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States’ Smoking Ban Policies and Their Connection to Community Health
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Is there a connection between smoking ban policies and community health? I will be researching if communities with a smoking ban have had better health after the ban or prior to. My alternative hypothesis is that five years after a smoking ban is in place, the health of the community will go in a positive direction. The null hypothesis is that there is no relationship between the health of a community and the smoking ban put in place. I feel that even with a ban that is not as strict as the Los Angeles smoking ban (considered the strongest ban), there will still be a noticeable difference. I will be researching the major effects of smoking, and then comparing those with a before and after “snapshot” of the health of certain communities or states. I will also be comparing the different levels of smoking ban policies, state by state; and comparing their health outcomes, smoking prevalence rates, and strength of their bans to each other as well. I hope to get a positive response from readers and maybe change a few minds about smoking. Data will come from the CDC and MMWR websites, as well as other credible, peer reviewed journals. The research and information will come from a variety of journals, opinions, and other resources. With the new health care reform being a major issue in America, I feel that people should know the risks of smoking, and what implementing smoking bans can accomplish throughout different communities.