

Review of: "Signboards prohibiting tobacco sale within 100 yards of educational institutes: The appraisal of prohibition compliance and on-ground status of the COTPA Act, 2003 in Chanakyapuri Division of New Delhi Revenue District, the administrative precinct of India."

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I have read the article with great interest. The issue of tobacco use among children and young people is a serious one. The recently conducted Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) 4 found that in India 8.5% adolescents between the ages of 13 and 15 use tobacco, among whom 69% purchase smoked tobacco products like cigarettes and bidis from vendors, and approximately 45% were not refused sale of cigarettes/bidis because of age. Furthermore while a fairly good percentage (85%-87% of school heads) in both rural and urban areas are aware of the provisions of COTPA, it is alarming that 19.5% of children still used tobacco in school (ntcp.nhp.gov.in). The current article thus has great significance in light of the above facts.

I would like to see more information in the article about the mode/tools of data collection such as how exactly the distance between the school boundary and the tobacco sale outlet were measured. It will also be interesting to know the rate of tobacco use among students of schools displaying appropriate signage and preventing tobacco sale outside their premises, vis-à-vis those who do not. My best wishes to the author.