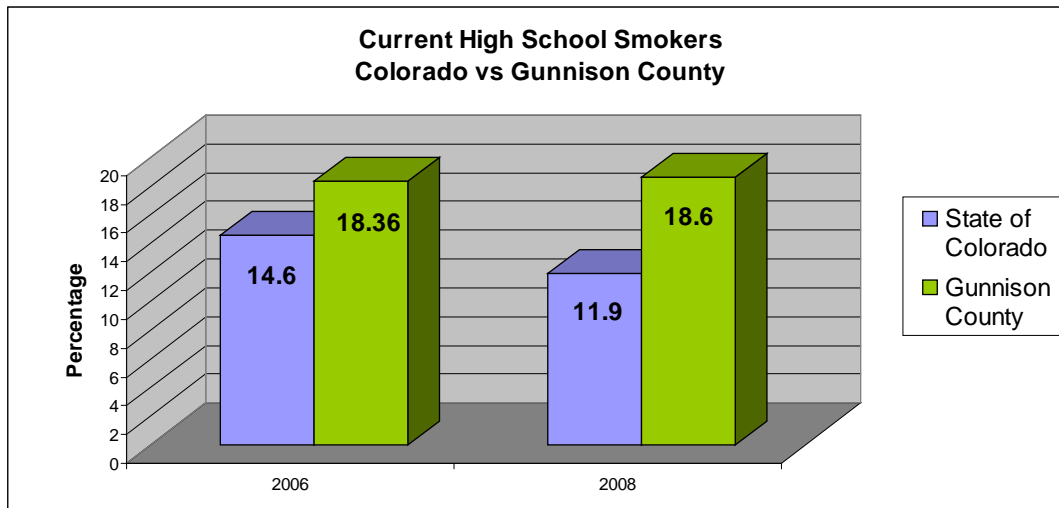


## The Problem:

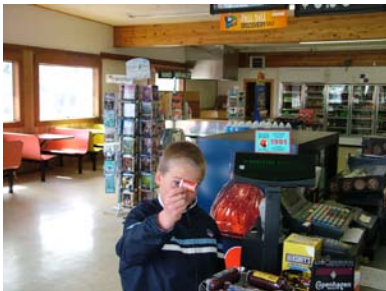
Too many underage youth in Gunnison are using tobacco products.

What does this look like in Gunnison?



Data Sources: Colorado Youth Tobacco Attitudes and Behavior Survey, 2006, 2008, Gunnison County Healthy Kids Colorado Survey 2006, 2008.

The Smokers' Corner by Gunnison High School models negative behavior for Elementary and Middle School students. Letting youth openly smoke sends a message of social acceptance.



Allowing tobacco products to be as accessible as candy in a store normalizes tobacco products, encourages use and increases access.

**The Policy Solution:** Make it more difficult for youth to access tobacco products.

- 1) Enact consequences for tobacco or nicotine use by minors in public. Penalties could include: participation in a tobacco educational program (including a fine to pay for it), community service, and parental notification.
- 2) Pass local ordinance requiring tobacco retailers to place tobacco and nicotine products behind the counter.