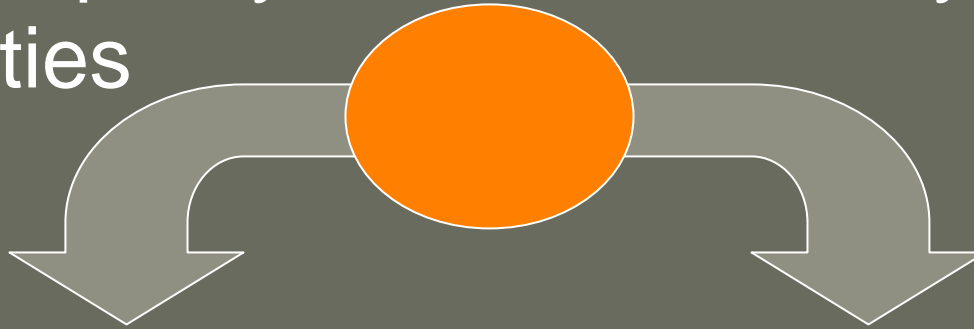


Smoking & Obesity

Lifestyle or Public Health Problem

Health policy includes a variety of activities




Public Health

- Focus on population
- Sanitation
- Disease control
- Infant mortality
- Nutrition
- Occupational health
- Environmental health

Health Care

- Focus on treatment of the individual
- Access
- Service delivery
- Standards for practice and treatment
- Funding
- Accountability

Decisions...Decisions

	Individual Decisions I can choose, alone & without interference	Collective Decisions Choices are made by the community & are binding on all
Private Decisions My choice has no consequence for your welfare	<i>Liberty of the Individual:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should I smoke? • How much should I weigh? 	<i>Tyranny of the Majority:</i>
Public Decisions My choices affect your welfare	<i>Theft by the Minority:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoking in public places • Health care for the morbidly obese. For smokers? 	<i>Liberty of the Group:</i> 



Smoking

Personal Right or Public Menace?

Consequences of Smoking

- Almost 500,000 deaths per year
- 30% of all cancers
 - Lung, kidney, pancreas, cervix, stomach
- heart disease
- Emphysema
- Stroke

Impact on Non-Smokers

- ~50,000/yr die from secondary smoke effects
 - 40,000 from coronary disease

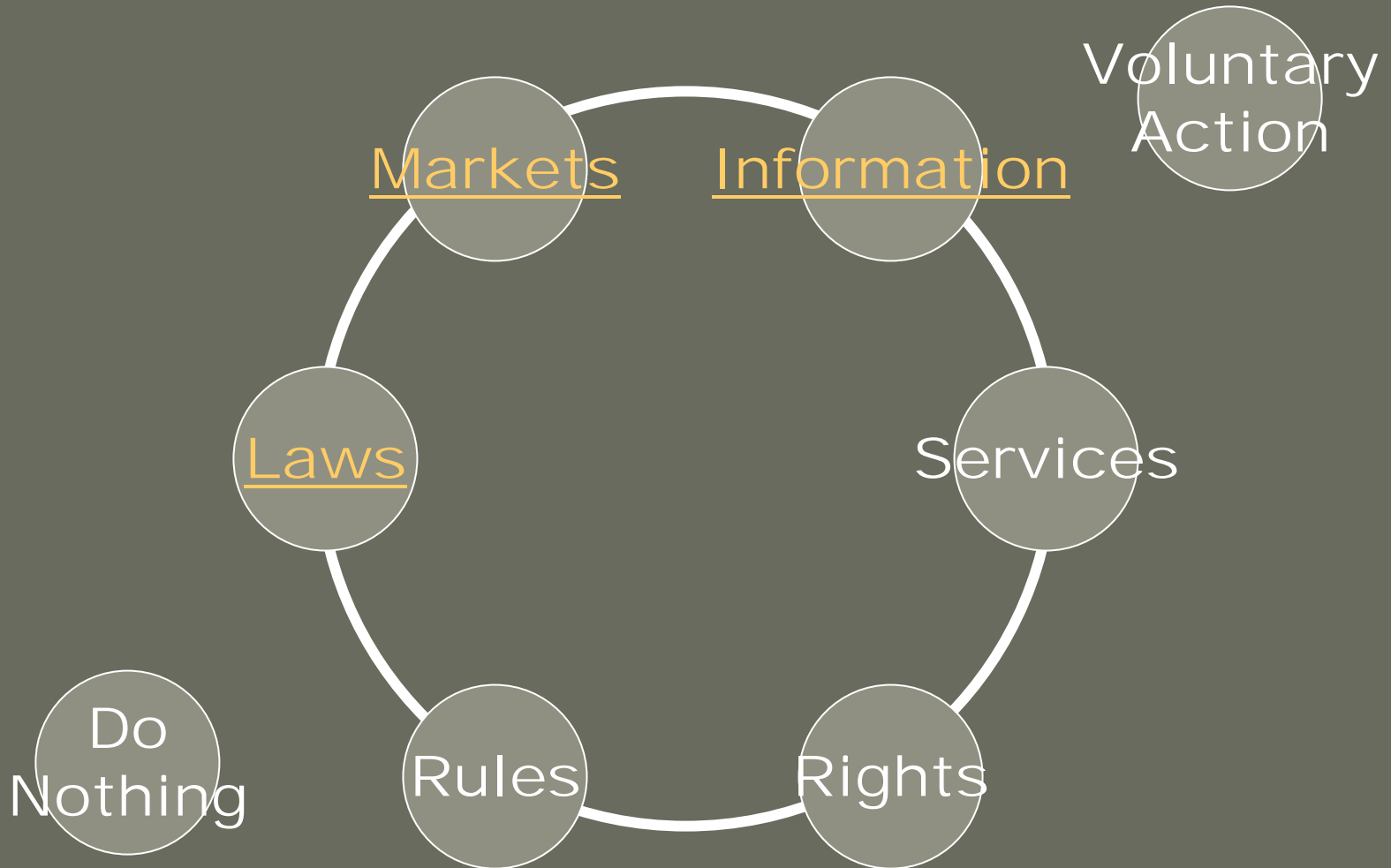
Financial Costs of Smoking

- > \$80 billion/yr in direct health costs
 - \$4 billion/yr lost wages
- Smoking is responsible for approximately 10% of total U.S. health care costs.
- Federal and state funds pay more than 43% of all smoking-attributable medical care expenditures.

Smoking

- Is it a public problem? Should government get involved?
 - Why? Why not?
 - What is the *public interest* in this issue?
- What kinds of action are acceptable?
 - By government?
 - By other groups?
 - By individuals?
- How should we balance public concern and involvement versus individual choice and individual liberty/responsibility?

Forms of Government Action



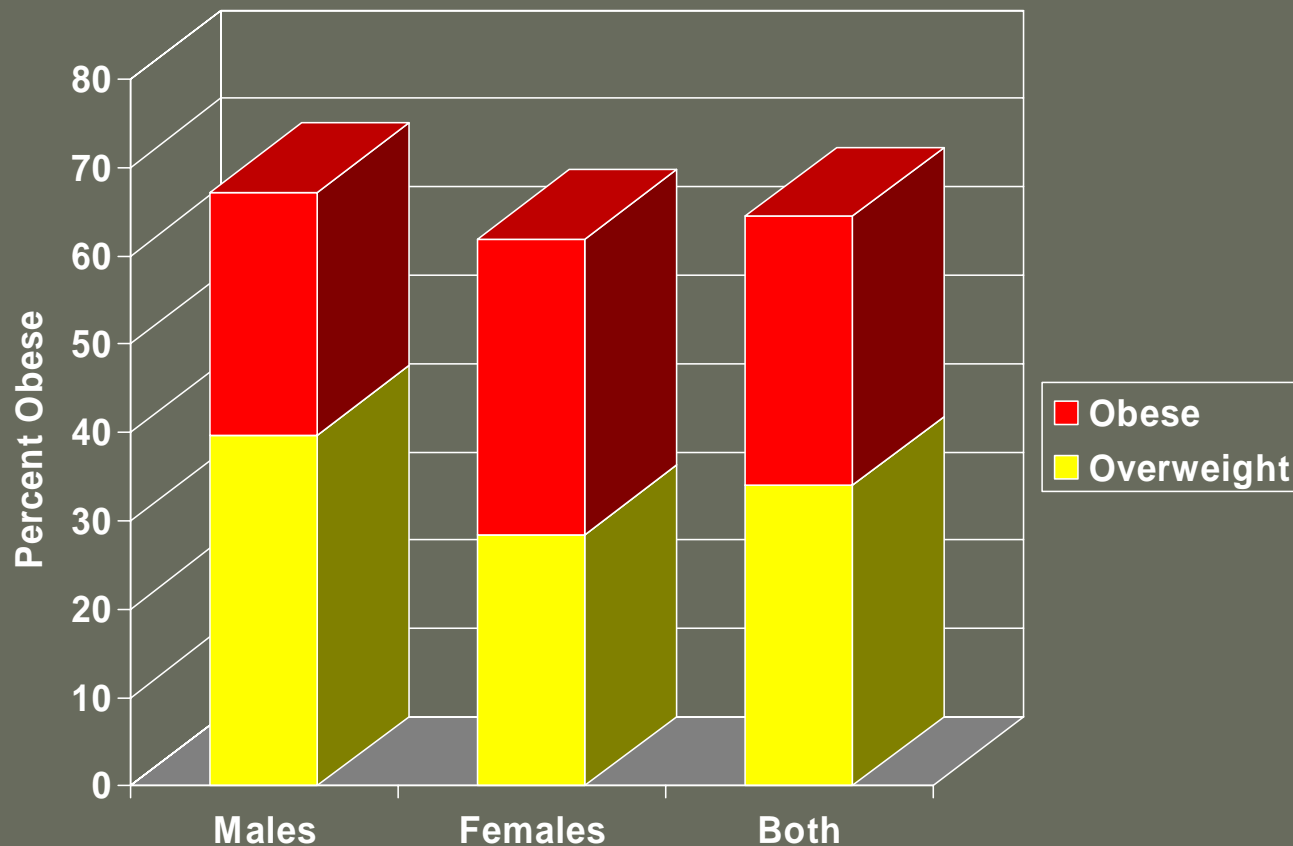
Obesity

Lifestyle Choice or Public Burden?

Overweight vs. Obesity

- Overweight: BMI >25
- Obese: BMI > 30
- Percentage of American Adults Overweight
 - 1960 – 2004: stable ~ 32%
- Percentage of Americans Adults Obese
 - 1960 = 13%
 - 2004 $> 31\%$
- Percentage of American Children Overweight
 - ~15%

Overweight & Obese American Adults over Age 20



Causes of Obesity

- Genetic factors
- Environmental factors
- Psychological factors
- Disease

Consequences of Obesity

- type 2 diabetes
- heart disease
- high blood pressure
- Stroke
- Cancer risk
- Psychological & social effects

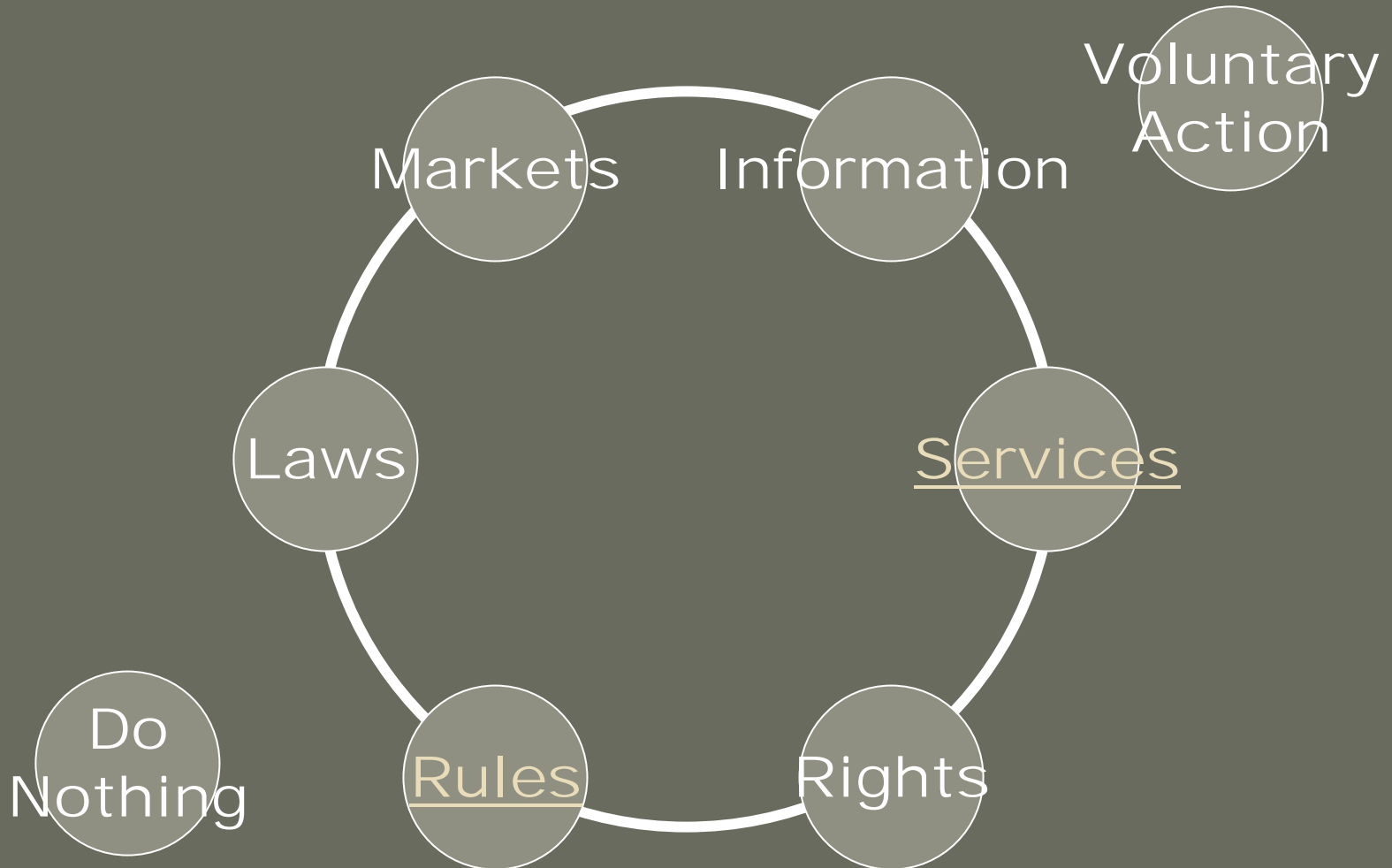
Costs of Obesity

- ~ 300,000 deaths per year
- ~ \$100 billion in health care costs
 - ~\$4 billion in lost wages

Obesity

- Is it a public problem? Should government get involved?
 - Why? Why not?
 - What is the *public interest* in this issue?
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Forms of Government Action

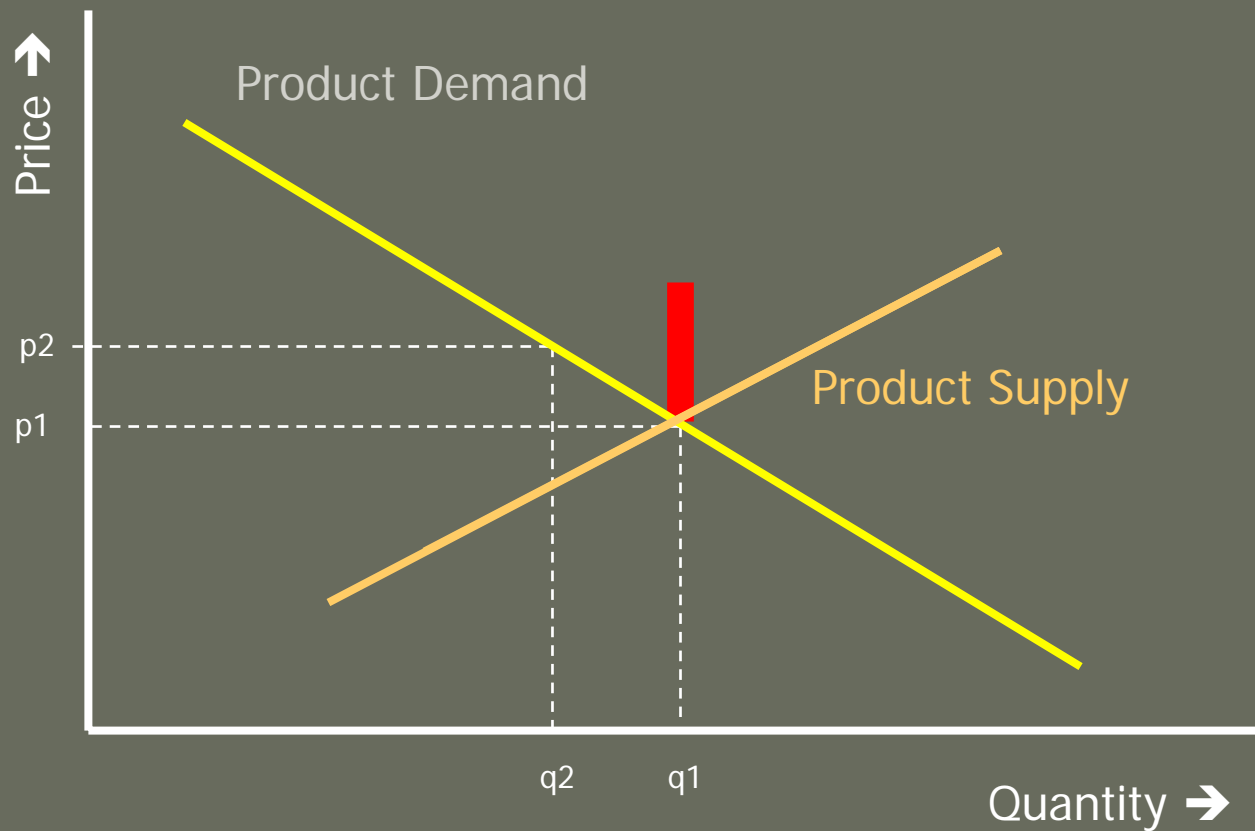


Anti-Smoking Laws

- Ban smoking in specific settings
 - Public buildings & places
 - Government buildings
 - Schools
 - Private spaces
 - Bars & restaurants
 - hospitals

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Affecting Markets: Anti-Smoking Taxes



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Government Services

- Science Funding
 - Therapies
 - Drugs
- Subsidize School Nutrition Programs

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