



aktionszentrum@forum-rauchfrei.de
www.forum-rauchfrei.de

Anschrift u. Sprecher

Aktionszentrum Forum Rauchfrei
Mühlenhoffstr.17 · 10967 Berlin
☎ (030)74755922 Fax (030)74755925

Johannes Spatz 017624419964
Dr. Henry Stahl ☎ (030)86560807

Press Release

July 5th, 2010

Great Success for Non-Smokers' Rights in Bavaria

In Bavaria corner bars, restaurants and marquees are completely smokefree from now on. Johannes Spatz, spokesman of Forum Rauchfrei, congratulates the Bavarians to their great success for the protection of non-smokers. "The Bavarian example encourages others, to fight for a smokefree gastronomy in Berlin and other federal states of Germany."

A strict protection of non-smokers does not only lead to less secondhand smoke but also reduces smoking itself and its harmful effects on people's health such as the growing number of heart attacks.

Protection of non-smokers without exception does not mean patronising smokers but protecting children from secondhand smoke. Non-smokers are not forced to inhale smoke. And employees in gastronomical establishments are not exposed to the high health risks of secondhand smoke.

Many studies have shown, that a smoking ban does not lead to an economic downturn in gastronomy. Of all German states, Bavaria serves as good example for this. When the CSU (Christian Social Union) started out to establish a complete smoking ban in gastronomic establishments, business went slightly up, as all of a sudden whole families could visit pubs and restaurants without risking their health.

At first there were fears, that the Bavarian non-smoking activists would not stand a chance, as the opposing campaign received a lot of financial help from the tobacco industry. However these fears did not come true.

Forum Rauchfrei is planning to intensify its fight for non-smokers' rights in Berlin now. "Berlin is not only the capital of Germany, it is also the capital of cigarette production in Germany with Philip morris producing 65 billion cigarettes in the city each year," Spatz says. And with a rate of about 27 per cent of its citizens it is also the capital of smokers.