

## **Vaping: The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cigarette? What the Cigarette Smoking Generation thinks of the Vaping Generation**

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### **Abstract**

Vaping has become an epidemic among high school aged youth as increases in adolescent vaping from 2017 to 2018 were the largest ever recorded in the past 43 years for any adolescent substance use outcome in the United States. Since vaping is a relatively new trend, more research is needed to understand this issue. The purpose of this study was to investigate parents' attitude towards teens in grades 6-12 vaping and to explore what factors impact their perception of it. As parent's are their children's primary role models, it is important to understand their perception of this issue, in order to help prevent youth vaping, before it begins. Parents of children who are in grades 6-12 were invited to complete a brief survey using the platform Qualtrics. 57 participants were recruited through schools, public locations and social media pages. Descriptive and bivariate analysis were performed using SPSS. The results indicated that 70% of parents surveyed did not know about the new Massachusetts State Laws regarding youth Tobacco Consumption. It was also discovered that although parents disapprove of their children vaping and smoking cigarettes they were less likely to strongly disagree in regard to vaping compared to smoking cigarettes. Additionally, the child's gender also plays a role in regard to parental perception of vaping as parents were more likely to strongly disagree with their sons vaping over their daughters. Parents who smoke cigarettes themselves were also significantly less likely to strongly disagree regarding their children smoking cigarettes. These results suggest that more education needs to be provided to parents and their children as well as significant policy change regarding youth vaping and tobacco consumption.

**Keywords: Vaping, Parents, Massachusetts**

### **1. Introduction**

Vaping has become an epidemic among high school aged youth. In fact, "increases in adolescent vaping from 2017 to 2018 were the largest ever recorded in the past 43 years for any adolescent substance use outcome in the U.S"<sup>6</sup>. The percentage of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who reported vaping nicotine in the past 30 days nearly doubled, rising from 11% to 21%. This ten-percentage point increase is twice as large as the previous record for largest-ever increase among past 30-day outcomes in 12<sup>th</sup> grade. As a result of the increase, one in five 12<sup>th</sup> grade students vaped nicotine in the last 30 days in 2018. For secondary students in grades 9 through 12 the increases in nicotine vaping translate into at least 1.3 million additional nicotine vapers in 2018 as compared to 2017"<sup>6</sup>.

With the increase in vaping, many have questioned what exactly it is. Vaping is, "the act of inhaling and exhaling the aerosol, often referred to as vapor, which is produced by an e-cigarette or similar device. The term is used because e-cigarettes do not produce tobacco smoke, but rather an aerosol, often mistaken for water vapor, that actually consists of fine particles. Many of these particles contain varying amounts of toxic chemicals (such as nicotine), which have been linked to cancer, as well as respiratory and heart disease"<sup>9</sup>.

Due to the potentially deadly consequences of vaping, measures have been taken in order to hopefully reduce the consumption of vaping products. In Massachusetts the legal age to purchase nicotine and tobacco products has risen

from 18 to 21. “Parents and legal guardians are no longer allowed to give tobacco/vaping products to their kids. The previous law allowed parents and legal guardians to give tobacco products to their minor children or wards. The new state law eliminates this exception. As of December 31, 2018, parents and legal guardians are to be subject to the following fines if they provide any tobacco product to their children or wards who are too young to legally be sold tobacco products. First offense: a fine of \$100. Second offense: \$200. Third and subsequent offenses: \$300 each.”<sup>3</sup>.

Vaping is not a relatively new trend or concept as it was introduced to the mass market in the early 2000’s. It was discovered that, “E-cigarettes became available in the US in 2007 with increasing awareness and popularity, leading to approximately 15% of US adults in 2014 reporting trying an e-cigarette. Current smokers and those reporting recent cessation comprise the largest fraction of e-cigarette users, with approximately 50% of these groups in the US, and 40% in Great Britain reporting use. Among both current and former smokers, the most commonly cited reasons for the use of e-cigarettes were perceived health benefits when compared to combustible cigarettes, followed by assistance with smoking cessation”<sup>5</sup>. Since then it has gained popularity in recent years among teens and their parents alike. Not much research has been done regarding the potential consequences of vaping. Much of the research we do know has been a correlation between the illnesses linked to cigarette smoking, as well as exposure to the toxic chemicals that vaping products may contain, rather than long term studies of the effects of vaping itself. More research needs to be done.

Parental involvement in a child’s life plays a huge role in whether or not they will acquire positive or negative attributes and perceptions. In fact, “various studies have shown the role of parent-child relationship in enhancement of positive attributes in children. Education aspiration and self-esteem are the most common output of good parent child relationships”<sup>1</sup>. Parental perception and attitudes toward particular behaviors also play a huge role in whether or not their children will engage in these behaviors. If a parent’s attitude toward certain behaviors such as vaping are indifferent or positive, these factors may contribute to their children engaging in at risk behaviors such as vaping and smoking. In fact, data provided by the National Youth Tobacco survey states that, “Among students who reported ever using e-cigarettes in 2016, one of most commonly selected reasons for use were use by a “friend or family member” (39.0%)”<sup>8</sup>.

Although the new 2018 Massachusetts State Laws prohibit parents from buying nicotine and or tobacco products for their children, will this decrease the number of teens smoking nicotine and tobacco-based products? Do parents think that vaping is a safer alternative to cigarettes? Does parental perception of vaping contribute to the increase in numbers?

## 1.1. Significance of Research

With vaping increasing among the teenage population and little research being done to understand the long-term potential consequences of vaping, it has become increasingly important to establish why numbers have risen regarding teenage vaping and if parental approval and or disapproval of vaping has any correlation to the rise in numbers. The purpose of this study is to investigate parents’ attitude towards teens in grades 6-12 vaping and to explore what factors impact their perception of it. Findings of this research could benefit society by helping educate teens and parents alike about the potential dangers of vaping. Furthermore, this research could also provide valid inputs to design effective social work interventions and programs to address this issue.

## 1.2. Research Question and Hypothesis

The proposed question for this study is as follows: What are parents’ attitudes towards teens in grades 6-12 vaping and what factors impact their perception of it. Through the use of bivariate analysis this research will test the following questions:

- Hypothesis 1 A: There is a relationship between the child’s gender and parent’s perception of vaping.
- Hypothesis 1 B: There is a relationship between the child’s gender and parent’s perception of cigarette smoking.
- Hypothesis 2 A: There is a relationship between the number of children a parent has and the parental perception of vaping.
- Hypothesis 2 B: There is a relationship between the number of children a parent has and the parental perception of cigarette smoking.
- Hypothesis 3 A: There is a relationship between the gender of the parent and the parental perception of vaping.

- Hypothesis 3 B: There is a relationship between the gender of the parent and the parental perception of cigarette smoking.
- Hypothesis 4 A: There is a relationship between whether the parent vapes themselves and their perception of their children vaping.
- Hypothesis 4 B: There is a relationship between whether the parent smokes cigarettes themselves and their perception of their children smoking cigarettes.

## 2. Methodology

This study adopted a quantitative research approach. Parents of children who are in grades 6-12 were previously invited to complete a brief (10 minutes) online survey on their perception of teens vaping using the Qualtrics platform.

Non-Probability sampling methods were used to recruit 57 participants who are parents with children in grades 6-12. Recruitment flyers were posted at schools, public locations and social media pages. The on-line survey included questions that asked the participants demographics as well as their children's demographics, their opinions regarding cigarette smoking, their opinions regarding their children smoking cigarettes, their opinions regarding vaping, their opinions regarding their children vaping, if they are aware of the current Massachusetts state laws regarding teens smoking and vaping, and if they are aware of services available. The survey questions are included in Appendix A.

Survey data collected through Qualtrics was downloaded and input into SPSS. Descriptive analysis and bivariate analysis were performed to understand parents' attitude towards teens vaping and to explore what factors impact their perception of it.

## 3. Results

### 3.1. Descriptive Analysis

The descriptive analysis was completed using the software system IBM SPSS. Through the use of frequency tables, the following data was collected and analyzed. Based on the data collected, the demographics of the sample are as follows. The average age of the parents who took the survey was 43 years old. 5 (7.5%) parents identify as Male, 49 (73.1%) parents identify as Female and 2 (3%) parents identify as Other. 48 (71.6%) of the parents surveyed were Mothers, 4 (6%) parents surveyed were Fathers, 2 (3%) parents considered themselves Legal Guardians, and 2 (3%) parents identified as Other. 34 parents only had 1 child in grades 6-12. 19 parents had 2 children in grades 6-12 and 4 parents had 3 children in grades 6-12. The average age of the parent's teens were 15 years old. Majority of teens were in high school (grades 9-12). There were 46 Male Teens in Grades 6-12 and there were 38 Female Teens in Grades 6-12.

Majority of parents surveyed did not smoke cigarettes (84%) or vape devices/e-cigarettes (89%) as indicated in Table 1. As indicated in Table 2, 51.8% of the adults surveyed stated that they strongly disagree with adults smoking cigarettes and 48.2% of the adults surveyed stated that they strongly disagree with adults using vape/ e-cigarettes. It was also discovered that most parents stated that their children do not smoke cigarettes (91.1%) or vape devices/e-cigarettes (76.8%) however, if they did, more of their teens vaped (23.2%) rather than smoked cigarettes (8.9%) as indicated in Table 3. Table 4 shows that 84% of parents surveyed stated that they strongly disagree with teens smoking cigarettes while 82% stated that they strongly disagree with teens vaping or using e-cigarettes.

Table 5 indicates that parents surveyed also stated that they do not think it is easy for consumers to know what e-cigarette products contain (75%), and they do not think that e-cigarette aerosol is just water vapor (89.3%). It was discovered that the majority of the parents surveyed did not know the Massachusetts State Tobacco Laws (70%) however once they discovered what they were they strongly agreed with the rules and thought that the rules were fair (51.8%) as indicated in Table 6 and 7. Many parents surveyed stated that they knew where to get educational material and other resources regarding smoking/vaping in their area (54%) and if they did not know they stated that they would like more places to go for educational material and other resources regarding smoking/vaping (84%) as indicated in Table 6.

Table 1: Parents Behavior Regarding Cigarettes/Vape Devices/ E-Cigarettes (N=56)

	Yes	No
Parents Who Smoke Cigarettes	9(16%)	47(84%)
Parents Who Smoke Vape Devices/E-Cigarettes	6(11%)	50(89%)

Table 2: Parents Attitude Regarding Adults Who Smoke Cigarettes/Vape Devices/E-Cigarettes (N=56)

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Indifferent	Agree	Strongly Agree
Parent Attitude Towards Adults Smoking Cigarettes	29(51.8%)	11(19.6%)	15 (26.8%)	1(1.8%)	0(0%)
Parents Attitude Towards Adults Using Vape Devices/E-Cigarettes	27(48.2%)	8(14.3%)	18(32.1%)	2(3.6%)	1(1.8%)

Table 3: Parents Whose Teens Smoke Cigarettes/Vape Devices/E-Cigarettes (N=56)

	Yes	No
Parents Whose Teens Smoke Cigarettes	5(8.9%)	51(91.1%)
Parents Whose Teens Smoke Vape Devices/E-Cigarettes	13(23.2%)	43(76.8%)

Table 4: Parents Attitude Regarding Teens Who Smoke Cigarettes/Vape Devices/E-Cigarettes (N=56)

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Indifferent	Agree	Strongly Agree
Parent Attitude Towards Teens Smoking Cigarettes	47(83.9%)	7(12.5%)	2(3.6%)	0(0%)	0(0%)
Parents Attitude Towards Teens Using Vape Devices/E-Cigarettes	46(82.1%)	7(12.5%)	3(5.4%)	0(0%)	0(0%)

Table 5: Parents Knowledge and Attitude Regarding Smoking Cigarettes and Vaping (N=56)

How Do You Feel About the Following Statement?	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Indifferent	Agree	Strongly Agree
“It is Easy for Consumers to Know What E-Cigarette Products Contain”	0(0%)	42(75%)	9(16.10%)	5(8.9%)	0(0%)
“The E-Cigarette Aerosol is Harmless 'Water Vapor”	0(0%)	50(89.30%)	2(3.6%)	4(7.10%)	0(0%)
Parents Attitude Towards New Massachusetts State Laws	2(3.6%)	3(5.4%)	4(7.10%)	22(39.3%)	25(44.60%)

Table 6: Parents Knowledge Regarding Massachusetts State Tobacco Laws (N=56)

	Yes	No
Parents Knowledge of Massachusetts State Laws regarding Youth Tobacco Consumption	17 (30%)	39 (70%)
Parents Knowledge of Resources and Educational Material Regarding Smoking/Vaping in their Area	30 (54%)	26 (46%)
Parents Who Want More Places to go for Resources and Educational Material Regarding Smoking/Vaping in their Area.	21 (84%)	4 (16%)

Table 7: Parents Attitude on the Severity of the Massachusetts State Laws (N=56)

	Fair	Harsh	Not Harsh Enough	Indifferent
Parents Attitude on the Severity of the New Massachusetts State Laws	29 (51.80%)	4 (7.10%)	18 (32.10%)	5 (8.9%)

### 3.2. Bivariate Analysis

For Hypothesis 1A and 1B, ANOVA tests were performed to test the relationship between whether the child’s gender played a role in parental perception of vaping and smoking cigarettes. The results are summarized in Table 8. Parental Perception was rated on a scale of 1-5, 1 standing for strongly disagree and 5 standing for strongly agree. The child’s gender variable used to test this hypothesis was categorized into three groups: a boy only group for parents who only had boys, a girl only group for parents who only had girls, and a boy and girl group for parents who had both. It was discovered that there is a significant difference between the child’s gender in regard to parental perception of vaping and smoking cigarettes ( $F(2,53) = 3.746, p = 0.03$ ). Although in general parents strongly disagree with their boys and

girls smoking cigarettes and vaping, they were more likely to strongly disagree with their sons vaping and smoking cigarettes over their daughters.

For Hypothesis 2A and 2B correlation tests were performed. The results are summarized in Table 9. It was discovered that the data is not conclusive between the relationship between the number of children a parent has, and their perception of vaping ( $r=0.006$ ,  $p=0.458$ ) and smoking cigarettes ( $r=0.101$ ,  $p=0.967$ ).

For Hypothesis 3A and 3B, independent T-tests were performed. The results are summarized in Table 10. It was discovered that there was not a significant difference between the parent's gender (Male or Female) and the parental perception of teens vaping ( $t(52) = 1.562$ ,  $p=0.124$ ) and smoking cigarettes ( $t(52) = 0.930$ ,  $p=0.353$ ).

For Hypothesis 4A and 4B, independent T-tests were performed. The results are summarized in Table 11. It was discovered that there was a significant difference between parental behavior regarding smoking cigarettes and their perception regarding their children smoking cigarettes ( $t(54) = 2.283$ ,  $p=0.045$ ). However, there was not a significant difference between parental behavior regarding vaping and their perception regarding their children vaping ( $t(54) = 1.142$ ,  $p=0.303$ ). These results indicate that although parents disagree with themselves and their children smoking cigarettes and vaping, they were less likely to strongly disagree with their children vaping if they vaped themselves.

Table 8: ANOVA Results for H1A & H1B: Parental Perception of Vaping and Smoking Cigarettes, by the Child's Gender (N=57)

		Perception of Vaping and Smoking Cigarettes (1-5, 1-strongly disagree, 5 strongly agree)		
		Mean	SD	F Value
<b>Gender Vaping</b>				
	Male (N=24)	1.04	.204	3.746*
	Female (N=19)	1.47	.697	
	Male and Female (N=14)	1.23	.599	
<b>Gender Smoking Cigarettes</b>				
	Male (N=24)	1.04	.204	2.613*
	Female (N=19)	1.37	.598	
	Male and Female (N=14)	1.23	.599	

\* $p < .05$

Table 9: Correlation Test Results for H2A & H2B: Parental Perception of Vaping and Smoking Cigarettes, by the Number of Children a Parent Has (N=57)

	Feelings towards teens smoking cigarettes (N=56)	Feelings towards teens who use vape products (N=56)
Number of Kids (N=57)	0.006	-0.101

\* $p < .05$

Table 10: T-test Results for H3A & H3B: Parental Perception of Vaping and Smoking Cigarettes, by the Gender of the Parent (N=56)

		Perception of Vaping and Smoking Cigarettes (1-5, 1-strongly disagree, 5 strongly agree)		
		Mean	SD	t-Value
<b>Gender Vaping</b>				
	Male (N=5)	1.60	.548	.499
	Female (N=49)	1.20	.539	
<b>Gender Smoking Cigarettes</b>				
	Male (N=5)	1.40	.548	.617
	Female (N=49)	1.18	.486	
	Other(N=2)	1.00	.000	

\*p<.05

Table 11: T-test Results for H4A & H4B: Parental Perception of their Children's Behavior, by Parent Behavior (N=56)

		Perception of Vaping and Smoking Cigarettes (1-5, 1-strongly disagree, 5 strongly agree)		
		Mean	SD	t-value
<b>Parents Vaping</b>				
	Yes (N=6)	1.67	1.033	1.142
	No (N=50)	1.18	.438	
<b>Parents Smoking Cigarettes</b>				
	Yes (N=9)	1.56	.527	2.283*
	No (N=47)	1.13	.448	

\*p<.05

## 4. Discussion

### 4.1. Descriptive

Based on the findings it was discovered that very few parents surveyed smoke cigarettes or vape devices/e-cigarettes. Almost half of the adults surveyed stated that they strongly disagree with adults smoking cigarettes and using vape/e-cigarettes. It was also discovered that most parents stated that their children do not smoke either cigarettes or vape devices/e-cigarettes however, if they did, more of their teens vaped rather than smoked cigarettes. 84% of parents surveyed stated that they strongly disagree with teens smoking cigarettes while 82% stated that they strongly disagree with teens vaping or using e-cigarettes. The parents surveyed also stated that they do not think it is easy for consumers to know what e-cigarette products contain, and they do not think that e-cigarette aerosol is just water vapor. It was discovered that the majority of the parents surveyed did not know the Massachusetts State Tobacco Laws however once they discovered what they were they strongly agreed with the rules and thought that the rules were fair. Many parents surveyed stated that they knew where to get educational material and other resources regarding smoking/vaping in their area and if they did not know they stated that they would like more places to go for educational material and other resources regarding smoking/vaping.

These findings imply that there are significant biases in regard to parental perception of their children vaping and smoking cigarettes. Based on the existing literature and the findings of this survey it is clear that parental behaviors,

perceptions and attitudes directly correlate with their children's behavior. More research needs to be done regarding what exactly is in vaping products. Also, more education and awareness regarding the new Massachusetts state laws need to be implemented as majority of parents didn't know the new laws. More educational material and resources also needs to be made available in our surrounding area as many parents didn't know where to go and actually requested more resources if they were made available.

## 4.2. Bivariate

Based on the findings it was discovered that, Hypothesis 1A and 1B were significant. A relationship was found between the child's gender in regard to parental perception of vaping and smoking cigarettes, as parents were more likely to strongly disagree with their sons vaping over their daughters. For Hypothesis 2A and 2B, it was discovered that the data was not conclusive between the relationship between the number of children a parent has, and their perception of vaping and smoking cigarettes. For Hypothesis 3A and 3B, the data was found to not be conclusive between the parent's gender and the parental perception of teens vaping and smoking cigarettes. Hypothesis 4A did not indicate that parental behavior regarding vaping played a role in their perception regarding their children vaping. On the other hand, Hypothesis 4B indicated that parental behavior regarding smoking cigarettes played a role in their perception regarding their children smoking cigarettes. These results indicate that although parents disagree with themselves and their children smoking cigarettes and vaping, they were less likely to strongly disagree with their children vaping if they vaped themselves.

These findings imply that the child's gender in regard to parental perception of vaping and smoking cigarettes needs to be addressed as parents were more likely to strongly disagree with their sons vaping over their daughters. Reasons for this may be that boys are more likely to partake in risky behaviors over girls or they are more likely to get caught partaking in risky behaviors than girls are. These findings imply that more resources and education geared towards female children and their parents needs to be provided and available. Also, parental behavior regarding smoking cigarettes played a role in their perception regarding their children smoking cigarettes as parents were more likely to strongly disagree if they smoked cigarettes themselves. Parental behavior also played a role in their perception regarding their children vaping as they were still likely to disagree, however they were less likely to strongly disagree regarding themselves and their children vaping. Reasons for this include the abundance of educational material regarding the dangers of smoking cigarettes and the lack of educational material regarding the dangers of vaping. Parents may not think vaping is as bad as there is little information out there that suggests it may be harmful. This implies that more education surrounding the dangers of smoking cigarettes and vaping needs to be made available for parents and teens alike.

## 5. Strengths and Limitations

Some limitations of this study are that there is a relatively small sample size, making the findings of this study less generalizable. Non-Probability sampling method also proved to be a limitation. Majority of participants in this study were female making it less generalizable to the male population. Additionally, surveying parents and not their children proved to be a limitation as well as we are not seeing their children's perspective of the issue. Majority of parent's surveyed also are nonsmokers proving to be a limitation as it is a non-representative sample of the whole population. Some strengths of the study are that by understanding the parent's perspective rather than their children's perspective, we are better able to identify how to work with parents to help prevent youth smoking. As parent's are their children's primary role model growing up, it is important to understand their perspective of the issue in order to prevent it, before it begins. Additionally, this research provided significant information and findings that can benefit society by providing appropriate resources and educational material for parents and their children alike.

## 6. Moving Forward

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019, a newsletter was sent to local providers containing the following information, "On September 24, 2019, Governor Charles D. Baker declared a public health emergency in the Commonwealth due to severe disease associated with the use of e-cigarettes and vaping products and the epidemic of e-cigarette use among youth. As of September 19, 2019, the CDC had confirmed 530 cases across 39 states and U.S. territories, including seven fatalities in six different states. The commonality in all reported cases is a history of vaping, and a history of using vaping products containing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), nicotine, or a combination of both"<sup>2</sup>.

With the goal of protecting the health of Massachusetts residents, and in accordance with Governor Baker's public health emergency declaration, the following order was issued throughout the commonwealth: "The sale or display of all e-cigarettes and vaping products to consumers in retail establishments, online, and through any other means, including all non-flavored and flavored vaping products, including mint and menthol, including tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and any other cannabinoid, is prohibited in the Commonwealth"<sup>2</sup>. This vaping ban will last approximately four months, and the governor believes that this will be enough time for research to be conducted on the effects of vaping. Will this vaping ban effect parent's perception of their children vaping, and if so will this ban be enough to stop them from vaping? There is still much to learn regarding vaping and this ban may be a step in the right direction, regardless of the backlash from the public.

Based on the current literature, and the findings of this research, it has become clear that more work needs to be done regarding educating youth and their parents regarding the dangers of vaping. The social work profession can certainly help with this public health issue as social workers can help educate parents and their teens alike regarding the dangers of vaping. Social Workers can also help provide resources to parents and their families who are impacted by the vaping epidemic. Furthermore, this research could also provide valid inputs to design effective social work interventions and programs to address this issue as it is clear that there needs to be more resources available for parents and their teens.

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## 9. Appendix

### Survey Questions

#### Demographics:

1. Do you have any children in grades 6-12?
  - Yes →
    - If so how many? \_\_\_\_
  - No
2. How old are they? (please indicate ages for all your children in grades 6-12)  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the gender of your child? (please indicate gender for all your children in grades 6-12)
  - Male
  - Female
  - Other
4. What grade are they in? \_\_\_\_\_ (please indicate grade for all your children in grades 6-12)
5. How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What is your gender?
  - Male
  - Female
  - Other
7. What is your relationship to them?
  - Mother
  - Father
  - Legal guardian
  - Other

#### Cigarette Smoking Questions:

1. Do you smoke cigarettes?
  - Yes
  - No
2. How do you feel about adults smoking cigarettes?
  - Strongly Disagree
  - Disagree
  - Indifferent
  - Agree
  - Strongly Agree
3. Do you have any children that smoke cigarettes?
  - Yes
  - No
4. How do you feel about teens who smoke cigarettes?
  - Strongly Disagree
  - Disagree
  - Indifferent
  - Agree
  - Strongly Agree

#### Vaping and E-cigarette Questions:

5. Do you know what vaping is?
  - Yes
  - No
6. Do you use vape devices or e-cigarettes?
  - Yes
  - No
7. How do you feel about adults vaping or using e-cigarettes?

- Strongly Disagree
  - Disagree
  - Indifferent
  - Agree
  - Strongly Agree
8. Do you have any children that use vape devices or e-cigarettes?
- Yes
  - No
9. How do you feel about teens vaping or using e-cigarettes?
- Strongly Disagree
  - Disagree
  - Indifferent
  - Agree
  - Strongly Agree
10. How do you feel about following statements?
- 10.1 The e-cigarette aerosol is harmless 'water vapor'.
- Strongly Disagree
  - Disagree
  - Indifferent
  - Agree
  - Strongly Agree
- 10.2 It is easy for consumers to know what e-cigarette products contain.
- Strongly Disagree
  - Disagree
  - Indifferent
  - Agree
  - Strongly Agree

**Current Massachusetts state laws:**

11. Do you know about the new tobacco laws in the state of Massachusetts?
- Yes→
    - What do you think of the new laws?
      - Strongly Disagree
      - Disagree
      - Indifferent
      - Agree
      - Strongly Agree
    - Are they fair, too harsh, not harsh enough?
      - Fair
      - Harsh
      - Not Harsh Enough
      - Indifferent
  - No→
 

“No person shall sell or provide a tobacco product to a person who is under 21 years of age. A person who violates this section shall be punished by a fine of \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for a second offense and \$300 for a third or subsequent offense.”

    - What do you think of the new laws?
      - Strongly Disagree
      - Disagree
      - Indifferent
      - Agree
      - Strongly Agree

- Are they fair, too harsh, or not harsh enough?
  - Fair
  - Harsh
  - Not Harsh Enough
  - Indifferent

**Services Available:**

12. Do you know of any places to go for resources or educational material regarding smoking/vaping in your area?

- Yes
- No →
  - Would you like for there to be places to go for more resources or educational material regarding smoking/vaping in your area
    - Yes
    - No