Southwestern Montana Family YMCA
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Students Against an “R” Rating for Movies Containing Smoking

I am representing students who think that rating movies that contain scenes in relating to smoking “R” is unreasonable. Under this system movies would be portraying a reality that does not exist.

Some activists say that in a movie, brands of cigarettes should not be identified or that billboards showing smoking should be eliminated. Some also want anti-smoking ads before all movies containing smoking, and to have producers post a certificate in the credits that states that no pay-offs were taken in during the production of the film.

The Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) has said that they will not rate movies with smoking scenes “R” because it is in violation of the first amendment. I also agree with the posting of anti-smoking ads in the previews but not with rating the movie differently.

Seriously do we really want American classics, such as 101 Dalmatians, rated “R” just because Cruela Devil is smoking. I think that many of the parents supporting an “R” rating are only doing so because they are pushing the job of raising their children upon the government and the MPAA.

We, as the students effected by this activist proposal, should band together to step in and support our rights. With the expansion of the American culture we feel that these activists are pushing us back against all that we have work to achieve in this modern society.

I will support bills that protect students’ rights and oppose those bills that demote the rights of students.

This document is in compliance with the Montana YMCA youth legislature lobbyist disclosure policy.