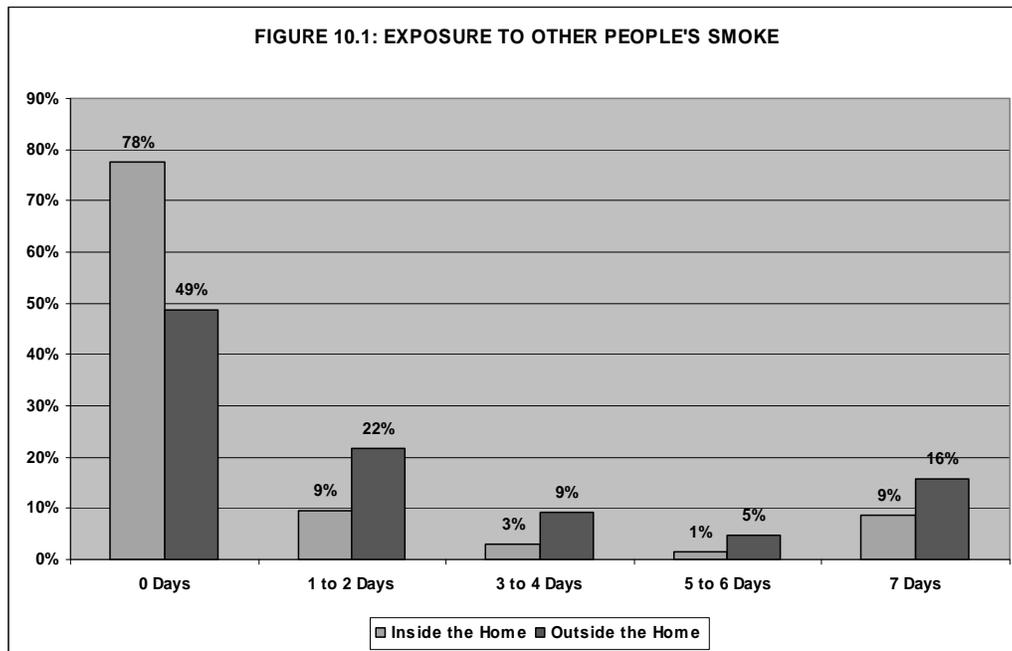


10.0: EXPOSURE TO OTHER PEOPLE'S SMOKING:

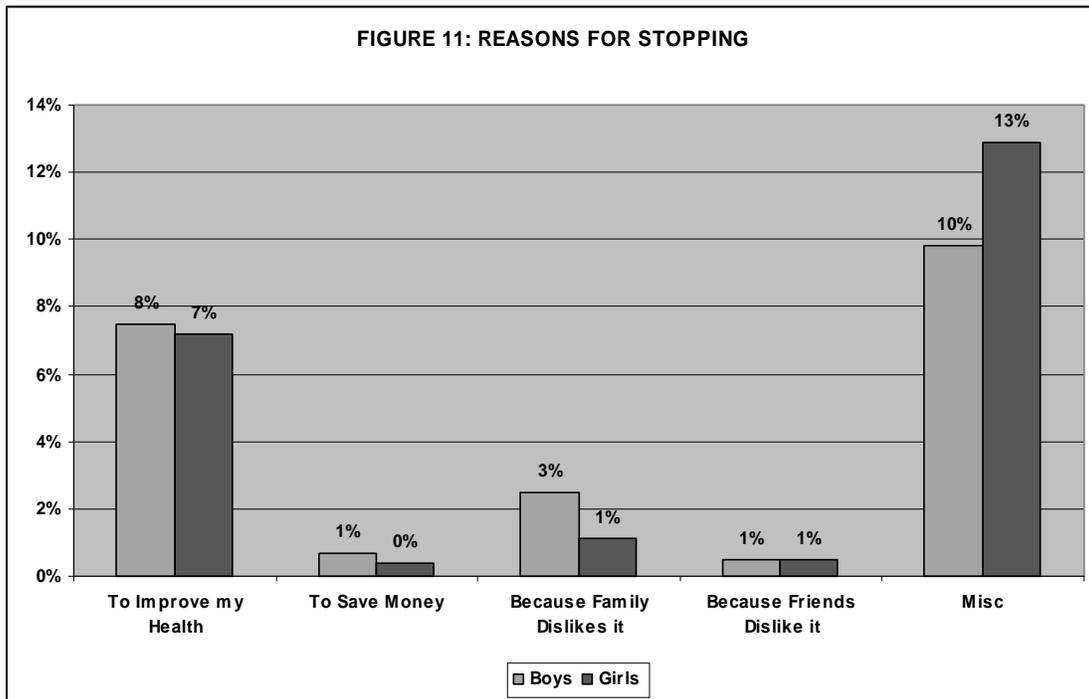
Students were exposed to more smokers outside of the home according to figure 10.1 however, an apparent trend emerges since exposure to smokers seems to be more likely on a daily basis, or to happen on one or two days a week. These data are not dissimilar to those from 1999, when almost identical levels of exposure were encountered and this supports the suggestion that while smoking among students is down, this is not necessarily the case for the adult population. In response to a related question, a majority of students (77%) supported the banning of smoking in public places and this is 2% reduction from 1999.



11.0: ATTITUDE TOWARDS QUITTING:

The survey raised several issues regarding the attitude of smokers towards the discontinuation of their smoking. Only 8.5% of persons in the sample were qualified to respond to this question since these had smoked in the last year. In this group of smokers, 54% indicated that they attempted to stop smoking in the last year, while 46% made no such attempt. Among those who already stopped smoking, the largest group (38%) had done so over three years before the survey had been administered.

As can be seen from figure 11, health concerns were the major reasons both boys (8%) and girls (7%) stopped smoking. It was noteworthy that family disapproval outranked the disapproval of friends as a motivation to stop. This suggests that peer pressure was not a significant influence in the discontinuation of the smoking habit. The rationale behind discontinuation is not dissimilar to that detected in 1999, however, on this occasion more students have identified other “miscellaneous” reasons for the discontinuation of their smoking habit.



Students who were still active smokers were asked if they felt that they could stop smoking if they wanted to and only 1% indicated that they did not think that they could stop smoking. The remainder were confident that they could stop (10%), if and when they wanted to. Additionally, a large number of students (16%) indicated that they had stopped smoking already.

In this section, students were also asked about the extent to which they have received help in their quest to stop smoking, as distinct from an inquiry into the impact of such advice. Here 8% indicated that they received such advice and the largest segment of that group received help from friends (4%). This was the case with boys and girls from all age groups.