Commercial Tobacco Use Among Native 2SLGBTQ+

Colonization outlawed several forms of free expression related to Native culture, tradition, gender, and sexuality including Two-Spirit traditions and the use of ceremonial tobacco. Many issues stemming from the effects of colonization continue to negatively impact the Native 2SLGBTQ+ community, including:

- **Big Tobacco**
  - Native 2SLGBTQ+ are targeted more by big tobacco marketing (Source: Acosta-Deprez et al. (2021))

- **Health Care and Support**
  - Lack of robust healthcare services and support have impacted health outcomes (Source: Ridings et al. (2016))

- **Racism and Discrimination**
  - Racial discrimination continues to influence the increased commercial tobacco use among the Native 2SLGBTQ+ community (Source: Johnson-Jennings et al. (2014))

Because of these factors:

- Native people have higher rates of smoking compared to other ethnic groups (Source: CDC)
- Two-Spirit individuals have higher daily smoking rates compared to others (Source: Johnson-Jennings, 2014)
- Two-Spirit individuals are 1.5 - 2.5X more likely to smoke cigarettes than straight individuals (Source: Truth Initiative)

If you are interested in quitting or need more information visit AICAF.org or the American Indian Quitline at 1-833-9AI-QUIT (1-833-924-7848).