

French Accessory

This project's aim is to document a prominent habit of Parisians, smoking. It is an obvious yet subtle accessory of their lives. Tabac signs are protruding out of buildings, cigarettes are resting in the mouths of every other adult, and are found scattered across the streets of Paris.

Some people are proud smokers, some people are not, and some just smoke with a drink. Each person has a different relationship with their cigarette. Is it to feel cool, or is it a reminder of a shameful habit?

The war on tobacco is a difficult one. People claim their addiction is difficult to overcome, but others have no desire to quit. Some have even switched teams.

Passport Photo



Smoke Break



Downward View



Birds use cigarette butts for chemical warfare against ticks

Is this a cigarette habit with some benefits? A species of urban bird seems to harness the toxic chemicals in cigarette butts in its fight against nest parasites – although there is a downside to the practice.

Constantino Macías Garcia at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, and his colleagues, have spent several years studying the curious cigarette habit in urban house finches (*Carpodacus mexicanus*). Initial evidence hinted that nicotine and other chemicals in the butts might help deter insect pests from moving into the nests – nicotine does have anti-parasite properties – but it wasn't conclusive.

To firm up the conclusion, Macías Garcia and his team experimented

with 32 house finch nests. One day after the eggs in the nest had hatched, the researchers removed the natural nest lining and replaced it with artificial felt, to remove any parasites that might have moved in during brooding. They then added live ticks to 10 of the nests, dead ticks to another 10 and left 12 free of ticks.

They found that the adult finches were significantly more likely to add cigarette butt fibres to the nest if it contained ticks. What's more, the weight of cigarette butt material added to nests containing live ticks was, on average, 40 per cent greater than the weight of cigarette butt material added to nests containing dead ticks.

Fertilising Chemicals



Yellow Bic



Innovative thinking:

The results suggest that the finches are using the cigarette butts to “medicate” their nests against the ticks, says Macías Garcia. “Ectoparasites such as ticks and mites cause damage to finches – for example, eating their feathers and sucking their blood,” he says.

“It’s fascinating, and an exciting example of animals being innovative and making use of the materials available to them,” says Steve Portugal at Royal Holloway, University of London.

However, Macías Garcia’s earlier studies suggest the habit is harmful too. “The butts cause [genetic] damage to finches by interfering with cell division, which we assessed by looking at their red blood cells,” he says.

“I think the anti-parasite effects the cigarette butts provide must outweigh any negative problems they cause,” says Portugal. “Alternatively, the genotoxic effects take longer to manifest, and the adult birds aren’t aware of any problem.”

By Natasha Khaleeq

Formal Stroll



Hard Worker



Metro Roller



Attempts by the French government to discourage the population from smoking appear to have burnt out as new figures reveal a rise in the number of smokers.

It's perhaps a cliché that the French love their cigarettes, but as they say, there's no smoke without fire.

In fact new figures reveal that even despite the French government's controversial efforts to turn the population off cigarettes, the number of people smoking has gone up.

Since France introduced a ban on branded cigarettes in January 2017, more packets of cigarettes have been sold compared to last year when branding was allowed, according to the country's Customs Office (L'administration des Douanes).

In March alone the French bought four million packets of cigarettes, over four percent more than during the same period last year.

Throughout the first four months of 2017, the French shipped over 1 percent more tobacco products into the country than they did in the same period of 2016, officials say.

French health authorities have however dismissed the significance of the figures.

"The neutral packet is aimed at changing tobacco's image and is principally aimed at younger people. Its impact on consumption will only become apparent in the medium or

Trash Tray



Leftovers



long term future,” said a statement from the Health Ministry’s General Directorate of Health (DGS).

“Most current tobacco consumers are already dependent and the change in packaging alone will not encourage them to stop smoking, even if it can contribute to this,” it added.

And while tobacco consumption seems to be on the rise, an increasing proportion of the French intend to quit. According to the Office of Drugs and Addictions in France, sales in nicotine patches and chewing gum has increased by 29 percent since last year.

When neutral, brand-less packaging was introduced at the start of this year it cost the French state around €100 million to reimburse tobacco businesses for the loss of 15 million branded cigarettes that they were no

longer able to sell. Smoking is a factor in around 78,000 deaths in France each year - making it the leading cause of premature death in the country. Around a quarter of adults and a third of teenagers indulge in the habit, according to World Health Organization figures.

By Blyth Brentnall

Friends Part 1



Balcony Candid



Balcony Caught



Friends Part 2



Cigarette butts mixed with asphalt create new pavement material

Scientists at RMIT University are making good use of discarded butts. A team led by Abbas Mohajerani, RMIT senior lecturer, has figured out a way to make stronger asphalt pavement by mixing in cigarette butts. They found that encapsulating the butts in paraffin wax and bitumen, a liquid binder, prevents chemicals in the cigarette butts from seeping into the asphalt.

And once the material is used in pavement, the research team found it could not only handle heavy traffic, but it also reduced heat generated from the sun beating down on black asphalt—an effect known as the urban heat island effect.

In their paper, the authors describe two experiments—one that analyzes effects of using different amounts of cigarette butts encapsulated with different classes of bitumen mixed with asphalt concrete made with class 170 bitumen. In the other study, they analyzed the results of mixing 10 kg/m³ of cigarette butts—encapsulated in paraffin wax only—into asphalt concrete made with class 170 and class 320 bitumen.

After conducting various tests on the samples, they determined that the butts encapsulated with bitumen and mixed with class 170 bitumen provided better results

Concrete Lake



Natural Butts



for handling heavy traffic than the paraffin-encapsulated butts mixed with c170 and c320 bitumen. The paraffin-encapsulated butts were only able to support light traffic conditions.

This isn't the first time Mohajerani has experimented with cigarette butts. Last year his team demonstrated that incorporating butts into clay bricks reduced the energy needed to fire the bricks by up to 58%.

"Encapsulated cigarette butts developed in this research will be a new construction material which can be used in different applications and lightweight composite products," Mohajerani says in RMIT University's news release. "This research shows that you can create a new construction material while

ridding the environment of a huge waste problem."

Their paper, published in Construction and Building Materials, is "Physico-mechanical properties of asphalt concrete incorporated with encapsulated cigarette butts" (DOI: 10.1016/j.conbuildmat.2017.07.091).

By Faye Oney

Saturday Fun



Texting Lost



Smoking Found



Second Hand



Tabac Shop Across the Street

Outside the tabac on the left sitting down are two men around early 30s smoking and talking.

On the right two old women smoking and conversing as well.

Inside the tabac is one man walking around looking for something and two men talking and drinking inside.

The walking man heads towards the door and stops and stares at me setting the frame and taking notes.

Two young women pass by the tabac from the left.

The staring man moves towards the counter.

One girl walks by the tabac from the right.

The two men inside leave money on the counter as they walk out. The two sitting men watch them leave.

A car passes by from the right.

The two men leaving say bonsoir to the old ladies sitting outside and enter the apartment building next door.

Man on his phone walking fast from the left and passes tabac.

SUV passes from the right and stops next to my frame across the tabac.

Motorcycle zips by the tabac from the right.

Smoking Logo



Secondary Logo



Man walks by from the right putting money in his wallet as he passes by the tabac.

The two men sitting look at him as he passes by.

Man gets out of his SUV and asks if the car is mine. I respond no. He says Pardon and leaves to the tabac wearing a polo shirt. Takes out his wallet.

Car passes from the right.

Another young man with a blue hat leaves the store looking left and right and stands.

Another old man enters the tabac.

From the two men sitting down, one stands and enters the tabac.

Motorcycle parks coming from the right, talks to the blue hat person and indicated him to come in.

Everyone in the tabac is at the counter.

Blue hat man waiting at the door.

The man sitting outside leaning looking inside for his friend.

Blue hat man enters the store again.

Young lady with green coat enters the store and another man inside says bonsoir to her. The man outside watches her enter while still smoking what seems to be his third cigarette. The lady enters to the back of the store.

The men inside are chatting at the counter.

A man with a hat passes by the tabac from the right looks inside and continues walking.

The Motorcycle man leaves with his helmet and talks to the man sitting outside looking at the table.

Van passes from the right.

Young woman passes from the left.

The sitting outside man's friend leaves the store and sits back with his friend. Motorcycle man still standing next to them talking to them. They seem to know each other already.

The employee inside tidying up his store.

Woman passes store from the left.

Motorcycle passes from the right followed by a car.

One man inside sitting at the counter.

Employee enters the back room of the store.

A couple with a baby stroller pass the store from the left.

Car passes form the right.

Woman Employee fixes her hair in the store mirror.

Motorcycle passes by from the right.

Woman goes to the back room of the store.

Two kids approach the two men sitting down and point.
Motorcycle man leaves the two and stands by the road.
The two kids approach the two men trying to take a cigarette. One

of the men stands and leaves. The motorcycle man goes back to the table. He talks to one of the kids and the other kid leaves.

The Women Employee gets a bucket and starts cleaning.

The kid points to the left shouting.

Man passes by from the left and looks into the tabac.

A woman with a purple coat exits the store looking around seems lost.

The polo man leaves the store and enters back to his car, waves his hand at me goodbye.

The purple coated woman looks at me then enters back to the store.

Jogger passes by from the right.

Bicycle passes by from the left followed by a scooter.

Person passes by from the left and looks into the store.

One of the old ladies sitting down outside gets up and enters the store and talks to the counter.

Car passes from the right.

Scooter passes from the right.

Old lady leaves store empty handed and sits back down with her friend.

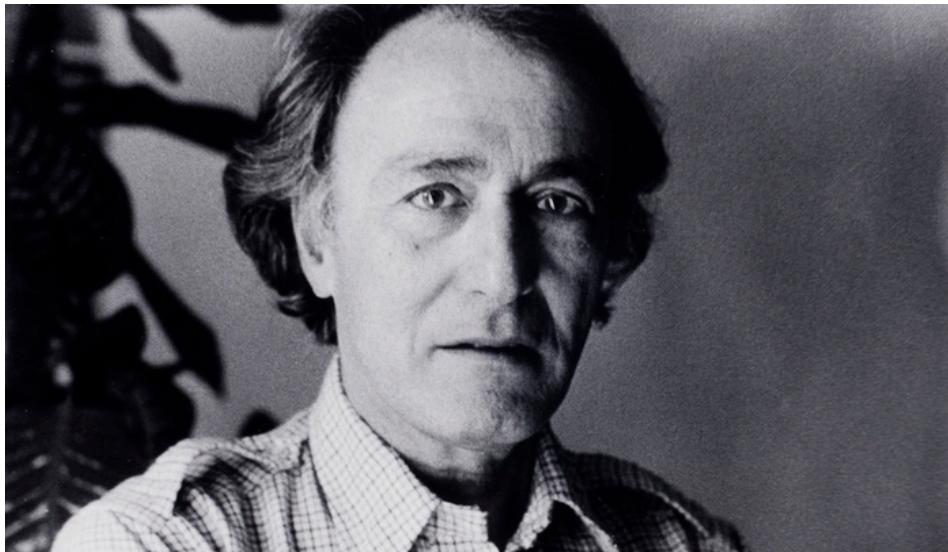
Kid comes running from the right talking to the men sitting down.

Another person enters the store from the right.

Kid walks away to the left.

References

William Klein

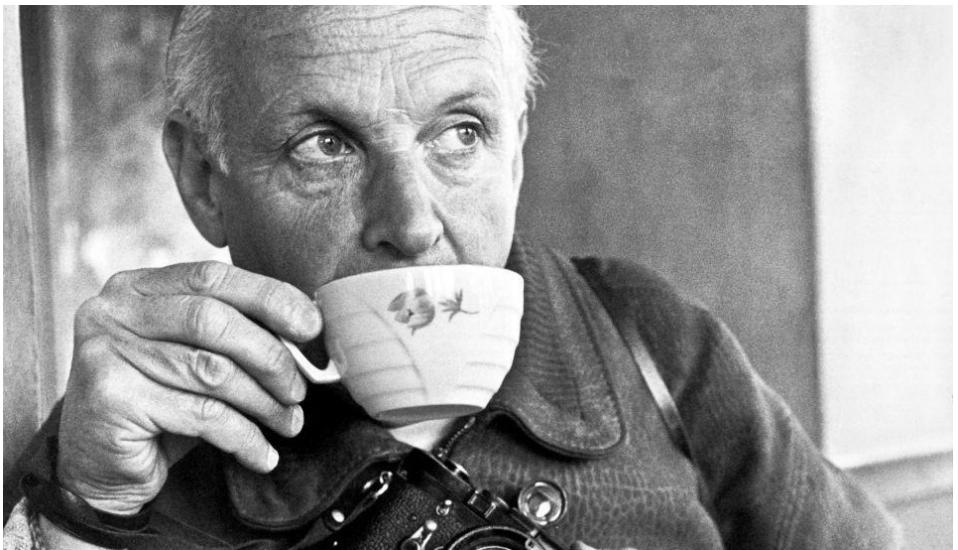


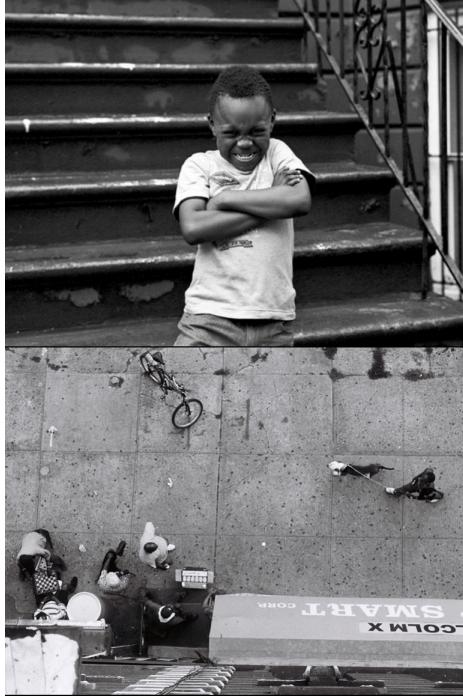


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