

Good evening everyone and thank you for having me here today.

My name is Brandon, I am 16 years old and a sophomore in high school and work as a undercover decoy in Alameda County, and a member of HCHY.
~~Last year on December 18, 2013;~~

I was called on to assist the Hayward Police Department on an undercover decoy Operation. On that day we had visited about 5 shops and cited 4 whom sold electronic cigarettes to me. My collaboration with the Hayward Police was not only an eye opener but it is something I did to help the community, hoping one day these vendors will realize selling tobacco to under age minors is something that they should change. Products like these can affect minors greatly creating addictions in the future. Participating in the operations brought me to many different situations, which had shown that many of the vendors do not realize what they are promoting. On one operation which had surprised me the most was when I had a man tell me to try the product in front of him, I had gotten out of the situation still managing to obtain the product.

After that experience I had found out that they do not know the importance of the affects that it can cause to minors, many of these products were easily obtainable for me, so easy that it could be obtained by many other minors. Just recently I was called out on another operation where I had encountered more retail establishments who sold tobacco and electronic cigarettes to me. I have heard that electronic cigarettes are helping adults quit the addiction of cigarettes, but in my experience I have seen many teens at my school using these products not adults. I don't know of a single teenager using this product to quit smoking. Having these establishments are very appealing to minors and starting to interest teens more and more.

Going on the undercover decoy operations has given me an understanding of how easily these products are obtainable but also makes me want to participate in more community work in the future with various departments and contribute my time in helping and preventing these problems.

Good evening my name is Jocelyn Bonilla Araujo, I'm 16 years old, and I'm currently a junior at ~~San Francisco High School~~ and a member of HCHY. The past two years I being part of the group called Under Cover Decoys. A Decoy is a minor who goes inside stores and try's to buy tobacco products undercover with Law Enforcement. Being a Decoy has impacted my life, now I'm trying to inform communities all over Alameda about all the kinds of tobacco products, and sharing all my experiences to make a better and safer place for kids, and teens just like myself. I've done more than 10 operations in areas and cities all over Alameda County; one of those operations was (here) in ~~Union City~~ ^{Hayward}, where I went inside a small market and I was sold a Camel Blue because the store clerk didn't understand English, and didn't know how to check my ID. One experience that I would never forget was when an unnamed law enforcement officer took me, and another peer to a Hookah lounge (bar) ^{in Hayward}. When we entered the place, the person in charge didn't even bother to ask for our credentials or ask for our age. We were inside for 45 min waiting for the person in charge of the store to provide us with a pipe and all the hookah accessories, ~~and causing~~ ^{which caused} secondhand smoke. At the end the person was cited by law enforcement for letting minors inside the location and for not asking for IDs. Another experience was when I went inside a liquor store and asked for an e-cigarette, also the store clerk didn't ask for my age or ID. He was also cited, but this time for selling a tobacco product to a minor. I would like to highlight that e-cigarettes and hookah pens are ~~becoming~~ ^{& encourage them} a huge problem among teens. I would like to Thank City Council ~~for sending the ordinance to~~ ^{to extend the moratorium} ~~include regulations on e-cigarettes as tobacco products and to ban~~ ^{on} Hookah Lounges, vapor lounges, and e-cigarette lounges.