



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Why do young people smoke?

**Teen smoking** can be a form of rebellion or a way to fit in with a particular group of friends. Some teens begin smoking to control their weight. Others smoke to feel cool or independent.

Teens who smoke are finding out that once you start, it can be difficult to stop.



### Factors associated with youth tobacco use:

- Mass media showing tobacco product use as a normal activity
- Seeing tobacco product advertising
- Seeing peers using these products
- Seeing a parent using these products
- Young people can feel dependent on nicotine sooner than adults
- Thinking that smoking can help with depression.



## PREVIEW

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Use and

- Raising the minimum age of sale for tobacco products to 21 years
- TV, radio and other media messages aimed at teens to counter tobacco product ads
- School policies that encourage tobacco-free places and lifestyles
- Community programs that lower tobacco advertising, promotions, and help make tobacco products less easily available

**Social and environmental factors** related to lower smoking levels among youth include:

- Being part of a religious group or tradition
- Racial/ethnic pride and strong racial identity
- Higher academic achievement





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## Why do young people smoke?

List factors associated with youth tobacco use:

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**PREVIEW**

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