Abstract

This study was an initial attempt to examine psychological functions associated with adolescent attitudes toward smoking and to examine which functions would be predictive of cigarette smoking susceptibility. Among a sample of 390 middle- and high-school-aged participants, utilitarian and social-adjustive attitudes were predictive of susceptibility to smoking. Value-expressive and ego-defensive attitudes were not predictive of susceptibility. Additionally, girls were found to have stronger social-adjustive attitudes than boys, and younger adolescents were found to have stronger social-adjustive attitudes than older adolescents. Possible implications for anti-smoking campaigns are discussed.