



The Real Costs of Tobacco

A tobacco user can save over \$10,000 each year on each pack of cigarettes or can of snuff not purchased (or to be more precise it is exactly \$14,276.51 at 8% interest). That is a brand new car for free - all paid off! This is still a good enough incentive to quit. This is another fact that tobacco companies don't want us to know! Now, this part (of how much we can save) is certainly enjoyable, but it is not a joke. It feels good to know that we can be millionaires. We deserve a reward for not smoking.

This is what a pack of cigarettes would yield with 8% compounded interest (a modest mutual fund should get a 12% return):

- ▶ 1 pack at \$2.50 in 50 years = \$565,450.49
- ▶ 1 pack (Dunhill) at 3.35 in 50 years = \$757,703.66
- ▶ 1 pack (Camel in Canada) at \$6.50 in 50 years = \$1,470,171.27

There is a planned \$0.55 tax increase proposed for 2000 with more increases to follow - someone has to pay for the high costs of healthcare for all the sick tobacco users!

If you want to quit, contact your family physician, dentist, or other healthcare provider. You may contact the Health Promotion Program at your hospital or clinic for information on the tobacco cessation program.

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