

## Who We Are

The Center for Tobacco and the Environment is an applied research center based at San Diego State University (SDSU). The Center is dedicated to investigating the toxic legacy of commercial tobacco in indoor and outdoor environments. We bring together communities and researchers from a wide range of backgrounds to prevent, reduce, and eliminate tobacco-related harm that disproportionately affect vulnerable populations and the environments in which they live, work, and play.

## Our Funding

Our work has been funded by:

- California Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program (TRDRP)
- California Department of Public Health
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- National Institutes of Health (NIH): National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

## What We Do

- Investigate the impact that tobacco product waste and second- and thirdhand smoke have on our communities.
- Study the accumulation and re-accumulation of tobacco product waste in neighborhoods and test water and soil samples for tobacco-related pollutants.
- Educate and conduct surveys of parents, renters, home buyers, homeowners, real estate professionals, sellers and buyers of used cars, restaurant owners, travelers, and others left behind by tobacco use.
- Examine surface wipe, air, and dust samples to learn about how tobacco smoke residue pollutes indoor environments.
- Test homes, cars, hotel rooms, workplaces, and other indoor environments for harmful tobacco-related chemicals and carcinogens.
- Determine if existing strategies and public policies protect vulnerable populations and sensitive environments from exposure to tobacco smoke pollutants and how policies may need to be changed to achieve better protection from the long-term impact of commercial tobacco.

**This research and advocacy is accomplished through the three different branches of the Center:**



**Outdoor Environments**



**Indoor Environments**



**Policy Initiatives**



**Policy Research Center for Tobacco and the Environment**

## About

The Policy Research Center for Tobacco and the Environment is a multidisciplinary collaboration between SDSU and our community partner non-profit SAY San Diego that began in 2023.



## Our Work

- Collaborate with community members to identify tobacco-related issues.
- Conduct research with community members to inform policymakers.
- Train and mentor emerging researchers, community members, and organizers.

**THIRDHAND SMOKE** Resource Center

## About

The Thirdhand Smoke Resource Center is part of the California-wide Collaborative Consortium on Thirdhand Smoke. The Resource Center investigates the chemical residue left behind by smoking and vaping in indoor environments and its impact on human health.

## Our Work

- Disseminate research to the public and stakeholder groups.
- Provide technical assistance to the tobacco prevention community.
- Test for the presence of thirdhand smoke in homes, schools, cars, etc.
- Propose evidence-based policy change.

**SDSU** | Public Health Projects

## About

Investigators affiliated with CTE are involved in a wide range of public health studies addressing the broad environmental impact of commercial tobacco.

## Our Work

- Identify the health risks of exposure to second- and thirdhand smoke.
- Evaluate ways to measure and reduce the risk of exposure to tobacco-related chemicals.
- Evaluate educational interventions and tobacco-prevention strategies.