



# Secondhand Smoke Survey: Indian Casinos

## California Voters' Attitudes About Secondhand Smoke Exposure

Public Opinion Research Survey: November 2008

### Background

There is a growing body of scientific evidence that documents the harmful effects of secondhand smoke exposure, including the US Surgeon General's finding that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke, and the California Air Resources Board designation of secondhand smoke as a toxic air contaminant. Yet Californians are still exposed to secondhand smoke in outdoor areas, in multi-unit housing and in Indian casinos. Many cities and counties throughout the state have passed laws to restrict smoking in outdoor areas such as parks, beaches, farmer's markets and outdoor seating at bars and restaurants and some cities have passed laws to create nonsmoking sections of apartments in multi-unit housing. In addition, some California Indian tribes have voluntarily created nonsmoking sections in Indian casinos.

In November 2008, the Center for Tobacco Policy & Organizing commissioned a survey of 600 California voters to assess their views about secondhand smoke and to gauge their level of support for reducing exposure to secondhand smoke. Specifically, the survey explored general attitudes about restricting smoking in outdoors areas, in outdoor dining areas, in multi-unit housing, and in Indian casinos.

This document highlights the Summary of Key Findings for Indian casinos. Additionally, there are three other Summary of Key Findings that highlight the results for outdoor dining, the results for multi-unit housing and the results for the entire secondhand smoke survey. The survey was conducted by Goodwin Simon Victoria Research. Complete survey results and the other summary documents are available at [www.Center4TobaccoPolicy.org/polling-shs](http://www.Center4TobaccoPolicy.org/polling-shs).

### Summary of Key Findings

#### Secondhand Smoke Restrictions in California Indian Casinos

California voters know that secondhand smoke is harmful and are supportive of restricting smoking in California Indian casinos:

- 97% believe that secondhand smoke is harmful to those who inhale it
- 90% would either be more inclined to visit or would be unaffected if smoking were prohibited in California Indian casinos, while only 8% would be less inclined to visit the casinos
- 69% feel that employees in California Indian casinos should have the same protections from secondhand smoke as other employees in California
- 32% have visited a California Indian casino in the past year