

NEWSREEL

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Programmanus

av Carrie Morrison

Hi, and welcome to Newsreel. I'm Carrie Morrison. Coming up:

- Should smoking be made illegal for young people?

Sarah: *Whilst I do agree that there should be reforms to smoking in the UK today, we should have the freedom of choice to choose whether we want to do it or not.*

But first...

Environmental News

Scientists have revealed that Europe is the fastest-warming continent on earth.

Globally, 2023 was the hottest year ever recorded but research shows that Europe is getting warmer twice as fast as the global average.

Sea temperatures are also rising. In June last year, there was what's known as an extreme marine heatwave around the UK, when temperatures were 5 degrees Celsius above normal.

And scientists warn that warmer seas will lead to even more extreme weather – with more thunderstorms and rain.

Banning smoking versus freedom of choice

Now, we all know that smoking is very bad for your health – but should it be banned for young people?

The UK government is introducing a new law aimed at creating what it calls a “smoke-free generation”. Under the new law, each year the legal age for buying cigarettes – which at the moment is 18 - will increase by one year.

This would mean that smoking will be effectively banned for anyone born after 2009.

Here's the Health Minister Victoria Atkins talking to Sky News about the law.

Victoria Atkins: *So, what we want to do is to stop children from taking up smoking. We know from the statistics that most smokers start before the age of 20. And there is nothing freeing about an addiction to nicotine.*

But some politicians oppose the new law. They say people should be able to choose for themselves whether they smoke or not. So, what do young people in the UK think about this? I've been finding out – I first spoke to Sarah.

to reveal

att avslöja

to record

att registrera

average

snitt

to rise

att stiga

to lead

att leda

thunderstorm

åskväder

to ban

att förbjuda

to aim at

att ta sikta på

smoke-free

rökfri

to increase

att öka

to effectively ban

totalförbjuda

to take up

att starta, att börja

addiction

beroende

Carrie: Sarah, what do you think about the government's plans on smoking?

Sarah: *I don't agree with the government's plans about effectively banning smoking for young people.*

Carrie: Why not?

Sarah: *Whilst I do agree that there should be reforms to smoking in the UK today, such as making cigarettes more expensive. I do think that there's been a reduction in people smoking in my age group as not many of my friends smoke. However, I still do think we should have the freedom of choice to choose whether we want to do it or not.*

Carrie: So you think people should be able to decide for themselves whether they smoke or not?

Sarah: *I think there should be a balance in the way in which the government advises us to live our lives and the way in which we choose to live our lives. I think there should be sort of a medium between both of them. I would still agree that young people should have the choice about whether they would like to smoke or not like to smoke.*

Carrie: I also spoke with Billy.

Billy: *I think it is a good idea in theory. You know, marketing for nicotine has targeted children as far back as the 1950s. So, you know, what they see is cool. They didn't have the hindsight to realise that they'll soon just be chemically addicted to it.*

Carrie: And what do you say to the argument that people should have the freedom to choose whether they smoke or not?

Billy: *Well, freedom of choice, yes. But, more accurately, it's freedom to harm yourself, in this context. You are fighting for your right to be addicted to something that kills you slowly. That's not a right to fight for. I think the same conversation should be had for health care, for housing, for... for so many things. I think this is the conversations that should be challenging, not whether or not you can vape grape soda.*

Thank you to Sarah and Billy.

South Asian music at Glastonbury

[Little Miss Dynamite by Anish Kumar]

That was Little Miss Dynamite by Anish Kumar.

Anish is one of the artists who will play at this year's Glastonbury Festival, on a stage featuring South Asian music.

This will be the first time the festival has had a stage dedicated to British Asian music.

That's all for this week.

I'll be back on May 18th.

Goodbye!

expensive
dyr
reduction in
minskning av
freedom of choice
frihet att välja
to decide for oneself
att bestämma själva

to advise
att ge råd
medium
medelväg

to target
att rikta sig in på
hindsight
efterklokhet

to harm oneself
att skada sig själv
to be addicted
att vara beroende

Glastonbury Festival
välkänd engelsk musikfestival
stage
scen