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## *It's time to kick butts*

Big Tobacco's lies are everywhere. They're in advertising messages like "Be Kool", "Pleasure to burn" and "Stir the senses". They're in the magazines we read, the movies we watch, even the stores where we shop... and they are killing nearly half a million Americans every year.

Today's teens are turning the tables on Big Tobacco by exposing their lies and manipulations. On Kick Butts Day (Wednesday, March 28, 2007) and throughout the year, youth are choosing to STAND OUT...SPEAK UP...and SEIZE CONTROL in the fight against Big Tobacco!

Youth are telling the real story about tobacco. They're spreading the word that tobacco is the number one cause of preventable death and diseases in the United States. In fact, tobacco use kills more people than alcohol, AIDS, car crashes, illegal drugs, murders and suicides COMBINED!!!

Worldwide, tobacco kills one person every 6.4 seconds – that's 545 people every hour and 13,100 every day. In the U.S., that's one dead American every 72 seconds.

Big Tobacco knows people would not buy their deadly products if they told the truth, so they spend more than \$15.4 billion a year on deceptive advertising and marketing. In the two minutes it takes you to brush your teeth, they spend more than \$58,000.

With every puff of a cigarette, a smoker breathes more than 4,000 chemicals including ammonia (a poisonous gas and powerful toilet cleaner), arsenic (a potent rat poison), acetone (a poisonous solvent and paint stripper), formaldehyde (used to preserve dead bodies), toluene (a poisonous industrial solvent), polonium-210 (a highly radioactive element) and carbon monoxide (a poisonous gas). Totally disgusting....but totally true!!

Teens in Somerset County are serving as youth mentors and standing up for their right to breathe clean air, they support the county's smoke-free dining establishments, they volunteer to be a part of Teens Against Tobacco Use (TATU), BUSTED! – a statewide anti tobacco movement for youth, and assist with tobacco compliance checks. They've advocated with state legislators locally and in Harrisburg. Twenty-four teens from 6 of our counties' schools are currently preparing to attend a statewide Rally in Harrisburg next month on April 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>.

Our youth are excited and eager to change statistics. They do NOT want to be one of the 1,000 youth every day that get addicted to nicotine. They do NOT want to be labeled as replacement customers for the smokers who lose their lives every day to this terrible drug.

For more OUTRAGEOUS info about Big Tobacco and what young people are doing to fight back, check out [www.tobaccofreekids.org](http://www.tobaccofreekids.org).

**TWIN LAKES CENTER**  
  
**For Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation**