2020



The behavior of the Rancho Cordova police officer who pinned an unarmed 14-year-old African American boy to the ground and punched him repeatedly for purchasing a tobacco product is disgraceful, distressing and outrageous. Sadly, this is not an isolated incident. It is one of far too many videos of police using physical force on a daily basis against people of color in neighborhoods of color. Most police officers work hard to do the right thing, but bad police behavior is enabled and fueled by racist policies such as the proposed ban on the sale of menthol cigarettes preferred by over 80% of African Americans who choose to smoke.



(Courtesy photo)

This is not the first time we have seen a Black man beaten by police for violating tobacco laws. Eric Garner, father of six, died in NYPD custody in 2014 after he was stopped on suspicion of selling loose cigarettes.

The Baptist Ministers Conference and Southern Christian Leadership Conference does not want people to smoke. We don't want our youth to smoke and we strongly encourage smokers to quit. Although we appreciate the efforts to protect the health and well-being of all California residents, you cannot ignore the disproportionate unintended consequences of a menthol cigarette ban on African Americans.



Local News & Views ▸ Attorney John Burris and Black Lives Matter announce legal action against

Attorney John Burris and Black Lives Matter announce legal action against cop who brutally assaulted 5-year-old child

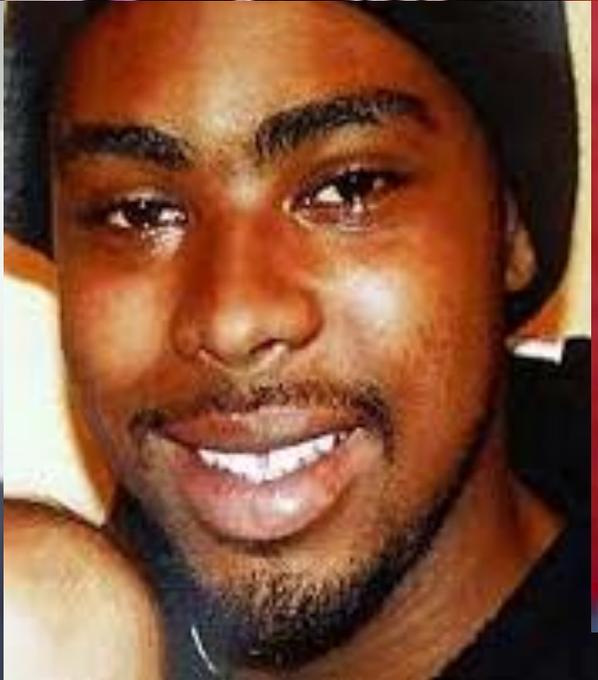
Blunt trauma: Cop beats Black teen over cigar, sparking outrage and familiar Swisher Sweet debate

by Antonio Ray Harvey, California Black Media

A shocking video of a police officer beating a 14-year-old Black teen is being shared across social media. The teen is Samoan, but he

"As horrific as this video is, what is more horrific is that the biggest invisible killer and profiler of Black boys, the tobacco industry, will be able to latch onto it and use the legitimate concerns of our community to block public health policies . . ."

Trayvon, Oscar, Jordan, and Stephon



Elijah McClain: Colorado grand jury indicts five over Black man's death

- Attorney general: three police and two paramedics face charges
- 23-year-old died after being stopped on suburban Denver street

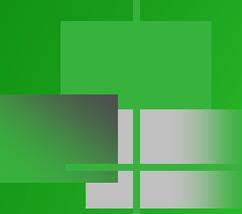


Diamond Reynolds

Girlfriend of
Philando Castille-
murdered by
Minneapolis police





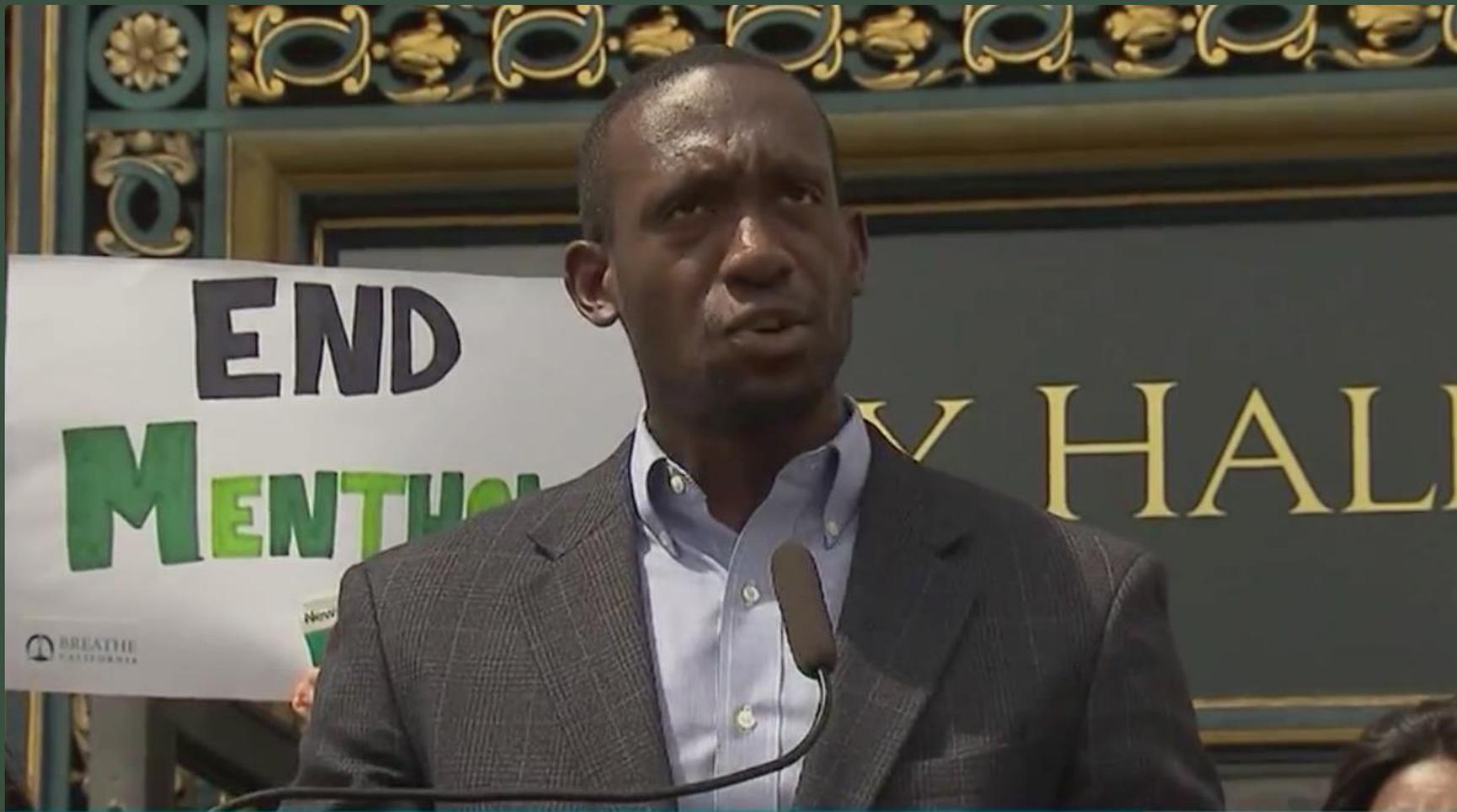


**WHO WILL PROTECT
THE BLACK COMMUNITY?**

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, California, taken during the "blue hour" or dusk. The bridge's iconic orange-red towers and suspension cables are silhouetted against a sky with soft, purple and blue hues. The water of the bay is visible in the foreground and middle ground, with the city lights of San Francisco visible in the distance on the left. The overall mood is serene and iconic.

San Francisco City-wide Menthol/Flavor Ban





MAYOR'S PRESS CONFERENCE

4/18/17

Dr. Jonathan Butler
UCSF & NAACP



**The African American Tobacco
Control Leadership Council**

AATCLC News Release

**Contact: Jackie Wright
888.881.6619**

**AATCLC Stands with
San Francisco Supervisor Malia Cohen
as She Introduces Bold City-Wide Ordinance to
Restrict the Sale of Menthol & Flavored Tobacco Products**
CLICK IMAGE For Full News Conference Courtesy of SFGOVTV.ORG.



**The strongest law in the country at that time that
limited sales of all flavored tobacco products**

July 7, 2017: Signed into law by Mayor Ed Lee

Effective April 1, 2018 but....

R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company

**Dumped \$11.5 Million
to Fight San Francisco Ban**

★★YOU★★
DECIDE

FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS BAN

SAN FRANCISCO PROPOSITION E

REPORTING 99%

YES ✓

100,380

68%

NO

46,389

32%

6:40

FOX★★YOU★★
DECIDE

@kTVU

NAPA MEASURE C - VINEYARD EXPANSION

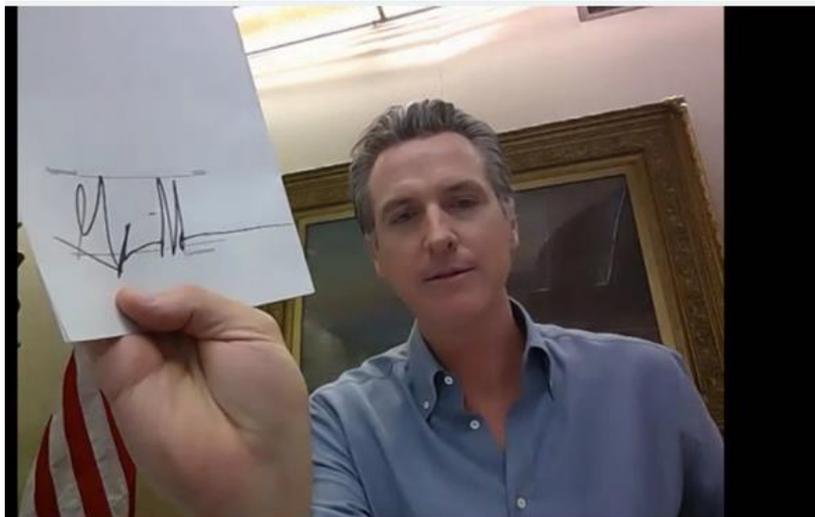
REPORTING 100%

YES

NO

SEN. DIANNE FEINSTEIN ADVANCES TO THE NOVEMBER ELECTION;

Virtual Signing August 28, 2020



Governor Newsom Signs Landmark Bill to End the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products in Stores

A grid of 20 Zoom meeting tiles. The tiles show various participants: Matthew Myers, Carol McGruder, Bonnie Halpern-Fels..., Lisa Lu, Kellie Hawkins, Phil Gardiner, Annie Tegen, Lindsey Freitas, Kimberly Bankst... (with a hand icon), Eric Batch, Jano Dekermenji..., Jamie Morgan, Agamroop Kaur, Amanda Staples, Valerie Yerger, Candace Barger, Edward Sanders, Twlia Laster, Primo Castro (He/Hi...), AWei, Jennyfer Cortez, greg, Connor Lam, Jim Knox, and meredithberkman. A yellow sign in the bottom right of the grid reads: "END SALE OF CANDY-FLAVORED TOBACCO INCLUDING MENTHOL. YES ON 58 YES". Navigation arrows and a "1/2" indicator are visible on the left and right sides of the grid.

News

Community Leaders Come Together Against Racism and Discrimination Protesting Senate Bill 793

By **blackandmagazine** - August 17, 2020

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Black & Magazine Newswire



ENTRANCE
JOE'S SUPERMARKET
PUBLIC PARKING
CONVENIENT TO
RONALD REAGAN BLDG.
WASHINGTON BLDG.

PUBLIC PARKING
\$10 FLAT RATE

30/700
RACIST

PARAISO Restaurant
PARAISO Restaurant







What Black
Leadership
Looks Like!
Dr. Shirley N.
Weber.
Former Chair
of California
Legislative
Black Caucus

NEW LAW TO SAVE THOUSANDS OF BLACK LIVES

Finally, the day has come. Beginning 1/1/2021, menthol cigarettes and other flavored tobacco products will no longer be sold in stores. That means the tobacco industry gets no more free passes to prey on the Black community with their deadly products, predatory product discounts and backdoor deals with community leaders to profit from our demise. It's a huge step toward protecting the lives of our community. [Learn more about the law and how it affects you.](#)

* SOURCES



<https://tobaccofreeca.com/we-are-not-profit/>

GIANT

SLAYER



AATCLC and ASH File Lawsuit Against The FDA

JUNE 19, 2020

The Complaint Highlights the Lack of Action to Protect Thousands of African Americans From Tobacco-Related Deaths

JUNE 17, 2020 – Today, The African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council (AATCLC) and Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) held a virtual press conference announcing their joint complaint against the FDA. The complaint requests that the court compel the FDA to fulfill its mandate to take action on FDA's own conclusions that it would benefit the public health to add menthol to the list of prohibited characterizing flavors and therefore ban it from sale.



[Read the full complaint here.](#)

"We stand before you today to announce that we are suing the United States Food and Drug Administration for their failure to implement public health policy that protects the health and

LATEST PREVIEW

Home Latest PRGNews Black Groups Drag FDA Into Lawsuit Over Menthol Cigs

BLACK GROUPS DRAG FDA INTO LAWSUIT OVER MENTHOL CIGARETTES

BY PRECINCT REPORTER NEWS | JULY 9, 2020 | 221 | 0

SHARE:      



Blog | Tobacco Control

US Food and Drug Administration Sued Over Inaction on Menthol Cigarettes

Posted on June 29, 2020 by BMJ
Kelsey Romeo-Stuppy

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is being sued over their inaction on menthol cigarettes. Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) and our colleagues at The African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council (AATCLC) are calling on the court to require the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to fulfill their mandate and stop allowing senseless deaths from mentholated tobacco products.

The African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council and Association in Their Lawsuit Against the FDA

... Look of Action to Protect Thousands of African Americans From Tobacco-Related Deaths

Plaintiffs vs.
FDA

African American Tobacco
Control Leadership Council

Action on Smoking and Health

American Medical Association

National Medical Association

FDA Commits to Evidence-Based Actions Aimed at Saving Lives and Preventing Future Generations of Smokers

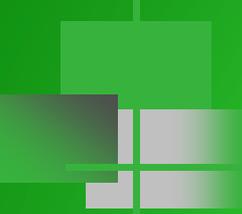
Efforts to ban menthol cigarettes, ban flavored cigars build on previous flavor ban and mark significant steps to reduce addiction and youth experimentation, improve quitting, and address health disparities



For Immediate Release: April 29, 2021

****FDA Commitment is only to start the “rule-making” process. No timeline given on when they will start. The “rule-making” process is long and will be fraught with tobacco industry interference including lobbying and potential lawsuits.****

If implemented, the FDA's enforcement of any ban on menthol cigarettes and **all flavored cigars** will only address manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, importers and retailers. The FDA cannot and will not enforce against individual consumer possession or use of menthol cigarettes or any tobacco product. The FDA will work to make sure that any unlawful tobacco products do not make their way onto the market.



**Healthy communities
facilitate the
individual's ability to
make healthy choices**

www.savingblacklives.org



Lifeboats!!!

Addressing SDOH

Changing Social Norms

- People self-correct

Through Policies

- Binding and Non-Binding

Through Ordinances

- Laws with enforcement mechanisms

Through Relevant Education

Building Community Capacity Building and ENGAGEMENT

Through Services

- Smoker's Quit Lines, Mental Health Services,
Stress Reduction

Our Churches!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

A SERVICE SORORITY

Grand Chapter

**PROHIBTING THE USE OF MENTHOL AS A
CHARACTERIZING FLAVOR IN CIGARETTES**

Passed at the 51st National Convention July 2013 with 40,000 members in attendance.





NMA Supports FDA to Ban Menthol Cigarettes and Flavored Cigars

Friday, November 16, 2018 (0 Comments)

[+ Share](#) | [G](#) [f](#) [t](#) [p](#)

As the collective voice of African American physicians, the National Medical Association (NMA) welcomes the announcement by Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Commissioner Gottlieb that the FDA will seek to prohibit the sale of mentholated cigarettes and flavored cigars. We encourage the FDA to quickly move forward with this plan.

Implementing this plan would be a lifesaving initiative given that more than 80 percent of African-American smokers use mentholated cigarettes. As physicians, we are committed to preventing disease and adverse health conditions that disproportionately impact minorities and underserved populations. Reducing tobacco use among the African American community is of critical importance.

Smoking-related illnesses are the number-one cause of death in the African-American community and approximately 45,000 African Americans die each year from smoking-related diseases.

African Americans have the highest surveyed rate of desire to quit smoking but are less successful in quit attempts than white and Hispanic smokers. This is due in part to the anesthetic effects of menthol in mentholated cigarettes and the high rate of mentholated cigarette use among African Americans. By prohibiting the sale of mentholated cigarettes, the FDA would be taking a historic step forward in protecting African American lives.

The NMA stands ready to support cessation efforts for those who are addicted to mentholated cigarettes but ready to quit this deadly habit. We encourage the FDA to move swiftly from planning to implementation.

DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

A SERVICE SORORITY

Grand Chapter

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT STATE AND LOCAL EFFORTS TO RESTRICT THE
SALE OF MENTHOL CIGARETTES AND OTHER FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

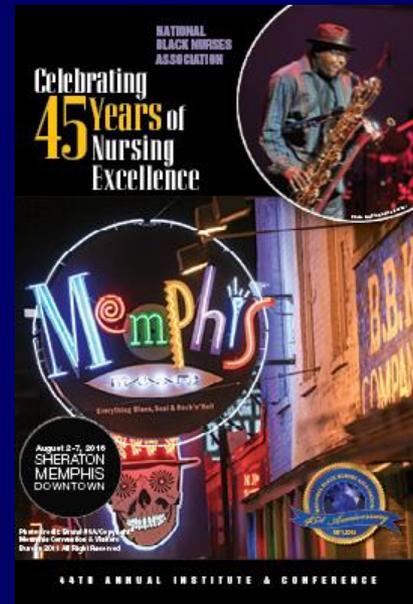
**Passed at 53rd National Convention Las
Vegas, Aug 2017**



National Black Nurses Association

August, 2016

San Francisco Bay Area chapter will introduce its menthol and other flavored tobacco products resolution at next NBNA national convention



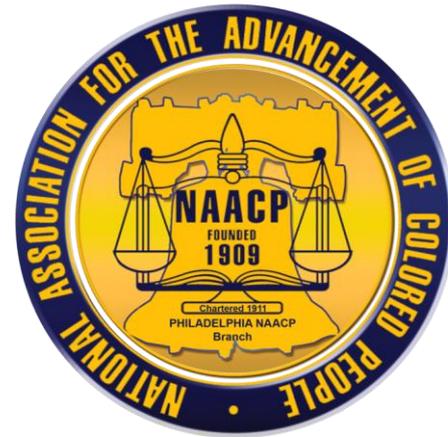
NAACP Adopts Menthol Resolution

July 19, 2016

Calling on branches to support state and local efforts to regulate menthol cigarettes and other flavored tobacco products

October 15, 2016

National Board of Directors ratified resolution





36th Annual Virtual Delta Days in Sacramento

Delas in Action: Preserving, Preparing, & Plotting for the Future

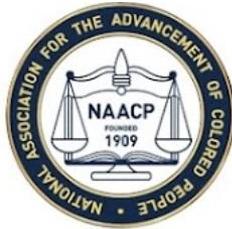
May 7th -10th, 2021

**Tracy Ricard Aikens - Farwest Regional
Director**

**Vyctoria Blake - Farwest Regional
Representative**

**Dian Harrison & Kennisha Green
Delta Days in Sacramento Co-Chairs**

**SB 793
recognized as a
“Legislative
Priority”**

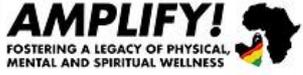


CALIFORNIA HAWAII STATE CONFERENCE

NAACP

NAACP CA-HI State Conference Endorses SB 793

December 4, 2021



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African American Statewide Coordinating Center





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A young boy with curly hair is performing a handstand on a light-colored sofa. He is wearing a white t-shirt and dark pants. His hands are resting on the sofa cushions, and his body is balanced on a single hand. The background shows a window with a view of trees outside.

Join our fight to
Save Black Lives

BigTobaccosRacist.com

**BLACK LEADERS AGAINST
TOBACCO INJUSTICE**
CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT CALIFORNIA KIDS



Members

News

Spread The Word

Join Us

Join Black Leaders Against Tobacco Injustice to learn about the racist tactics Big Tobacco has targeted Black communities with for centuries.

Big Tobacco is Racist

450,000

Black Americans died in the last decade due to smoking



No Menthol
SUNDAY

Bold Awareness:
A Fight to the Finish

March 15, 2022

A black and white photograph of a person's arm and hand. The hand is wearing a boxing glove and is positioned as if ready to fight. The person has a large, detailed tattoo on their upper arm. The background is a dark teal color.

Join our mailing to be notified when 2022 materials are ready

Passing Laws
to Protect
Black People
marks the
BEGINNING
of real
change. It is
not magic.

**We must work on the
demand side**

**We need health equity
reparations**

**We need all of our
community supporting
smokers**

**Culturally tailored
smoking cessation that
addresses SDOH and
stress reduction**

Innovation

**REJECTION of
Tobacco Industry**

SCLC wants 1965 Voting Rights Act fully restore

The Atlanta Voice Apr 13, 2021 Updated Apr 14, 2021



President Lyndon Johnson shakes hands with civil rights activists, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., after signing the Voting Rights Act of 1965./LBJ Presidential Library

The 10-year Stacey Abrams project to flip Georgia has come to fruition.



Jan. 6, 2021

By Reid J. Epstein and Aislinn W. Herndon



Stacey Abrams in Atlanta on Tuesday. After losing her race for governor in 2018, she has led voter registration efforts in Georgia. *Elijah Newelage/Reuters*



THANK YOU



*The African American Tobacco
Control Leadership Council*

Saving Black Lives

www.savingblacklives.org

888.881.6619