

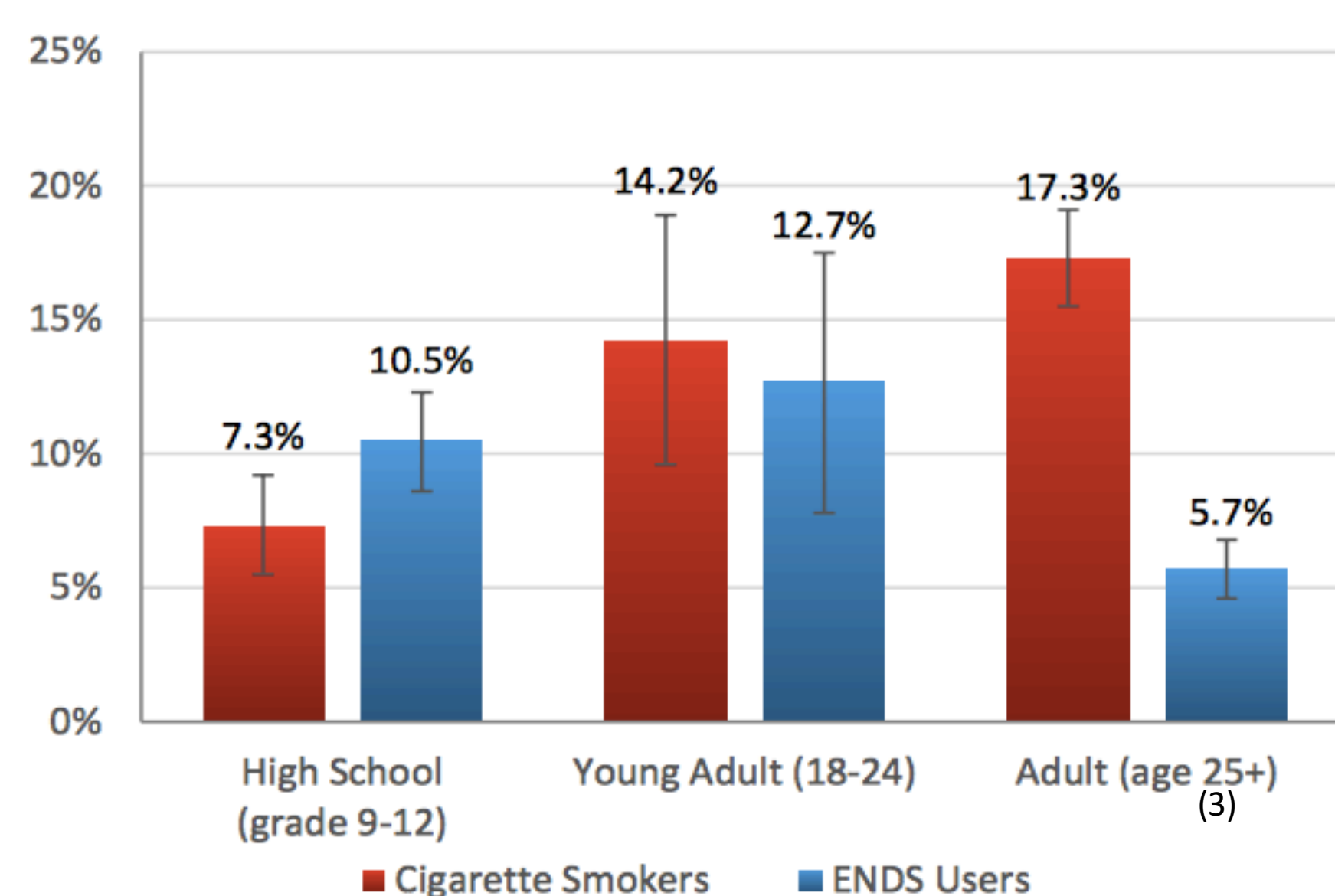
# Engaging communities through schools and housing to reduce teen smokers in NYC

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## Objective

- Reduce the number of teen smokers in NYC by:
1. increasing smoke-free buildings
  2. engaging schools, students, and community members in smoke-controlling programs.

Figure 1: Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking and ENDS Use by Age Group New York State



## Methods

The Bardach Eightfold Pathway was used to guide an extensive literature review and legal research to construct Congressional Testimony for the Senate HELP Committee.

1. Define the problems

2. Assemble evidence

3. Construct alternatives

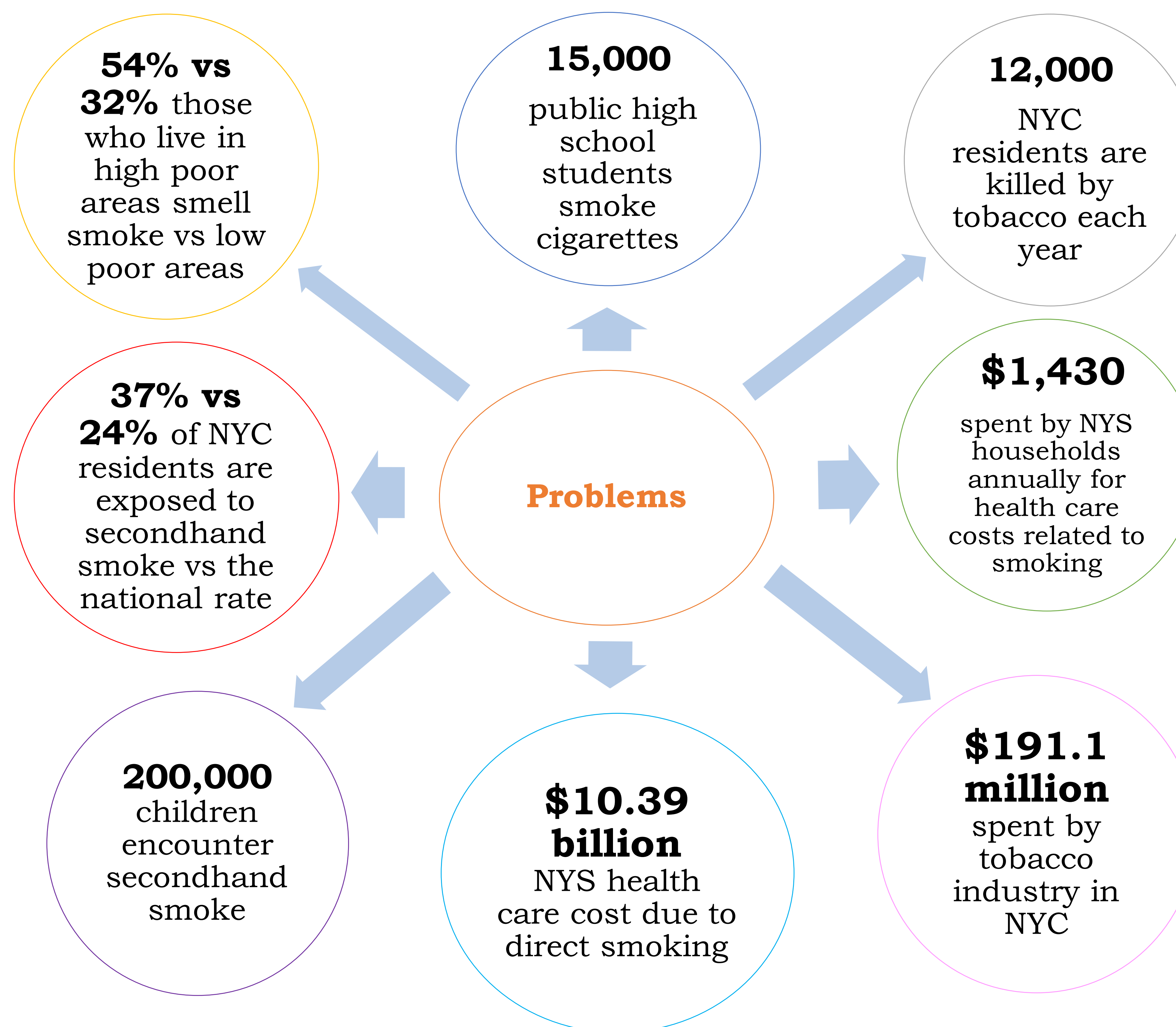
4. Select the criteria

5. Project the outcomes

6. Confront the trade-offs

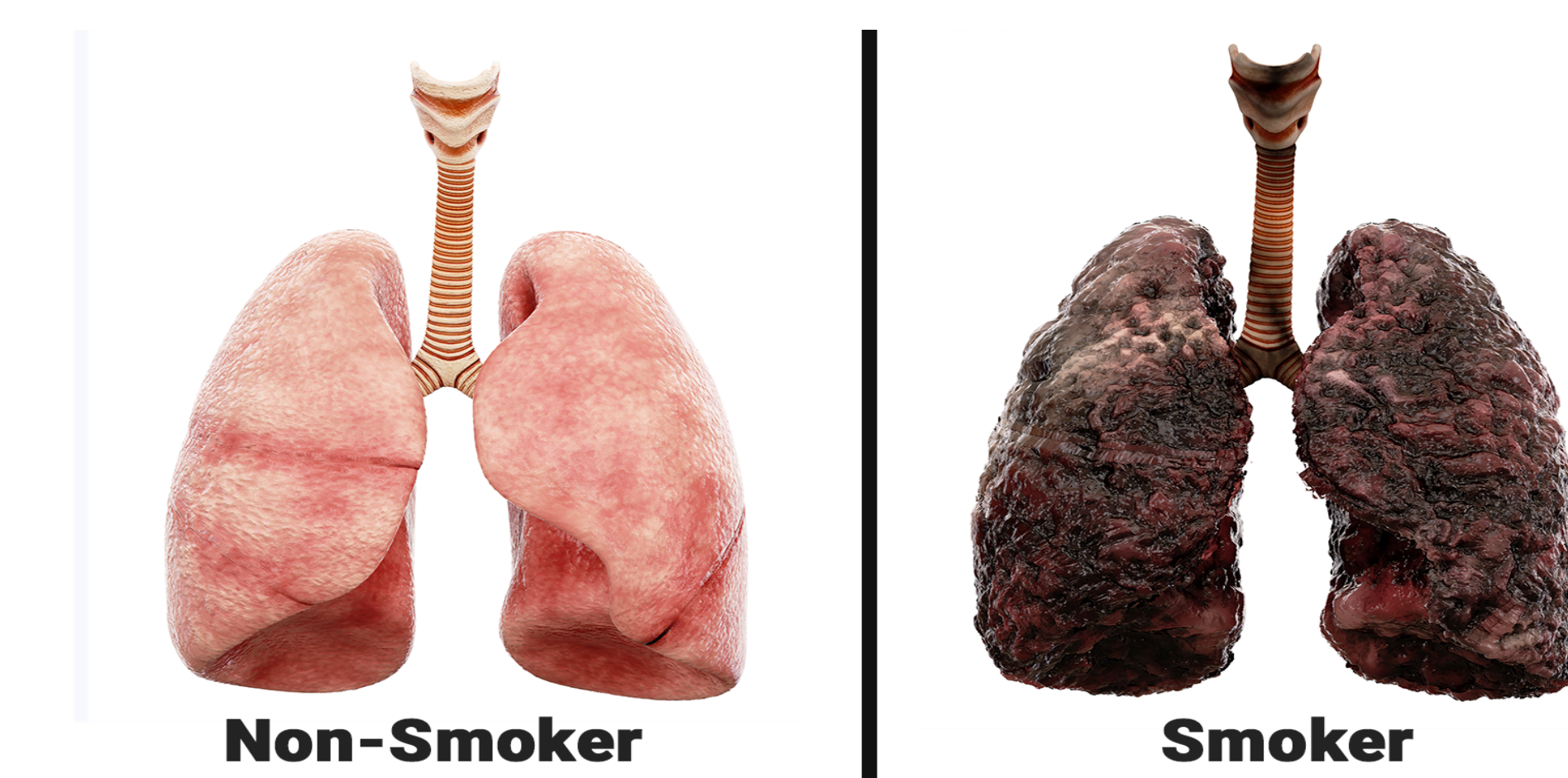
7. Decide

8. Tell your story



## Alternatives

- Construct a program specifically in schools to educate teens about the effects of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and other vapors.
- Awarding the top 10 high schools biennially within the boroughs which have successfully accomplished their goals of educating teens and decreasing number of teen smokers in their school.



## Outcomes

- Prohibiting smoking in building and near entrances will decrease the smoking rate among teens.
- Offering help to these communities, and recognizing their effort to make our community smoke-free, will incentivize more units to change their policies regarding smoking.
- Holding educational meetings will decrease the rate of parents' as well as high teen smoking

## Next steps

- Collaborate with schools and teen leaders by reaching out immediately to all school principals in New York City to engage them and interested students.
- Educate teens and community members about the effects of smoking every year.
- Analyze the student smoking rate data for further verification to measure the success of our program.

## Evidence

- Public health education campaign will be successful because California achieved the second lowest smoking rate in the nation using a similar program<sup>(2)</sup>.
- Utah has the lowest smoking rate in the United States as they have banned smoking in almost all public places<sup>(6)</sup>.

## References

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