

Recommendations Regarding the Tattoo Industry in Allegheny County

University of Pittsburgh
HPM 2133: Law in Public Health Practice
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Figure 1 HPM 2133 Spring 2015 course flier



HPM 2133: LAW IN PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

An interdisciplinary course for law and public health students

2 CREDITS
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Table of Contents

Executive Summary	5
Overview of Body Art	6
Body Art in Allegheny County	7
Approach and Methodology	8
Logic Model	8
Research Methodology.....	9
Research Findings	10
Body Art Regulations in Other Jurisdictions	10
Body Art Regulations in Pennsylvania	11
Health Impact of Tattooing	11
Survey Results	13
Additional Stakeholder Input.....	14
Justification for ACHD Action	16
Recommendations for the Allegheny County Health Department.....	17
Overview of Recommendations.....	17
Formation of a Body Art Advisory Board.....	17
Development of an Internal Resource Bank.....	18
Creation of an Educational Consumer Website.....	18
Marketing Educational Resources to Consumers	19
Conclusion	20
References.....	21
Appendices	23

Executive Summary

Over the past decade, the popularity of tattooing has increased, especially among younger demographics. While many states and cities in the United States regulate tattoo artists and parlors, currently, the only authority regulating the tattoo industry in Allegheny County is a state law that prohibits the tattooing of minors without parental consent. Other jurisdictions have implemented regulations, which include licensure, training, and inspection. In spite of these regulations, our research points to little evidence of a public health threat from established tattoo parlors and artists. The few documented cases of disease transmission from tattoo parlors are primarily related to bacteria in the ink, which was contaminated during the manufacturing process rather than in parlors. However, we found that tattooing performed by inexperienced artists outside of established parlors does lead to higher rates of disease transmission.

Although a comprehensive analysis of the health impact and potential regulations for the body art industry was beyond the scope of this project, we believe this report can inform the Allegheny County Health Department's future interactions with the body art community. We do not believe regulating tattoo parlors would significantly improve the health and safety of consumers because regulations would primarily impact established parlors. Instead, we propose an education campaign and community outreach efforts to educate consumers about best practices and risks associated with tattooing. Based on our research, we propose the following recommendations to ACHD:

1. The formation of a Body Art Advisory Board to facilitate communication and collaboration between ACHD and industry stakeholders
2. The development of an internal resource bank to manage data, trends, and other information related the industry
3. The creation of an educational website for consumers to inform them about risks associated with tattooing and proper aftercare practices
4. A marketing campaign to promote educational content to targeted demographics, such as college campuses

We would like to thank the Allegheny County Health Department for the opportunity to research this topic and present our findings and recommendations.

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Overview of Body Art

Body art is a form of artistic expression that involves modifying the human body. People of all ages, genders, races, socio-economic statuses, and backgrounds have practiced body art for thousands of years. The most common types of body art are body piercings and tattoos. However, there are more extreme types of body modifications such as subdermal implants, branding, and scarification (see **Appendix A** for body art definitions.) Motivations for getting body art vary greatly among individuals. Such art can convey artistic expression, membership to a group, or subjects of personal significance.

Early in our research, we sought to develop an understanding of the distinction between minimally invasive forms of body art, such as piercings and tattoos, and more extreme forms of modification, like subdermal implants and tongue splitting. We found that some jurisdictions rely on their states' medical licensing boards to provide guidance on procedures that should only be performed by medical professionals. For example, the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine defines cutting human tissue and inserting subdermal implants as "medical procedures," which may only be performed by licensed professionals (Model). The Pennsylvania Board of Medicine has a broader definition of "medicine and surgery" that does not clearly prohibit unlicensed individuals from performing extreme body modifications. However, through communication with professionals in the body art industry and anecdotal evidence, we concluded that extreme body modification was highly uncommon in Allegheny County and the public health risk from such procedures is minimal. Due to both the rarity of extreme body modification and our class's time limitations, we chose to concentrate our research and recommendations specifically on tattooing.

Tattooing has become an increasingly popular trend over the past decade. A 2012 Harris Interactive poll found that 21% of U.S. adults had at least one tattoo (Braverman). The poll also asked respondents demographic information to determine the characteristics of individuals who have tattoos. Women were slightly more likely than men to have at least one tattoo (23% compared to 19% of men) and those who lived in the West were more likely than those in the East, South, or Midwest to have a tattoo (26% compared to 21%, 21%, and 18% respectively). The researchers also recorded the age distributions of adults with tattoos for each year the poll was conducted (see Figure 2.)

Figure 2

Percentage of people having one or more tattoos:

Age	2003	2008	2012
18-24	13%	9%	22%
25-29	36%	32%	30%
30-39	28%	25%	38%
40-49	14%	12%	27%
50-64	10%	8%	11%
65+	7%	9%	5%

Source: Harris Interactive, 2012

Body Art in Allegheny County

Based on internet searches and communication with artists and parlor owners, we determined that there are approximately 88 tattoo parlors located in Allegheny County. The parlors are spread across the county, but most are located in Pittsburgh, specifically in the Southside, Oakland, and Lawrenceville neighborhoods. With the help of Timothy Azinger, a local tattoo artist and parlor owner, we sent electronic surveys to tattoo parlors in the county to learn more about the industry and gauge their views on regulation. Based on our survey, we believe there are an average of three artists working in each parlor, and we found that many parlors offer both piercing and tattooing. We did not find any parlors in Allegheny County that performed extreme body modifications.

Approach and Methodology

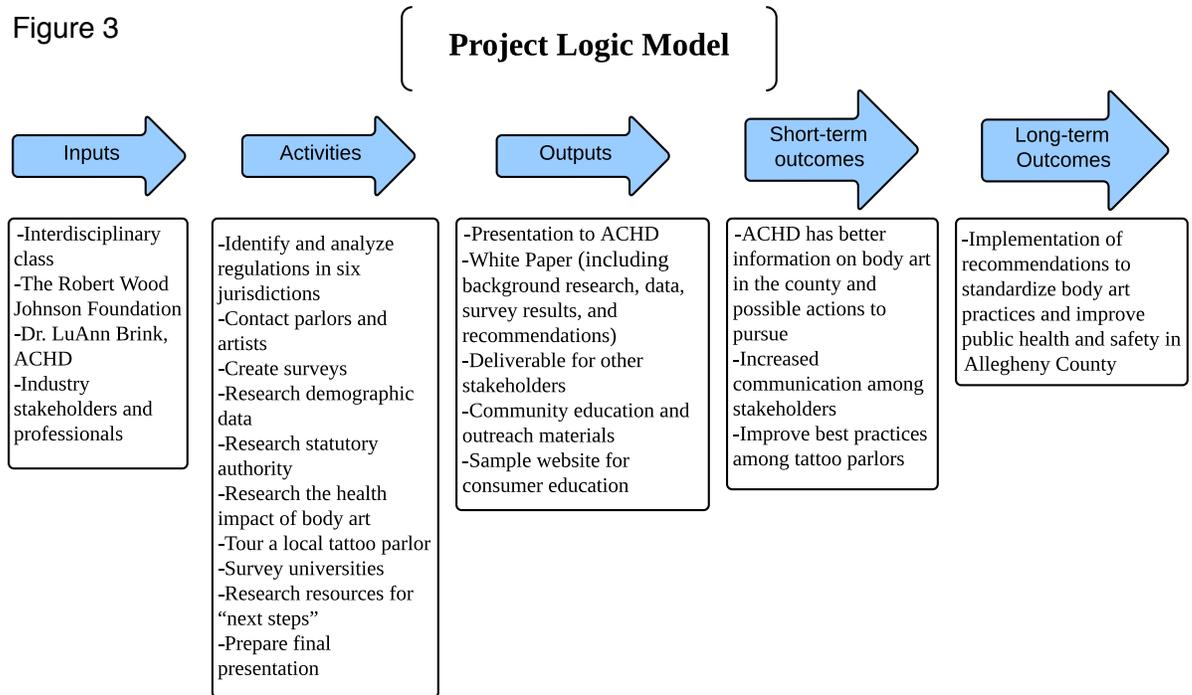
During the Spring semester of 2015, students in the University of Pittsburgh's *Law in Public Health Practice* course met once a week to research and formulate recommendations on the public health impact of body art (see **Appendix B** for course description). To develop evidence-based recommendations for ACHD on the body art industry in the county, we carefully organized our research and activities over the 16-week course, which culminated in the development of this report.

Logic Model

Figure 3 presents the logic model our class used to guide the progress of the project. The **inputs** include members of the interdisciplinary course *Law and Public Health Practice*, led by Professor Elizabeth Bjerke, JD (see **Appendix C** for class biographies), resources from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, guidance from LuAnn Brink, PhD, Chief Epidemiologist from ACHD, and input from body art industry stakeholders around the country. We conducted a variety of **activities** including researching the public health, legal, economic, and ethical dimensions of body art and conducting a survey of Allegheny County tattoo parlor owners and artists. Our **outputs** include a final presentation to ACHD, a summary of our research and recommendations, and a deliverable to present to stakeholders who participated in the development of this report.

We also identified several short and long-term **outcomes** for the project. In the short-term, our work has begun to facilitate communication among stakeholders in Allegheny County about the impact of body art practices on public health. Additionally, we hope the research and recommendations gathered in this report will help inform ACHD's next steps in determining how to regulate body art in the county. In the long-term, we hope our recommendations will standardize body art practices and improve body artists' and consumers' health and safety.

Figure 3



Research Methodology

After developing the logic model and a work plan, we began researching various dimensions of body art and public health and exploring different perspectives on the issue. Our approach to developing this report included researching the health impact of body art, reviewing other jurisdictions' body art regulations, and communicating with body art industry stakeholders for their input on the Health Department's interest in implementing regulations. Following is a summary of our research on other jurisdictions' tattoo regulations, the health impact of tattooing, the economic impact of regulation, and an overview of our communication with industry stakeholders.

Research Findings

Body Art Regulations in Other Jurisdictions

We focused our research on seven different jurisdictions that have independently implemented body art regulations: the District of Columbia, Philadelphia, Monongahela, New Jersey, Oregon, Virginia, and New York state. These jurisdictions vary greatly geographically and in their regulations' statuses, scopes, and implementation. While we are not making a recommendation that ACHD pursue its own system of county-level regulations at this time, these example regulations from other areas are helpful in evaluating how other jurisdictions have intervened in the body art industry (see **Appendix D** for comparison charts of sample state and city regulations).

Of the seven jurisdictions we studied, Virginia, Philadelphia, Monongahela, New Jersey, and Oregon have promulgated regulations, while New York and the District of Columbia are in the process of developing regulatory policy. The areas that these regulations have focused on can be broken down into several categories: licensing fees, education and certification, aftercare instructions, and compliance.

In the study jurisdictions, the average fee for individual tattoo licenses was \$55, while the average fee for tattoo parlor licenses was \$122.50. Licensing fees for individual operators range from \$25 in Monongahela to \$210 in Virginia. Licensing fees for tattoo shops range from \$100 in Philadelphia and Monongahela to \$190 in Virginia. All study jurisdictions require licensure through statutes or regulations.

Except for Monongahela, all jurisdictions that have promulgated regulations require an apprenticeship or schooling for new tattoo artists. Additionally, all jurisdictions except for New York, which has not yet developed regulations, require blood-borne pathogen training. Philadelphia, for example, requires a three-year apprenticeship, and Oregon offers a tattooing career school.

None of the study jurisdictions require standardized aftercare instructions. However, written and verbal instructions are required in Philadelphia, New Jersey, and Oregon. Virginia requires that written instructions be provided to clients. Monongahela requires that tattoo parlors have aftercare brochures or literature available.

We also analyzed compliance and sanctions provisions in each jurisdiction. In terms of compliance, most study jurisdictions authorize inspections. Common sanctions for violations include fines and licensure consequences.

Body Art Regulations in Pennsylvania

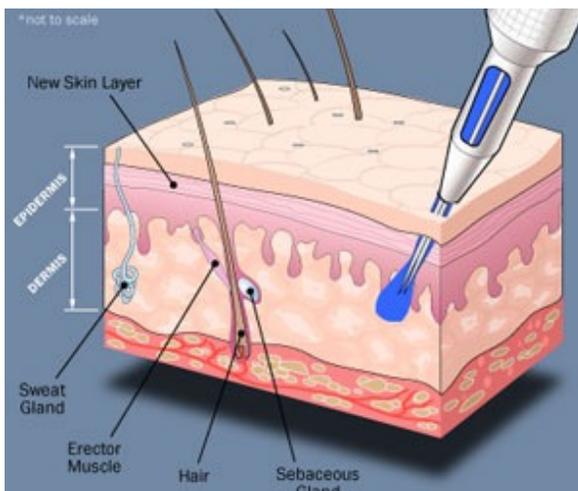
In Pennsylvania, body art is unregulated at the state-level, except for a law that makes tattooing or piercing a minor under the age of 18 without a parent's consent a third-degree misdemeanor (18 Pa.C.S.A. § 6311.) However, there are various tattoo regulations established at the county-level, such as Erie, and others established at the city-level, such as Harrisburg, Philadelphia, and Lancaster City. While one law regulating body art may seem negligible in comparison to some of Pennsylvania's neighboring states, recently there have been developments that may indicate the state is moving to regulate the body art industry.

In 2014, PA House Bill 1249, the short title of which reads, “[a]n act regulating tattoo, body-piercing and permanent cosmetic artists; limiting tongue splitting; providing for duties of the Department of Health; establishing the Body Art Regulation Fund; and imposing penalties,” was passed in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives by a vote of 181-16. After referral to the Pennsylvania Senate Health and Welfare Committee, HB 1249 was tabled and never became law. However, policy seeking to regulate body art may be introduced to the state legislature again in the future. In the absence of state guidance, we believe ACHD should take action now to develop an understanding of the impact of body art and begin working with the Allegheny County body art community to ensure the health and safety of consumers.

Health Impact of Tattooing

To develop evidence-based recommendations for Allegheny County, we also researched the health impact of tattooing. Tattooing can lead to disease transmission for both artists and clients, infection from ink or equipment, and infection and irritation

Figure 4



Source: Science Buzz, 2009

from improper aftercare. However, based on our research we believe tattooing performed outside of established shops poses a larger public health threat than tattooing practiced in parlors.

Tattoo equipment comes into contact with blood and other bodily fluids during the process of injecting ink into the skin (see Figure 4). Contact with bodily fluids in any environment can pose a risk of spreading bloodborne infections such as HIV, Hepatitis C (HCV), and MRSA. However, there have been few cases of bloodborne pathogen transmission

linked to tattoo parlors and many tattoo artists in both regulated and unregulated jurisdictions complete coursework on bloodborne pathogens. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there are no known cases of HIV transmission from tattooing or piercing (HIV). Studies have also refuted any significant risk of contracting HCV from tattoos performed in established parlors (Tohme). At least one outbreak of MRSA has been linked to tattoos performed in unsanitary environments. From 2004-2005, 44 cases of MRSA were attributed to transmission by tattooing equipment (Methicillin-Resistant). However, none of the primary cases reported receiving tattoos from tattoo parlors. Many had their tattoos done in private residences or parks, and an outbreak investigation revealed many of the artists did not adhere to proper safety and hygiene precautions.

Another potential health hazard related to tattooing is infection related to contaminated ink or equipment. In 2012, 19 people in Rochester, New York developed a bacterial infection from ink containing *Mycobacterium chelonae* after receiving tattoos (Tattoo-Associated). There have been similar cases in other parts of the country. Unfortunately, the environmental hazard that contaminated ink poses to consumers is often beyond the control of tattoo artists. In the 2012 outbreak, the CDC determined that the ink had been contaminated with bacteria during the manufacturing process. Although rare, some people have also experienced severe allergic reactions to certain types of ink (Feldstein).

The risks of cross-contamination can be significantly reduced by adhering to proper sanitary practices. By changing gloves between patients, practicing good hygiene, disinfecting surfaces often, cleaning reusable tools and equipment before sterilization, and using disposable one-time use supplies for needles, pigment caps, and rinse cups, cross-contamination can be prevented (Workplace).

Possible negative health effects from tattooing often occur during aftercare, when consumers are primarily responsible for overseeing the healing process. While there is no data available on the prevalence of infection due to improper aftercare, many of the artists we spoke with said it is common for clients to not follow aftercare instructions properly. Once work is complete, professional tattoo artists will cover the tattoo with gauze or other wrapping to keep the area clean and give consumers written or verbal aftercare instructions. If consumers do not properly care for their tattoos, the skin may become irritated and infected. Early detection and diagnosis of infections and reactions are critical to preventing more serious conditions. Improper aftercare can also compromise the integrity of a tattoo by causing fading and distortion.

Although there is a potential for disease transmission and infection from tattooing, our research suggests that tattoos performed in established parlors are low risk and most negative health outcomes are the result of consumer error during aftercare. However, disease transmission and infection are far more prevalent when tattooing is performed by inexperienced artists outside of tattoo parlors (e.g. at home or in prisons). Established artists sometimes refer to these amateur artists as “scratchers.” Underground tattooing is often performed in unsanitary environments without proper

equipment, and artists are less likely to understand or follow industry best practices to protect themselves and consumers. As a result, the risk of disease transmission and infection, such as HCV, is greater if tattooing is performed outside of an established parlor (Tohme).

Survey Results

In addition to basic information about parlors, we also asked survey respondents for their input and opinions on various aspects of tattoo regulations. With the help of Dr. LuAnn Brink, we were also able to review the results of a survey that ACHD mailed to parlors in 2007. Both surveys elicited 17 responses from artists and parlor owners (see **Appendix E** for the results of the 2007 and 2015 surveys). ACHD's 2007 survey questions focused on understanding the processes and equipment parlors in the county use. In contrast, we used our survey to develop a better understanding of artists' perspectives on various types of regulations. Over 90% of the respondents to the 2015 survey were tattoo parlor owners.

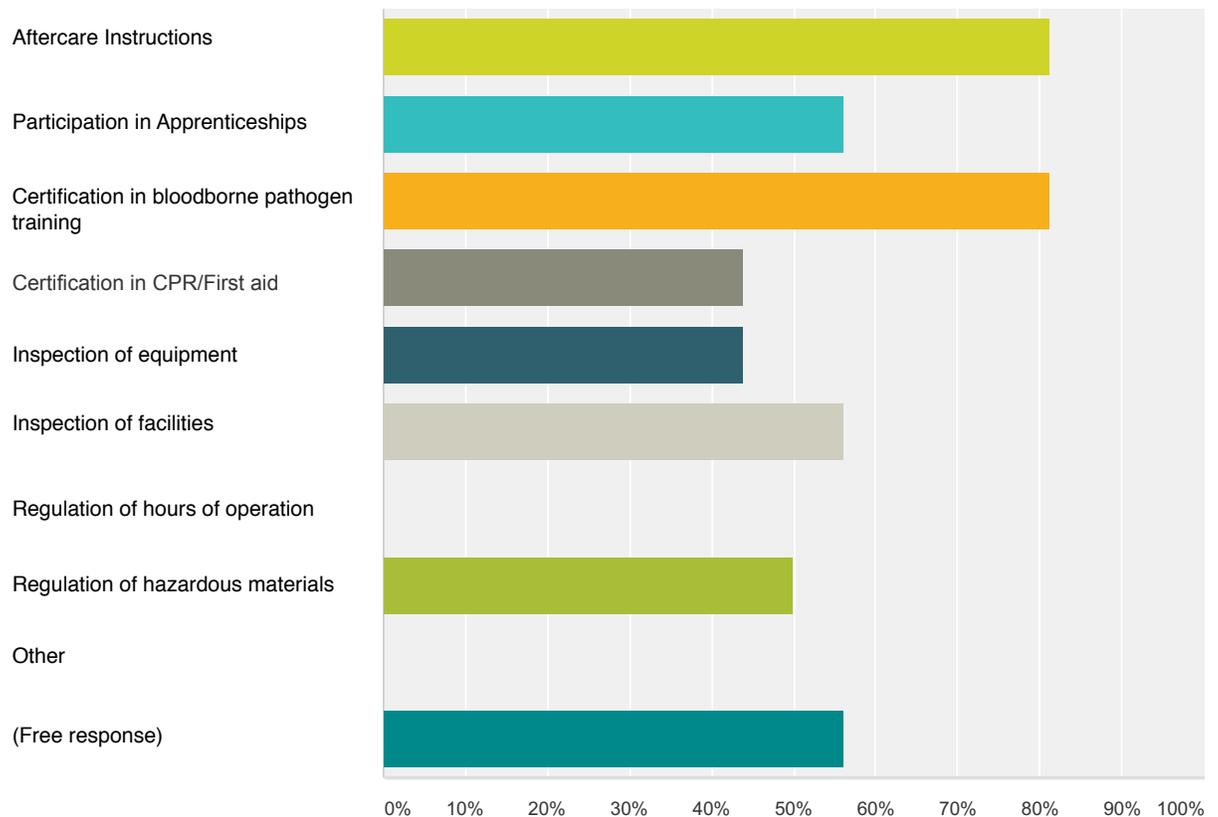
Respondents' opinions on regulations spanned from those who believe ACHD should not be involved in regulating body art because the industry has had no significant problems, to those who believe various degrees of regulation should be implemented to standardize the industry. In response to the question "Should a license be required for tattoo parlors, artists, and apprenticeships?" about half of respondents said licenses should be required for both individual artists and parlors. A third believed licenses should be required for apprenticeships, and half of respondents thought licensing should not be required.

We then identified the most common types of regulations from other jurisdictions' policies and asked respondents which types they believe should be required for artists and parlors in Allegheny County (see Figure 5). The most common responses were aftercare instructions and certification in bloodborne pathogen training, which more than 80% of respondents believed should be required. No respondents believed parlors' hours of operation should be regulated.

We also asked several open-ended questions on the 2015 survey. For example, we asked respondents to describe how regulations would impact artists and parlors in the county. Some believed regulations could help to standardize industry practices within the county. Others were concerned about the potential added costs from licensing fees and taxes on small businesses. One respondent was concerned that regulation by ACHD would not effectively monitor safety standards, but instead would provide a "false sense of security" to consumers. Several respondents believe that regulations would not affect underground tattooing, which poses the biggest health and safety threat to consumers.

Figure 5 - 2015 Survey Responses to Question #3

“Which of the following do you believe should be required?” (check all that apply)



There were several recurring comments throughout the survey. Many respondents voiced concern about underground tattooing and believed amateur artists ignore industry best practices and pose a danger to consumers. While half of respondents were in favor of regulation of the industry, some were concerned that inspectors and others responsible for oversight would not understand the industry well enough to properly enforce regulations. One respondent stated, “All too often when working out of state we find that other places have inspectors check things that don't matter at all, have wrong information, no idea what they are talking about and don't check things that are important. We need people that are industry specific, not someone who really works in restaurants or something and then checks us as well.” Furthermore, many believed ACHD should involve artists and parlor owners in decisions that affect the industry. All but one respondent said they would be willing to serve on an advisory board to help develop tattoo industry recommendations and regulations in Allegheny County.

Additional Stakeholder Input

Our class also spoke with Sean McCarthy of Jester's Court Tattoos in Oakland to learn more about the industry and the health and safety precautions many industry professionals take to protect themselves and clients. McCarthy indicated that many parlors and artists in the county self-regulate their business by requiring bloodborne

pathogen training, properly disposing of sharps, and maintaining strict hygiene standards. At Jester's Court Tattoos, individual artists each recommend different aftercare instructions to clients based on their tattooing techniques and preferences.

Although McCarthy does not want strict regulations imposed on the industry, he does support regulating needle disposal, bloodborne pathogen training, and standards for equipment sterilization. However, he is concerned that high licensure fees could force small parlors out of business. McCarthy would also like to keep "scratchers" out of the industry as they often do not follow proper hygienic practices. Apprenticeships, while offered at some parlors in the county, are not available at Jester's Court Tattoos. According to McCarthy, apprenticeships offer little financial gain to parlors and artists, can lead to liability and malpractice concerns, and tend to require a great deal of one-on-one teaching and training.

Another helpful resource throughout our research was Paul Roe, a representative for the tattoo industry in the District of Columbia and chair of the Body Arts Committee for the Board of Barbers and Cosmetology (see **Appendix F** for contact information). Roe has been seeking legislation and regulation within the industry to encourage hygienic and safe practice for over 12 years. Roe was very open to discussing his role in developing regulations and providing testimony in D.C. as well as recommending resources available in Pittsburgh, such as parlor owner and artist Tim Azinger (see **Appendix F** for contact information).

Roe shared the following commentary regarding his views of tattoo regulations in D.C.:

"What I feel are the most important points of the new regulations are the tiered license structure with apprentice, practitioner, instructor and owner licenses along with a temporary license for visiting artists.... By controlling the length and quality of an apprenticeship the standard is set for a well-rounded practitioner who, in time, may take on an apprentice when qualified with an instructor license. This is a very old Guild system which allows transparency for the public to understand that training and practice takes 3 years before you are a fully licensed artist and that the trainer has at least 15 years experience before taking on an apprentice."

"There will be no "tattoo schools" in D.C. as I firmly believe in a 1 student 1 mentor ratio which insures against "apprentice farms" by unqualified instructors who can not make a living any other way."

"We as an industry have standard practices which ensure the safety and well-being of both practitioners and their clients. These are universal in the United States and are carried through internationally as we work all over the world as guest artists and at conventions.

Simple language regulation in conjunction with public service announcements is the way forward for tattoo regulation."

“Overly burdensome regulation will do nothing to stop underground tattooing activity and may well drive legitimate artists out of The District or underground to ply their trade.”

Justification for ACHD Action

Any action taken to intervene in the body art industry should be based on available evidence and should not seek to discourage safe and hygienic body art practices. We believe imposing regulations on tattoo parlors would not significantly impact unsafe body art practices because these unsafe procedures are usually performed outside of legitimate businesses. We also believe it would be difficult for ACHD to enforce sanctions that target home tattooing and prison tattoos. Therefore, to promote public health and safety, a more effective approach would be to develop public awareness campaigns about the potential dangers of tattooing and resources for parlor owners and artists to help standardize best practices in the county.

Recommendations for the Allegheny County Health Department

Overview of Recommendations

Based on our research and anecdotal evidence from artists in the industry, we believe that the primary focus for ACHD should be on education campaigns rather than on regulation. The industry currently appears to have positive self-regulating practices in order to maintain successful business models; however, there are those that tattoo out of their homes and/or in unsanitary locations which can create significant health concerns for the consumer. Attempting to regulate the industry would not necessarily stop this practice; whereas increasing awareness among consumers may have significant implications. We recommend that ACHD (1) form a Body Art Advisory Board, (2) develop an internal resource bank to house data, research, and information on the industry, (3) create an educational website for consumers, and (4) market educational resources to targeted populations.

While the following recommendations are based on our research of the tattoo industry, many of these recommendations can be more widely applied to other types of body art. For example, the formation of an advisory board can help inform ACHD not only on the tattooing industry, but also on piercing and other body art practices.

Formation of a Body Art Advisory Board

In line with ACHD's commitment to collaboration and community partnerships, we believe ACHD should convene a Body Art Advisory Board to assist in the development, implementation, and support for ACHD intervention and activities that affect the industry. The advisory board will provide ACHD with input, advice, and recommendations about the impact of education and potential policy and procedures related to body art. While our report focuses on the tattoo industry, many tattoo parlors and artists also engage in piercing and have knowledge of other types of body art. Therefore, a Body Art Advisory Board could also address topics related to piercing and other forms of body art.

Members of the advisory board should represent a variety of stakeholders to maximize the benefits of board meetings. We recommend the board be composed of public health professionals including one physician and one academic, as well as body artists (tattoo artists and body piercers), business owners, community representatives, and health department officials (see **Appendix F** for potential board members' contact information). Transparency and regular communication with board members can increase community and industry support for any ACHD action.

The Body Art Advisory Board should be consulted to determine any regulatory action. We have included a summary of regulations in other jurisdictions, which could guide future development of regulations or policy within Allegheny County. Interest and

support from primary stakeholders is vital to see this process to completion as demonstrated by the ongoing process of attempted regulation in Washington, DC. Further insight from the advisory board could expedite and smooth this process (see **Appendix G** for example advisory board meeting agendas).

Development of an Internal Resource Bank

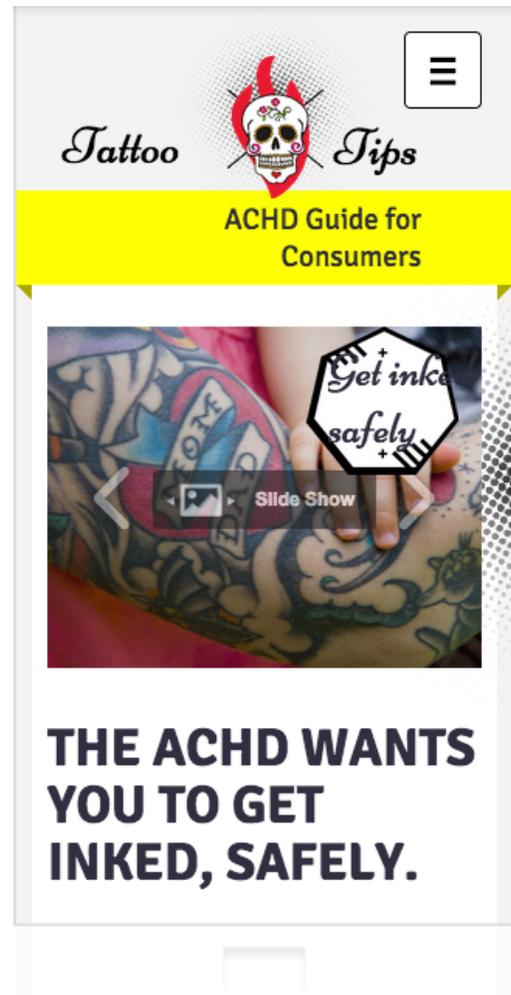
In addition to the artist and consumer information available for public distribution, we recommend the development of an internal resource bank within ACHD’s intranet or a shared drive to house research, data, and other information on body art. The resource bank will provide a central location for ACHD employees to access past research on body art in Allegheny County for future reference and data collection. The resource bank may also store industry news and information from advisory board members, which ACHD can use to identify and respond to future trends in body art.

Creation of an Educational Consumer Website

To promote safe tattooing in Allegheny County, we recommend that ACHD create a website devoted to educating consumers about proper tattooing practices and the risks of tattooing outside of established shops (see **Appendix H** for a link to a sample website). Content on the website should include a “Do and Don’t” list for consumers that lists advice on the proper procedures to follow before, during, and after the tattooing process (see **Appendix I** for an example list). The website may also include aftercare best practices, warning signs of infection, and ACHD contact information. The content on the website will help address the health consequences, like infections, that arise from consumer error. ACHD’s webmaster should ensure the website is accessible to all local consumers by including appropriate titles and keywords to optimize search engine results.

While the content on the sample website was developed based on our research and communication with local stakeholders, we recommend ACHD consult the Body Art Advisory Board to identify any additional content that should be accessible to consumers in the county.

Figure 6 Screenshot from sample consumer website



Marketing Educational Resources to Consumers

In addition to developing a sample website and educational content, we believe ACHD should actively market the website to consumers. Because tattooing has become more popular among 18-24 year-olds, college campuses are one appropriate target for marketing. We contacted nine schools in Allegheny County to inquire about their interest in promoting educational materials about safe tattooing practices on campus. Of the nine schools we contacted, five schools expressed interest in these resources (see **Appendix J** for contact information). The following colleges and universities have expressed an interest in partnering with ACHD in a consumer outreach campaign.

University of Pittsburgh
La Roche College
Carnegie Mellon University
Chatham University
Point Park University

Additionally, the campaign should target populations that are most likely to participate in tattooing outside of parlors. While marketing these resources to prison populations was beyond the scope of this report, we believe prisons would be an apt location to focus an educational campaign. The Allegheny County Health Department should also consider expanding the marketing of these resources to high school populations. Adults, aged 18, are legally allowed to be tattooed and high school seniors often reach this age before graduation.

Conclusion

We would like to thank ACHD for the opportunity to present our findings and recommendations regarding tattoo parlors in Allegheny County. Our class found no compelling public health justification for the regulation of tattoo parlors in the county. The primary sources of infection from tattooing are improper aftercare and tattooing outside of parlors, which would not be greatly impacted by the regulation of tattoo artists and parlors. We believe ACHD should target consumers by promoting educational resources to ensure all involved stakeholders understand the risks involved in tattooing and proper practices to stay healthy and safe. Additionally, we recommend any discussion of ACHD body art interventions or regulations be coordinated with a Body Art Advisory Board. We believe stakeholder input will be important in helping ACHD address the tattooing practices and environments that most threaten public health.

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Legal References

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D.C. Code § 47-2809.01

N.J.A.C. 8:27-7.1 through N.J.A.C. 8:27-7.5

NY CLS Pub Health § 460 through NY CLS Pub Health § 466

ORS 690.005 through ORS 690.992

Regulations Governing Operation and conduct of tattoo and Body Piercing

Establishments, available at: http://www.phila.gov/health/pdfs/Body_art_regs.pdf

18 VAC 41-50-10 through 18 VAC 41-5-0-420

2013 Pennsylvania House Bill No. 1249, Pennsylvania One Hundred Ninety-Eighth

General Assembly - 2013-2014, 2013 Pennsylvania House Bill No. 1249,

Pennsylvania One Hundred Ninety-Eighth General Assembly - 2013-2014.

Appendices

Appendix A Body Art Definitions

Tattoo: procedure of permanently marking the skin with ink or dye

Branding/Scarification: procedure in which skin is seared with a hot iron or cut with a scalpel or other sharp object to produce a raised design

Piercing: procedure in which a sharp instrument is passed through a fold of skin or part of the body and often adorned with jewelry

Aesthetic Dentistry: procedure that can involve gold/silver/porcelain caps, having a hole drilled into a tooth and implanting a jewel into the hole, and filing teeth to a point to create the illusion of a fang

Body Play or Shaping: procedures that include body suspension, waist/corset training, and implanting foreign objects under the skin (e.g. inserting metal spikes into the skull or inserting marbles under the skin)

Appendix B
Law in Public Health Practice Spring 2015 Course Description

Local health departments play increasingly pivotal roles in the provision of community public health services; however, they also are experiencing diminished funding and reduced workforces. This course is the first of its kind: a practice-based, collaborative learning experience for public health and law students. Together, students will develop legal and public health interventions to address an issue identified by the Allegheny County Health Department as requiring the expertise of both cohorts.

This semester, the topic will focus on the regulation of tattoo parlors.

Effective communication, project management, and work plan development skills are critical for success. Students in this course will benefit by applying both theoretical knowledge and research skills to analyze a “real life” problem and formulating meaningful outputs. It will help refine communication skills and provide networking opportunities in the practice communities. Ultimately, the collaboration will benefit Pennsylvania citizens by arming the Allegheny County Health Department with tools to improve community health.

Appendix C

Class Biographies

Elizabeth Ferrell Bjerke, JD is a Robert Wood Johnson Public Health Law fellow. She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at Pitt Public Health, an Adjunct Professor in the University of Pittsburgh's School of Law, and the Director of Pitt Public Health's JD/MPH program. She currently teaches Public Health Law and Ethics and Law in Public Health Practice in both schools, and is a frequent lecturer on emergency preparedness and the public health implications of hydraulic fracturing. At Carnegie Mellon University, Professor Bjerke is an Adjunct Instructor of Population Health. Previously, she was an attorney specializing in litigation with the United States Department of Agriculture in Washington, DC, with Thompson & Knight in Dallas, Texas, and with several small law firms in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Akshaya Arjunan is a senior undergraduate student at the University of Pittsburgh seeking a B.S. in Neuroscience. For the past two years she has worked as a student researcher in the Department of Neurobiology studying genetically induced models of Parkinson's disease. She has had a diverse range of volunteering experiences with the Children's Rehabilitation Institute, Children's Sickle Cell Foundation, and Muscular Dystrophy Association. She also serves as a health links fellow at the Birmingham Free Health Clinic where she works with patients to address any socioeconomic factors that may impact their health and help empower them with the tools necessary to alleviate them. This immersion into public health led her to complete a certificate in Public and Global Health through a twelve week program at the University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health. Interested in integrating the medical and public health field, she will enroll as a medical student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine in the fall in order to pursue a dual MD/MPH degree.

Alia A. Gehr-Selover is a first-year graduate student at Pitt Public Health, where she is focusing her studies on LGBT Health Research. She is a recent AmeriCorps Community HealthCorps alumna, where she served two terms with a non-profit health center network in New York. She carries a bachelor's degree in Community Health Education from Portland State University.

Lauren R. Kepple is a graduate student at Pitt Public Health seeking her MPH in Health Policy and Management. She did her undergraduate studies at Miami University (Ohio) where she earned a B.A. in Microbiology and a B.S. in Clinical Laboratory Science. Before beginning the program, Lauren worked full-time in a clinical laboratory in Pittsburgh and continues to work in the lab on a part-time basis. She is also an intern at Gateway Health in their Quality Improvement Department to improve breast cancer screening among their Medicare and Medicaid populations.

Shea Kraft is a second-year law student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. Before coming to Pittsburgh, he completed his undergraduate studies at Temple

University in Philadelphia, earning a B.A. in Political Science. Shea is a participant in the Veterans Practicum at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, where students work directly with veterans and assist them with obtaining discharge upgrades and navigating the VA benefits claims and appeals process. While in law school, Shea has interned with the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, served as a law clerk for a local family law attorney, and has volunteered with Christian Legal Aid of Pittsburgh. Shea currently works with a law firm that specializes in post-conviction and criminal appeals work.

Richard Jameson Moriarty is a second-year law student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. Richard earned his B.A. in Political Science from Monmouth University, where he graduated at the top of his program. Currently, Richard focuses his studies on transactional law and litigation practice. Richard is a member of the school of law's Veterans Practicum, and has represented veterans on multiple claims and issues. Richard is employed by a law firm that specializes in post-conviction and criminal appeals work. Before entering law school, Richard was the spokesman for and Director of Administration of a large law enforcement agency. Previously, Richard was a political financier and campaign strategist.

Anjani R. Parikh earned a B.S. in Psychology from Virginia Commonwealth University and is a Spring 2015 MPH Candidate at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health in the Behavioral and Community Health Sciences Department. She is also working towards a Certificate in Global Health through the University of Pittsburgh Center for Global Health. Her research interests include HIV/AIDS and Chronic Disease prevention. Anjani spent the summer working with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Family Health International 360 designing and implementing STD research projects in India. She currently works at the Asthma Institute at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center managing data for various NIH funded research projects, and is assessing the impact of air pollution on asthma exacerbation rates in Allegheny County as a part of her Thesis research.

Cody A. Roberts received a B.S.B.A. in marketing and finance at the University of Pittsburgh and earned his law degree from Duquesne University. Cody is currently a full-time practicing attorney at Reed Smith and is seeking a Masters in Health Administration within Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health. Cody would like to utilize his diverse background and transition into health care administration. Cody sees himself seeking a career path that is constantly evolving and never stagnant.

Meg Robertson is a first-year graduate student at the School of Public Health and is pursuing an MPH in Health Policy and Management. Before beginning graduate school, Meg earned a degree in political science from the University of Pittsburgh and worked in communications and media for a political advocacy group in Washington, D.C. Meg is currently a policy intern at the Allegheny County Department of Human Services and would like to work in health policy after graduation. She is interested in emerging health technology and public health advocacy.

Rachel A. Stearns is a senior student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing seeking a Masters in Nurse Anesthesia. Previous studies include an Associates Degree in Nursing from Community College of Allegheny County, Bachelors in Nursing and Masters in Nursing Administration from California University of Pennsylvania. Rachel has had a diverse background in nursing starting with experience in long term care as a staff nurse and director of nursing while also working as a continuous care hospice nurse. She transitioned into acute care at UPMC Mercy working in the acute medical detoxification unit and medical intensive care unit. She has continued to work in these units while attending anesthesia classes full-time. At a very young age, she became interested in public health while volunteering for the local county health department training 5th grade students about abstaining from drugs and alcohol and developing healthy habits. She has continued to volunteer in the public sector encouraging positive health changes and habits. She will start her anesthesia career at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh in May.

Ryan Stringer is a graduate student at the University of Pittsburgh, having completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Michigan. In May, he will graduate with a JD degree, an MPH degree, and a certificate in health law. With Pitt Law, he served as the Senior Development Editor of the Pittsburgh Journal of Environmental and Public Health Law. At the University of Pittsburgh Health Policy Institute, he supports healthcare delivery system reforms which aim to improve care coordination and quality. With the Center for Public Health Practice, he furthers preparedness policy research in collaboration with the CDC and health departments, contributes to scholarship in preparedness policy, and develops legal research tools for all-hazards scenarios. Before entering graduate school, Ryan spent four years with the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. There, he concentrated on health, stress, aging, and lifecourse research using data from the Health and Retirement Study. After graduation, Ryan will join Mathematica Policy Research in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and will complete a fellowship with the UPMC Emerging Leaders in Biosecurity Initiative.

Appendix D Regulation Comparisons from Example Jurisdictions

Tattoo Statutes and Regulations in Sample States

	New Jersey	Oregon	Virginia	New York
Pertinent Laws and Regulations	N.J.A.C. 8:27-7.1 through N.J.A.C. 8:27-7.5	ORS 690.005 through ORS 690.992	18 VAC 41-50-10 through 18 VAC 41-5-0-420	NY CLS Pub Health Section 460 through Section 466; NY has not yet released draft regulations
Waiting Period	None	None	None	None
Fees	None found	Artist: \$50 Temporary: \$50 Reciprocity: \$150 Facility: \$100 Written and Skills Exam: \$150	Individual fees: Application: \$105 license by endorsement: \$105 renewal: \$105 reinstatement: \$210 (renewal fee and reinstatement fee) Instructors fees: application: \$125 license by endorsement: \$125 renewal: \$150 reinstatement: \$300 (renewal fee and reinstatement fee) Parlors or salons: application: \$190 renewal: \$190 reinstatement: \$380 (renewal fee and reinstatement fee) Schools: application: \$220 renewal: \$220 reinstatement: \$440 (renewal fee and reinstatement fee)	Fee schedules authorized by the statute

	New Jersey	Oregon	Virginia	New York
Education and Certification	<p>Operators must have experience in operation of a tattooing facility for a period of at least 12 months</p> <p>A practitioner must have been an apprentice for a minimum of 2,000 hours</p> <p>A practitioner must have bloodborne pathogen training</p>	<p>Must be aged 18 years or older</p> <p>High school diploma or GED required</p> <p>Must complete bloodborne pathogens training</p> <p>Must complete cardiopulmonary resuscitation and basic first aid training</p> <p>Pathways to licensure: Oregon licenses tattooing career school: 360 hours of training (210 theory/ 150 practical), minimum of 50 completed procedures, examinations</p> <p>Reciprocity: Submit an affidavit of licensure demonstrating proof of current license, which is active with no current or pending disciplinary action, as a tattoo artist. The licensing must be substantially equivalent to Oregon licensing requirements. If not substantially equivalent the applicant must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the agency that the applicant has been employed or working as a tattoo artist full time for three of the last five years. Must pass examination.</p>	<p>Individuals may enter apprenticeship or tattoo school to sit for required examination</p> <p>May submit completion of training or apprenticeship from outside Virginia</p> <p>Licensing required for businesses and practitioners</p> <p>Bloodborne pathogen training required</p>	<p>None required as of yet. A New York representative stated that education may be required in new regulations</p>

	New Jersey	Oregon	Virginia	New York
Sanctions	26:1A-10. Violation of State Sanitary Code, penalty 10. Each violation of any provision of the State Sanitary Code shall constitute a separate offense and shall be punishable by a penalty of not less than \$50 nor more than \$1,000	The Oregon Health Licensing Office may refuse to issue or renew, may suspend or revoke or may otherwise condition or limit an authorization or may discipline or place on probation an authorization holder	Virginia may fine, suspend, revoke, place on probation, or refuse to renew any license or certificate	Statute states that licenses may be revoked or suspended. Fines are also authorized
Aftercare Instructions	Both verbal and written instructions Responsibilities and care specific to the site of the tattooing following service	Both written and verbal instructions: Instructions shall specify care following service, possible side effects, and restrictions Instructions are not standardized	Written care instructions required	None
Inspections and Compliance	Inspections authorized, health authorities have frequency discretion	Inspections authorized	None	Inspections authorized
Misc. Regulations	Equipment and supplies regulations Skin preparation regulations Pigment regulations		Tattooists must display Hepatitis B vaccine compliance, or refusal to receive vaccine	Compliance authorized in the statute

Tattoo Statutes and Regulations in Sample Cities

	District of Columbia	Monongahela	Philadelphia
Pertinent Laws and Regulations	D.C. Code § 47–2809.01 No regulations until 2012	Chapter 13, Part 7 of the Monongahela city ordinances	Regulations Governing Operation and conduct of tattoo and Body Piercing Establishments, available at: http://www.phila.gov/health/pdfs/Body_art_regs.pdf
Waiting Period	Proposed 24-hour waiting period	None	None
Fees	Fee schedules authorized by the statute	Establishment: \$100 Operator: \$25	Establishment: \$100 Operator: \$40 Apprentice: \$40
Education and Certification	Licensing requirements authorized by the statute Recommended by tattoo artists and managers: Bloodborne pathogen training and certification Scaled licensure based on experience: apprentice, artist, instructor Separate facility license Temporary licenses for visiting artists	Application required Must be aged 18 years or older Must complete bloodborne pathogens training No apprenticeship or schooling required	Three-year apprenticeship under certified operator requirement Must have bloodborne pathogen training every three years: Certificate must be obtained by persons and shops
Sanctions	License suspension, revocation, fines, and imprisonment authorized	License revocation and fines authorized	None listed. Refers to the Health Code: Can abate or remove a "nuisance" and charge that person for the cost of abatement and removal
Aftercare Instructions	None	Pamphlets or literature explaining aftercare required	Written and verbal instructions given prior to procedure. Must include statement to seek medical attention if infected; doesn't standardize aftercare

	District of Columbia	Monongahela	Philadelphia
Inspections and Compliance	Inspections are not stated in statute, yet they are impliedly authorized	Inspections authorized	Inspections authorized
Misc. Regulations	<p>Recommendations by tattoo artists and managers:</p> <p>Maintain voluntary upholding of OSHA standards</p> <p>Minimum age of 18 to receive or administer tattoo</p> <p>Must provide information on pigments used</p>		<p>Establishment must keep record of certified operators</p> <p>Operators must have Hepatitis B vaccine unless a physician indicates that the person cannot have the vaccine</p> <p>Must comply with OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogens Standard</p> <p>Must keep monthly record that autoclave was tested</p> <p>Operator must inform client to contact physician if they have a history of skin cancer at the tattoo site, history of allergies to ink used, taking anticoagulants, hemophilia, diabetes etc.</p>

Appendix E 2007 and 2015 Survey Results

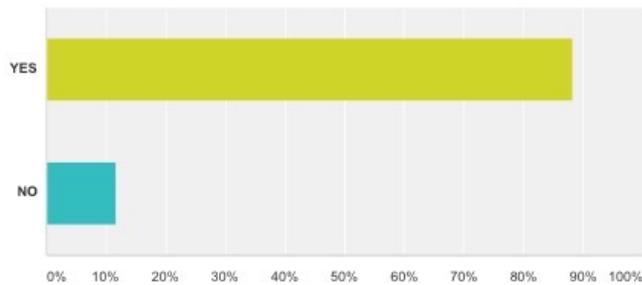
Dr. LuAnn Brink provided us with the results of a 2007 ACHD survey of tattoo parlors. We entered the survey responses into Survey Monkey for analysis. Below are screenshots of the survey results.

Tattoo & Body Piercing Questionnaire 2007

SurveyMonkey

Q1 Do you provide tattooing at your parlor?

Answered: 17 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
YES	88.24% 15
NO	11.76% 2
Total	17

#	If Yes, how many tattoos does your parlor provide in one year?	Date
1	100's	3/26/2015 2:11 PM
2	1500-2000	3/26/2015 2:10 PM
3	200 Approx	3/26/2015 2:08 PM
4	500+	3/26/2015 2:07 PM
5	2000	3/26/2015 2:06 PM
6	400	3/26/2015 2:02 PM
7	?	3/26/2015 2:00 PM
8	no idea	3/26/2015 1:59 PM
9	800	3/26/2015 1:58 PM
10	1000?	3/26/2015 1:57 PM
11	Approx 300	3/26/2015 1:56 PM
12	alot	3/26/2015 1:54 PM
13	?	3/26/2015 1:53 PM

Q2 Including you, how many tattoo artists are working at this location?

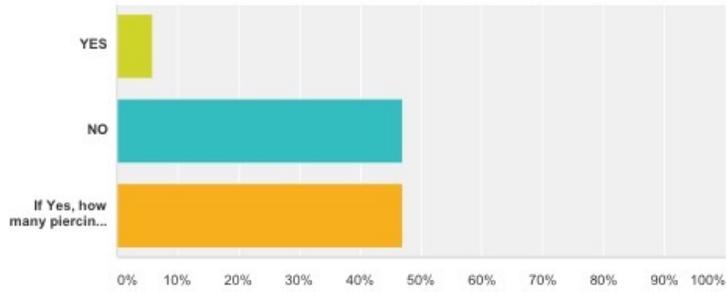
Answered: 16 Skipped: 1

#	Responses	Date
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1	1	3/26/2015 2:11 PM
2	4	3/26/2015 2:10 PM
3	1	3/26/2015 2:08 PM
4	1	3/26/2015 2:07 PM
5	5	3/26/2015 2:06 PM
6	one, sometimes two	3/26/2015 2:02 PM
7	2	3/26/2015 2:00 PM
8	4	3/26/2015 1:59 PM
9	2	3/26/2015 1:58 PM
10	3	3/26/2015 1:57 PM
11	1	3/26/2015 1:56 PM
12	3	3/26/2015 1:54 PM
13	1	3/26/2015 1:53 PM
14	2	3/26/2015 1:51 PM
15	n/a	3/26/2015 1:39 PM
16	4	3/26/2015 1:37 PM

Q3 Do you offer body piercing?

Answered: 17 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
YES	5.88% 1
NO	47.06% 8
If Yes, how many piercings are done at your parlor in one year?	47.06% 8
Total	17

#	If Yes, how many piercings are done at your parlor in one year?	Date
1	2000	3/26/2015 2:10 PM

2	Approx 100	3/26/2015 2:08 PM
3	No idea	3/26/2015 1:59 PM
4	700	3/26/2015 1:58 PM
5	100	3/26/2015 1:56 PM
6	alot	3/26/2015 1:54 PM
7	approx 1000	3/26/2015 1:39 PM
8	?	3/26/2015 1:37 PM

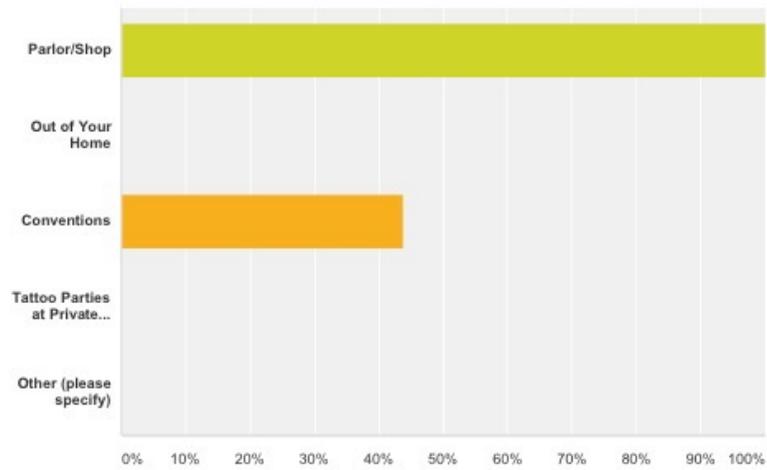
Q4 Including you, how many body piercers are working at this location?

Answered: 15 Skipped: 2

#	Responses	Date
1	n/a	3/26/2015 2:11 PM
2	2	3/26/2015 2:10 PM
3	1	3/26/2015 2:08 PM
4	n/a	3/26/2015 2:07 PM
5	2	3/26/2015 2:06 PM
6	none	3/26/2015 2:02 PM
7	na	3/26/2015 2:00 PM
8	1	3/26/2015 1:59 PM
9	2	3/26/2015 1:58 PM
10	-	3/26/2015 1:57 PM
11	1 piercer	3/26/2015 1:56 PM
12	2	3/26/2015 1:54 PM
13	na	3/26/2015 1:53 PM
14	4	3/26/2015 1:39 PM
15	1	3/26/2015 1:37 PM

Q5 Where do you and your staff offer tattooing or body piercing?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 1

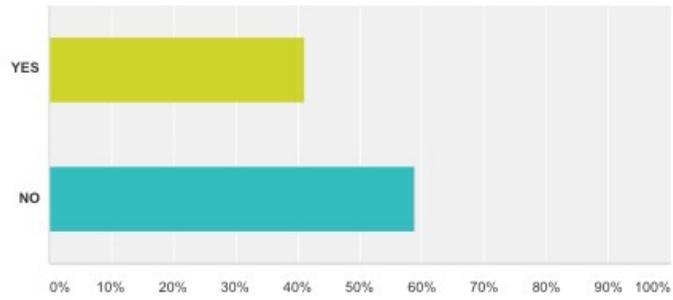


Answer Choices	Responses
Parlor/Shop	100.00% 16
Out of Your Home	0.00% 0
Conventions	43.75% 7
Tattoo Parties at Private Homes	0.00% 0
Other (please specify)	0.00% 0
Total Respondents: 16	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
	There are no responses.	

Q6 Do you provide food or drink for patrons?

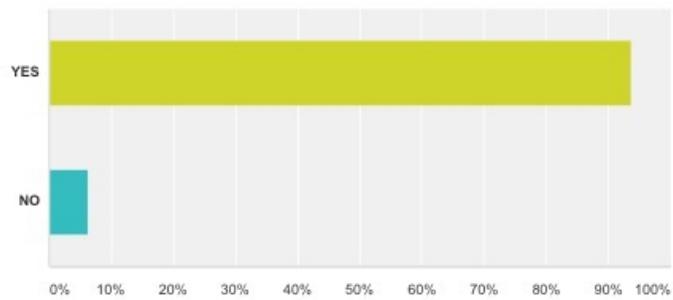
Answered: 17 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
YES	41.18%	7
NO	58.82%	10
Total		17

Q7 Do you use disposable products?

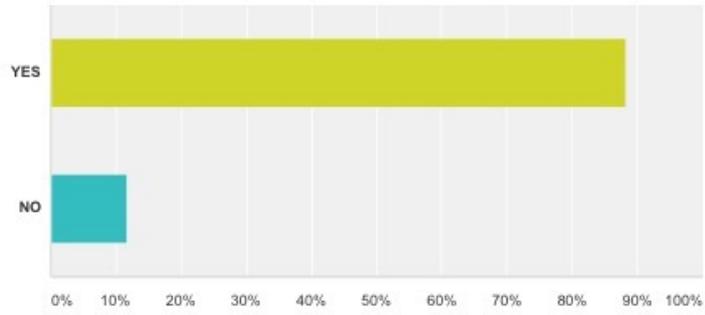
Answered: 16 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
YES	93.75%	15
NO	6.25%	1
Total		16

Q8 Do you use reusable products?

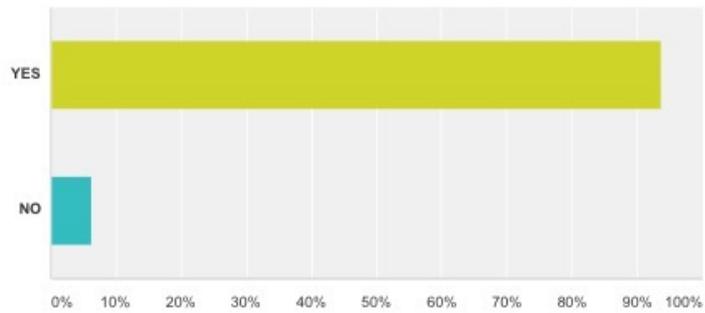
Answered: 17 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
YES	88.24%	15
NO	11.76%	2
Total		17

Q9 Do you have an autoclave?

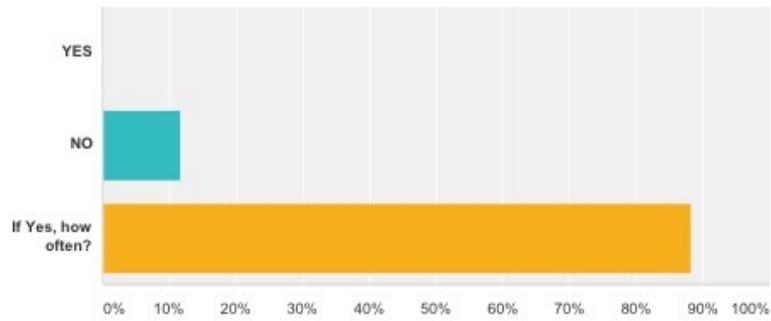
Answered: 16 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
YES	93.75%	15
NO	6.25%	1
Total		16

Q10 Do you use spore tests on your autoclave?

Answered: 17 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
YES	0.00% 0
NO	11.76% 2
If Yes, how often?	88.24% 15
Total	17

#	If Yes, how often?	Date
1	Monthly	3/26/2015 2:11 PM
2	Monthly	3/26/2015 2:10 PM
3	4 Mo	3/26/2015 2:07 PM
4	Quarterly	3/26/2015 2:06 PM
5	Monthly	3/26/2015 2:02 PM
6	Monthly	3/26/2015 2:00 PM
7	Monthly	3/26/2015 1:59 PM
8	Monthly	3/26/2015 1:58 PM
9	Monthly	3/26/2015 1:57 PM
10	5 times a year	3/26/2015 1:56 PM
11	Every Month	3/26/2015 1:54 PM
12	Monthly	3/26/2015 1:53 PM
13	monthly	3/26/2015 1:51 PM
14	Monthly	3/26/2015 1:39 PM
15	Weekly	3/26/2015 1:37 PM

Q11 What do you do with your used needles (sharps container)?

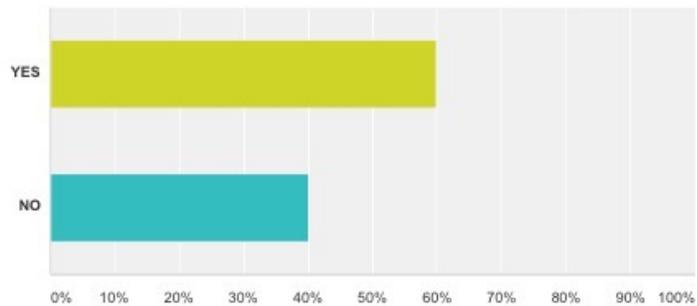
Answered: 16 Skipped: 1

#	Responses	Date
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1	Sharps Container & Stericycle	3/26/2015 2:11 PM
2	Sharps container	3/26/2015 2:10 PM
3	Mail Return Sharps Disposal	3/26/2015 2:08 PM
4	Sharps container	3/26/2015 2:07 PM
5	Sharps Container	3/26/2015 2:06 PM
6	They are picked up by Bio-Haz Solutions Inc. 531 Seneca Rd. #2 PO Box 420 Leighton, PA 18235	3/26/2015 2:02 PM
7	Sharps Container	3/26/2015 2:00 PM
8	Sharps	3/26/2015 1:59 PM
9	Medical Waste Disposal	3/26/2015 1:58 PM
10	Sharps Cont. Picked up by Bio-Hazard Co.	3/26/2015 1:57 PM
11	Hospital Disposal	3/26/2015 1:56 PM
12	Dispose through Hospital	3/26/2015 1:54 PM
13	Send Out	3/26/2015 1:53 PM
14	sharps container	3/26/2015 1:51 PM
15	Biohazard, Mail System	3/26/2015 1:39 PM
16	wall-mount sharps	3/26/2015 1:37 PM

Q12 Do you have a medical waste hauler?

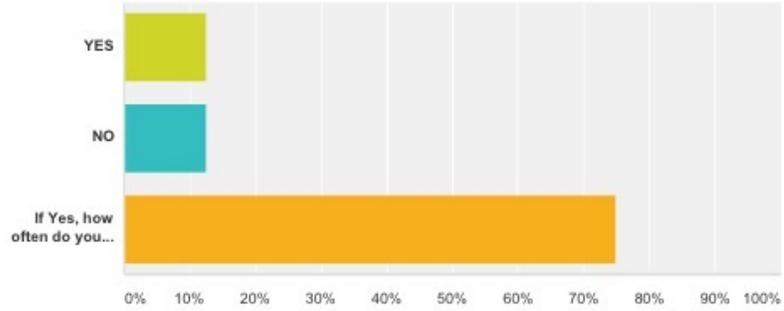
Answered: 15 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
YES	60.00%	9
NO	40.00%	6
Total		15

Q13 Have you or all persons working at your parlor taken an OSHA or similar blood borne pathogens training?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 1

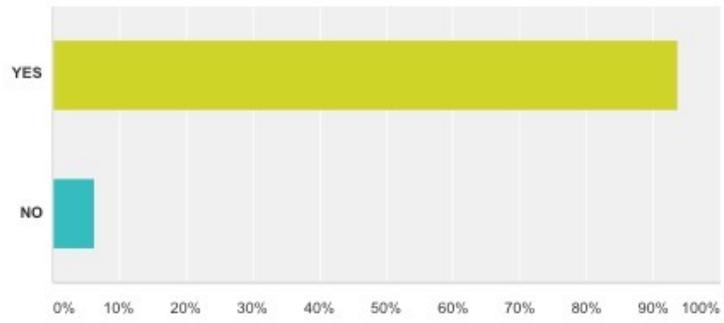


Answer Choices	Responses
YES	12.50% 2
NO	12.50% 2
If Yes, how often do you take a refresher course?	75.00% 12
Total	16

#	If Yes, how often do you take a refresher course?	Date
1	Annually	3/26/2015 2:11 PM
2	Annually	3/26/2015 2:10 PM
3	Once	3/26/2015 2:07 PM
4	Every Year	3/26/2015 2:02 PM
5	Yearly	3/26/2015 1:58 PM
6	Yearly	3/26/2015 1:57 PM
7	Yearly	3/26/2015 1:56 PM
8	Every Year	3/26/2015 1:54 PM
9	Yearly	3/26/2015 1:53 PM
10	Annually	3/26/2015 1:51 PM
11	Yearly	3/26/2015 1:39 PM
12	yearly or biyearly	3/26/2015 1:37 PM

Q14 Would you be willing to serve on an advisory board regarding the potential development of tattoo and/or body piercing regulations?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 1

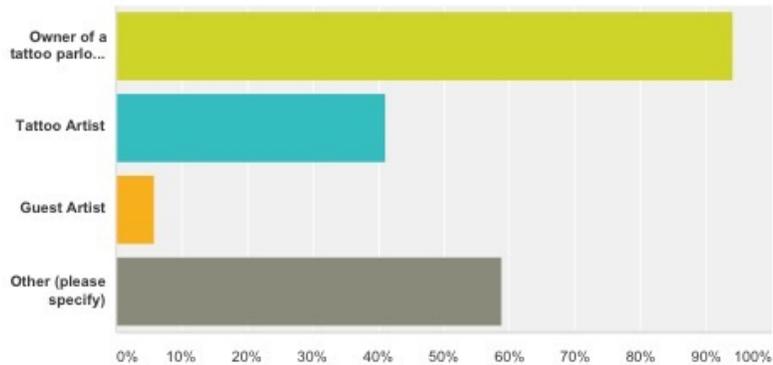


Answer Choices	Responses	
YES	93.75%	15
NO	6.25%	1
Total		16

Below are the results of our 2015 survey to parlor owners and artists.

Q1 Are you a(n): (check all that apply)

Answered: 17 Skipped: 0



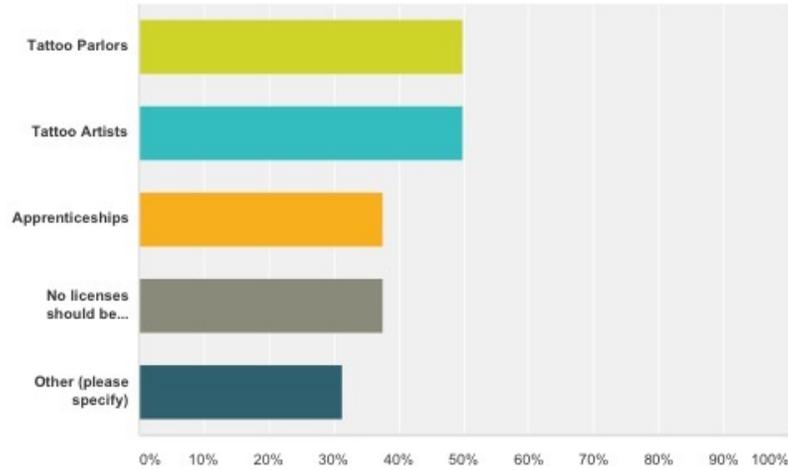
Answer Choices	Responses
Owner of a tattoo parlor (if you are an owner, please indicate the number of artists that are employed in your parlor in the comment field)	94.12% 16
Tattoo Artist	41.18% 7
Guest Artist	5.88% 1
Other (please specify)	58.82% 10
Total Respondents: 17	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	We currently have 3 Tattoo Artists and 3 Body Piercers working in our studio.	3/20/2015 1:42 PM
2	4 artist	3/12/2015 8:49 AM
3	I own a shop with my husband. We have 5 resident artists and frequent guest artists	3/5/2015 2:41 PM
4	Island ave. tattoo has been tattooing in Pittsburgh for over 40yrs now and is one of the first shops in all 4 surrounding county's, if you want to do something positive for our industry, set heavy fines on non- professional scatchers tattooin out of there house, these people are the biggest risk to our community and it is illegal to do so, but is not currently being inforced, stiff fines and jail time should put a scare to these people who are destroying the integrity of our ancient art form. Thankyou Jim Allchin / owner/artist Island ave. tattoo co. LLC	3/4/2015 11:10 AM
5	Just one other tattooer at the shop.	3/3/2015 2:53 PM
6	3 tattoo artists, one piercer	3/2/2015 5:13 PM
7	3 artists in my shop - with myself having 18 years experience.	3/1/2015 11:29 AM
8	4 other artists	2/26/2015 11:17 PM
9	there are 3 of us	2/26/2015 9:00 PM
10	Just myself	2/26/2015 8:40 PM

Q2 Should a license be required for tattoo parlors, artists, and apprenticeships?

(check all that apply)

Answered: 16 Skipped: 1

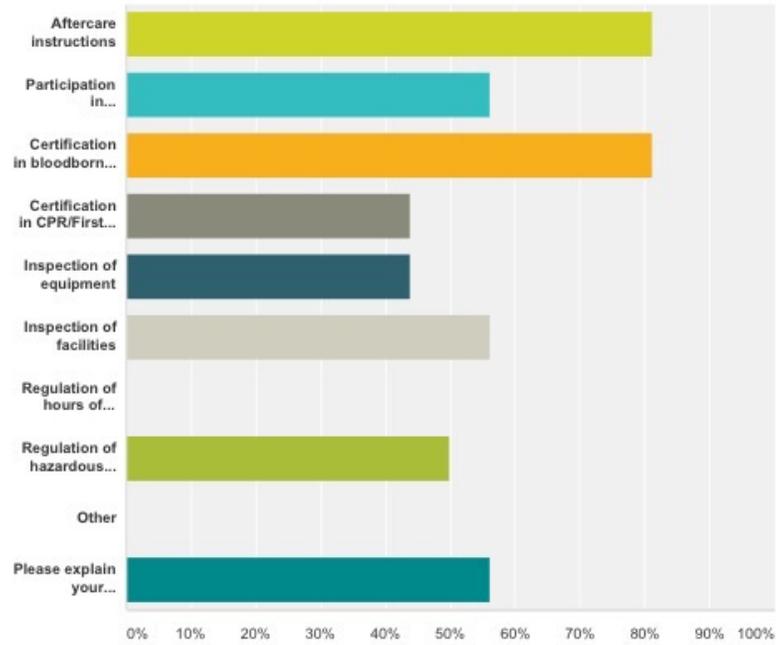


Answer Choices	Responses
Tattoo Parlors	50.00% 8
Tattoo Artists	50.00% 8
Apprenticeships	37.50% 6
No licenses should be required	37.50% 6
Other (please specify)	31.25% 5
Total Respondents: 16	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	We believe all Tattoo Studios should be held to certain standards and accountability. However we also believe that individual artist should be held accountable for their own personal actions in the tattoo process. Additionally, there should be regulations with Apprenticeships, standards for both the teachers and students.	3/20/2015 1:42 PM
2	The county needs to put a distant limit between tattoo shops, we are over saturated as it is, and I would love to be a part of any interest you may have, to help the industry regulate themselves as My qualifications as a master tattoo artists can be huge contribution	3/4/2015 11:10 AM
3	I'm not concerned about licenses so much as safe tattooing and piercing practices. If all you require is a license then even a bad tattooist can come up with the money for one. That doesn't protect our clients or the industry.	3/2/2015 5:13 PM
4	the apprenticeships should be regulated by having to be "registered" or "on file" as a working apprentice, notification through consent form that "XXXX" is in their apprenticeship and the weight of the apprentices actions within the shop falls to the shop owner.	3/1/2015 12:19 AM
5	We have done ok without these regs for a long time	2/26/2015 8:40 PM

Q3 Which of the following do you believe should be required?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Aftercare instructions	81.25% 13
Participation in apprenticeships	56.25% 9
Certification in bloodborne pathogen training	81.25% 13
Certification in CPR/First aid	43.75% 7
Inspection of equipment	43.75% 7
Inspection of facilities	56.25% 9
Regulation of hours of operation	0.00% 0
Regulation of hazardous materials (ex: sharps)	50.00% 8
Other	0.00% 0
Please explain your selection(s) in 100 characters or less:	56.25% 9
Total Respondents: 16	

#	Please explain your selection(s) in 100 characters or less:	Date
1	The items we selected are what we feel are the most important and relevant points to consider in tattoo studio regulations. Standards with the environment, practices, safety and sterilization, and training are key, and very much needed in the industry here in Pittsburgh.	3/20/2015 1:42 PM

Allegheny County Tattoo Parlor/Artist Regulations Survey

SurveyMonkey

2	If a shop applied to open in Pittsburgh, and myself and a few other truly professional tattoo artist create a board can review and interview, inspect if the new shop will be running a clean shop, our shop operates under osha standards, because we travel and work conventions which have high standards in order to work there	3/4/2015 11:10 AM
3	Regulations would allow us to stop unlicensed tattooing in our state which would stop unsanitary and dangerous atmospheres that cause health risks to clients and promote proper training and procedures in our business	3/1/2015 11:22 PM
4	MSDS, SINGLE USE NEEDLE REQ., ULTRASONIC CLEANING USE/TRAINING, AUTOCLAVE CERT.	3/1/2015 12:19 AM
5	I am completely all for a state license for tattoo and piercing artists. I fix peoples tattoos on a daily basis that they got from some moron tattooing in their basement or kitchen. There are WAY too many tattoo parlors in the area and new ones keep popping up daily because someone sees it on tv and thinks they can draw so they can tattoo. With no regulations they are free to open a shop after they buy their tattoo starter kit off ebay for \$50. I cant legally cut hair in my shop without a state lisencc why should you be able to mark someone for life without one? If you pierce a tongue wrong you can kill someone. Its not something to toy around with. Its not a bad hair cut you live with for 2 weeks its a lifetime commitment	2/28/2015 11:24 AM
6	There have been no calls for nor problems reported that I know of in my 19 years of tattooing, therefore I see no need for regulation at this time.	2/26/2015 11:17 PM
7	Everything checked should be regulated for the safety of the artist and the client in a reasonable manner .	2/26/2015 9:00 PM
8	Artists should know the facts about what they are doing as clients should know how to treat there new tattoo	2/26/2015 8:40 PM
9	nmbmb	2/19/2015 5:51 PM

Q4 How might regulations impact (benefit or harm) tattoo artists or parlors in Allegheny County?

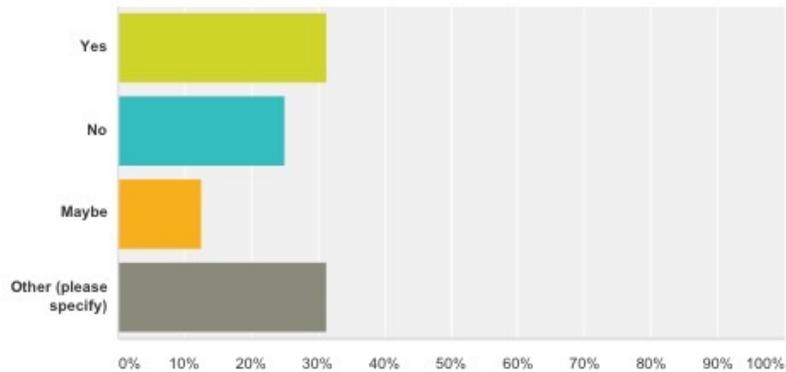
Answered: 15 Skipped: 2

#	Responses	Date
1	The only artists and studios that will be negatively impacted are those that are currently not practicing safe standards in their businesses. The benefit of regulations will be to the uninformed general public that assumes this industry is already regulated in Pennsylvania and Pittsburgh.	3/20/2015 1:42 PM
2	Regulations would benefit the industry, by keeping things safe.	3/6/2015 1:22 PM
3	I feel as though it would do nothing but help, if done right. Shops that are already doing everything right would continue to do so and shops not doing it right would be forced to step it up or shut their doors. We are dealing with the health of our clients and altering their bodies forever, yet there are more health department regulations in serving a cup of coffee. My only fear is that it will be people regulating and check that have no knowledge of the industry and just want to collect fines. all too often when working out of state do we find that other places have inspectors check things that don't matter at all, have wrong information, no idea what they are talking about and don't check things that are important. we need people that are industry specific, not someone who really works in restaurants or something and then checks us as well.	3/5/2015 2:41 PM
4	It will be another tax payers expense, and the city is already taxed with expenses	3/4/2015 11:10 AM
5	My chief concerns with regulation and licensing are always the costs involved (paying more money to conduct ourselves in a very professional and safe manner as most of us already do seems redundant and expensive) and the false sense of security that saying "I'm licensed by Allegheny County" brings to customers. Time and time again I've witnessed regulation with the best of intentions in so many other states and counties, simply lead to confusion, extra costs and severe lack of oversight.	3/3/2015 2:53 PM
6	I would like to see regulations put in place that make sense for the industry. Not just require licenses for artists. It should be about cleanliness of shops and good safe practices rather than just money. The regulations should also make it illegal to tattoo out of residences, bars, etc.	3/2/2015 5:13 PM
7	It will harm. If regulations are required eventually, it should be a state wide mandate. Not county specific.	3/2/2015 10:07 AM

8	It would greatly benefit (real) artist that have gone through the proper process to learn the industry and procedures the correct way. If they have done everything correctly, there will not be an issue. I personally know a few "shops" that should not be operating.	3/1/2015 11:22 PM
9	It will have no difference whatsoever, save for being a payday for the city and take more money out of the pocket of middle class small businessmen and women. It will not stop the hacks who work out of their houses and basements secretly who are the actual danger and problem.	3/1/2015 11:29 AM
10	There is no harm to any artist/parlor/shop/studio. Only protection for the clients and removal of many dangerous and untrained persons tattooing.	3/1/2015 12:19 AM
11	It would make it harder to open a shop so there would ne way less opening on a daily basis. Would also cut back on infections and infectious disease transmission. Hep C is no joking matter snd it's extremely common. Its a serious disease that can easily be transmitted to someone else through cross contamination if you dont know what you're doing and how to keep a sterile environment	2/28/2015 11:24 AM
12	It will increase the burden on small business people while doing nothing to address the home tattooers who are the ones most in need of being controlled. In other words it will only effect those already doing the correct procedures and will have no power over those causing the real risk in tattooing.	2/26/2015 11:17 PM
13	I believe the benefit would be less studios opened or opening that have no real experience or background in the trade . I spent over 5 yrs in a apprenticeship under a professional and take all necessary steps to run a studio if it were regulated by following procedures like other states with regulations including having insurance , that makes the over head cost a lot more for myself, being I'm a professional with 15yrs experience I strive for the best . To many others take short cuts these past couple yrs.	2/26/2015 9:00 PM
14	Again things have not been that bad and why should the county become wealthy off of us	2/26/2015 8:40 PM
15	bcbvbnbv	2/19/2015 5:51 PM

Q5 Should Allegheny County regulate INDIVIDUAL TATTOO ARTISTS?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 1

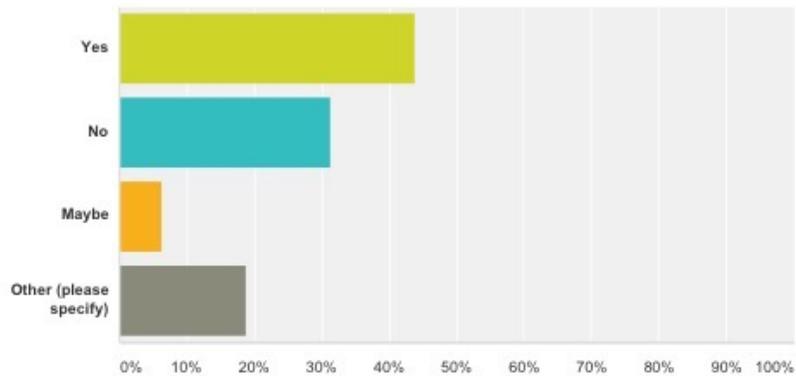


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	31.25% 5
No	25.00% 4
Maybe	12.50% 2
Other (please specify)	31.25% 5

Total		16
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	If a tattooist was properly trained by he's or her master trainer their first year of training is all about workin with blood and understanding cross contamination and blood borne pathogens	3/4/2015 11:10 AM
2	I'm not 100% against a tattoo license like they have in OH. However it needs to be about more than money.	3/2/2015 5:13 PM
3	Only in regards to those who work out of their homes.	3/1/2015 11:29 AM
4	in order for any person to tattoo they must work within a regulated/inspected establishment and hold a current state license. As well, anyone working outside a studio/parlor should be fined heavily.	3/1/2015 12:19 AM
5	Yes there should be a License required for each artist . Requirements a real apprenticeship, blood borne , Cpr , basic first aid	2/26/2015 9:00 PM

Q6 Should Allegheny County regulate TATTOO PARLORS?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	43.75% 7
No	31.25% 5
Maybe	6.25% 1
Other (please specify)	18.75% 3
Total	16

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	It's just another way for the county to collect money's from our already fund loss due to the home unprofessionals "scatchers, kitchen magician's" Ruining our trade, for your info there are more of these kids then there are real shops in our area, Imagine the cash flow for the city fining these underground people \$15000 and possible jail time, this would greatly help our older shops,	3/4/2015 11:10 AM
2	Yes to an extent. Most of the legitimate tattoo shops already take the proper precautions, have the proper equipment and do what they should to protect themselves and their clients. Its pretty sad when hair salons have better regulations than tattoo shops.	3/2/2015 5:13 PM

3	ngfjvnbv	2/19/2015 5:51 PM
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Q7 What would you most like to see changed in how tattooing is presently conducted in Allegheny County?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 1

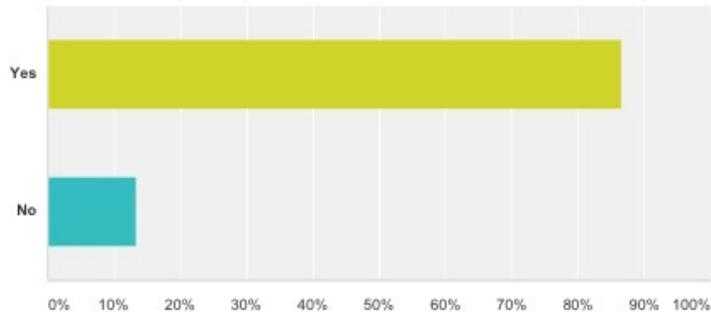
#	Responses	Date
1	There needs to be regulations put in place and enforced. There are dozens of kitchen tattooers out there in the Pittsburgh area alone. These individuals are a danger to the public, they are scarring, and possibly infecting people with their untrained, unsafe, and careless practices. Additionally there are studios with artists who do not use safe standards, and are just as dangerous. These sub standard studios also tend to have issues with artists with drug and alcohol issues (this needs to be addressed within the regulations). We also believe there should be limits on the number of licenses given.	3/20/2015 1:42 PM
2	No tattooing out of houses and no tattoo for people not in a tattoo studio.	3/12/2015 8:49 AM
3	Put shops and artist that damage/ harm people out of business.	3/6/2015 1:22 PM
4	It needs to be regulated, its just ridiculous that it isn't. Most people assume that it is and trust all kinds of places that they shouldn't based on the fact that they have a storefront and an open sign. It's a shop they must be licensed right? people would never even think that it isn't required here.	3/5/2015 2:41 PM
5	A person opening a shop doesn't mean the person is going to leave with a quality disease free tattoo	3/4/2015 11:10 AM
6	Simple safety guidelines are one thing, costly and cumbersome regulations and restrictions are another. I've always believed that an educated public or consumer base is much more effective at weeding out poor quality tattoo shops than even the most stringent regulation. I know my shop (and many others in the area) take pride in what we do, care about our customers and are constantly explaining our procedures to people, even if they end up getting tattooed elsewhere for whatever reason, we want them armed with the correct information, what to look for and the questions to ask to ensure they receive a good quality and safe/clean tattoo experience.	3/3/2015 2:53 PM
7	Right now there are no rules or regulation concerning tattooing or piercing. Anyone can open a shop and spread disease. Anyone can legally tattoo out of their house or bars. I've seen many shops that don't have the proper sterilization equipment. Even people piercing out of the bathrooms at the local mall. Diseases like Hepatitis, MRSA, HIV, and skin infections can be spread due to unsafe tattooing practices.	3/2/2015 5:13 PM
8	No, things have been fine and regulation won't stop underground people from tattooing out of their homes.	3/2/2015 10:07 AM
9	Make licensing mandatory!!!!	3/1/2015 11:22 PM
10	There isn't an epidemic of people getting sick from tattoos, or any widespread problems as it is. With today's tattoo supply marketplace, disposable needles and the like are cheap and easy to come by for even the lowest end artists and shops. "Regulation" will offer very little in my opinion.	3/1/2015 11:29 AM
11	home tattooing stopped/minimized demand sterilization processes and sanitation minimums	3/1/2015 12:19 AM
12	I have been in so many tattoo parlors all through the country. Pennsylvania has hands down some of the dirtiest, most disgusting shops around. I'm amazed that there haven't been wide spread of diseases yet. I've been to one semi-recently that even had wall to wall carpet inside it. How are you supposed to have a sterile working environment with carpet in it???	2/28/2015 11:24 AM
13	It has been self regulating for 2 decades now in allegheny county, I see no need for interference by those not versed in tattooing.	2/26/2015 11:17 PM
14	It shouldn't be so easy to open a shop , there are a ton of great studios that have been around for yrs. and should be grandfathered in. But way to many new ones doing more damage than good .	2/26/2015 9:00 PM
15	Maybe regs on home tattooing like not at all	2/26/2015 8:40 PM
16	mhvbmb	2/19/2015 5:51 PM

Q8 Would you be willing to serve on an

7 / 9

advisory board regarding the potential development of tattoo regulations?

Answered: 15 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	86.67%	13
No	13.33%	2
Total		15

Q9 Other comments or suggestions?

Answered: 13 Skipped: 4

#	Responses	Date
1	We are a Tattoo and Piercing Studio, and we would really like to see regulations with Body Piercing as well. There are just as many safety concerns with Piercing. And we would definitely be willing to serve on an advisory board for Piercing regulations and or Studio regulations.	3/20/2015 1:42 PM
2	We need to let tattoo artist that have the time and experience help make up the regulation.	3/12/2015 8:49 AM
3	We have some amazing artists in this city that hold themselves to the highest of standards. Sadly they are not the majority. I would strongly advise looking into the artist before asking them to serve on the board. just because someone has had a shop for 20 years doesn't make them an expert. many young artists do it right while some may be stuck in their old ways or not up to date. Also make sure you don't count the online bloodborne test as good enough. they are easy to cheat on and barely cover the basics. there are full day classes offered with take home materials that are much better	3/5/2015 2:41 PM
4	Please let me know how I can help, this is very close to my heart, Sincerely JimAllchin	3/4/2015 11:10 AM
5	If and when regulation does happen, it's imperative that the individuals handling the oversight and inspection are well trained and knowledgeable about tattooing! I attend many conventions in states that regulate tattooing, and I'm amazed at how little the inspectors understand about tattooing and lack of effort in their inspections they show. Mostly, it's about collecting the fees and everything else falls far down the priority list.	3/3/2015 2:53 PM
6	Like I stated previously, individual county regulations are not fair. All it's going to do is make us move out business's to another county. It should be a state wide mandate or not at all	3/2/2015 10:07 AM
7	Many other states have rules and regulations, we should to. There is a petition currently filed for this, for quite a while now. I would really like to see this go forward and see this come to light.	3/1/2015 11:22 PM

Appendix F

Advisory Board Contact Information

We contacted several potential members for a Body Art Advisory Board and the following individuals expressed interest in serving the board and provided their contact information for ACHD:

Timothy Azinger
Tattoo Artist and Parlor Owner
Pinnacle Tattoo/MOM Productions
3277 W Liberty Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15216
412-531-5319
tazinger@comcast.net
www.pinnacletattoo.com

Amy Cirelli
Tattoo Parlor Owner & Piercing Artist
Inner Vision Bodyart
513 High St.
Freeport, PA 16229
724-295-2055
tattoo@innervisionbodyart.com

Jason Lambert
Tattoo Parlor Owner & Artist
Black Cat Tattoo
3439 Butler St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15201
412-621-1679
blackcatpgh@gmail.com

Ashley Wills
Consumer & Registered Nurse
319 Forest Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15202
724-679-6667

Jennifer Darkowski
Physician Assistant, Skin Care Specialist
Family Practice Medical Associates
2414 Lytle Rd. #300
Bethel Park, PA
412-835-8090

Contacts outside of Allegheny County for additional questions or resources:

Paul Roe
Britishink Tattoos/Tattoodles Online Inc.
Washington, DC
202-302-1669
www.britishinkdc.com
www.tattoodles.com

Daniel Bires
Tattoo Parlor Owner
Licensed and Inspected
Tattoo Savior
408 W. Main St.
Monongahela, PA 15603
724-292-8338
tattoosavior@gmail.com

Sean McCarthy
Tattoo and Owner Artist
Jester's Court Tattoos and More
Multiple locations
412-784-8282
<http://www.jesterscourttattoos.com>

Appendix G

Example Advisory Board Meeting Agendas

The advisory board should meet several times a year to discuss trends in the county related to body art, ACHD interventions, and future goals and actions. Below are several recommended agendas for Body Art Advisory Board meetings.

First Meeting Agenda:

- ACHD Overview
- Member introductions
- Discuss the goals of the advisory board
- Review this report and recommendations
- Discuss the potential impact of recommendations
- Next steps

Industry Overview Agenda:

- Health Impact of body art
- Equipment and aftercare
- Trends in body art in Allegheny County
- Extreme body art in Allegheny County
- Next steps

Regulations in Allegheny County Agenda:

- Discuss other jurisdictions' regulations
- What works and what doesn't work?
- How would regulations be implemented and enforced?
- Effect of regulations on small businesses
- Apprenticeships
- Next steps

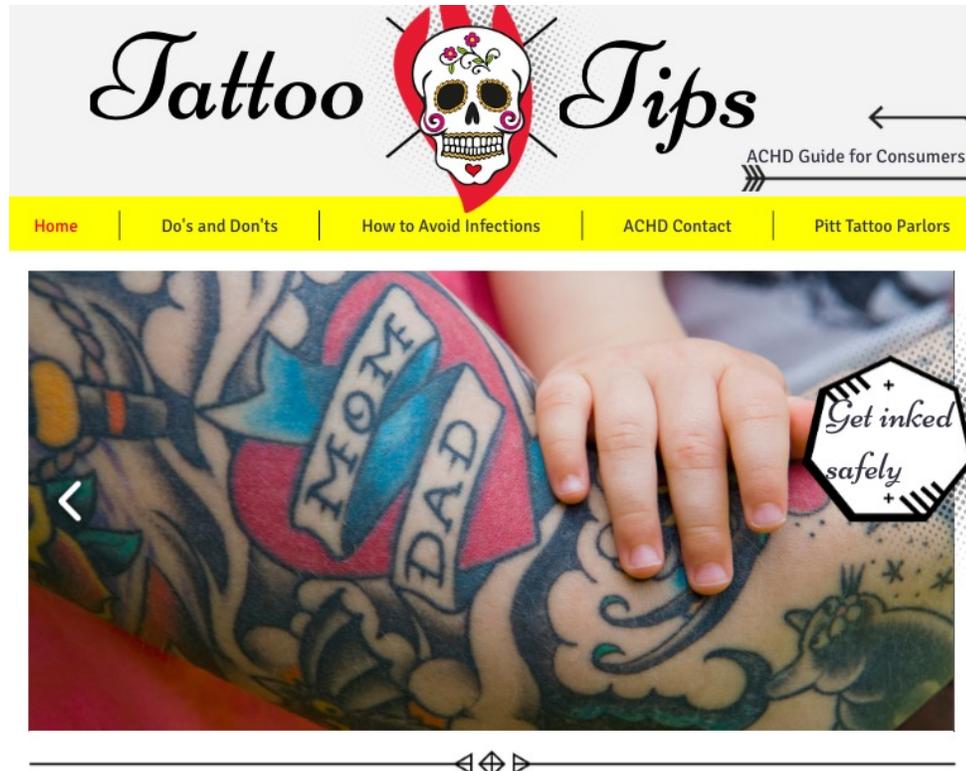
Community Outreach Agenda:

- Consumer Demographics
- Effective outreach methods
- Available resources to implement recommendations/regulations

Appendix H Example Consumer Website

We developed the following website as an example of an educational resource for consumers in Allegheny County: <http://anjaniparikh.wix.com/tattoo>

Screenshot from the website:



THE ACHD WANTS YOU TO GET INKED, SAFELY.

Although tattoo parlors are not regulated in Allegheny County (Pittsburgh), or in the state of PA - the Allegheny County Health Department wants you to know about how to get inked, safely.

This website is designed to provide you with the resources you need to learn more about safe tattoo practices, and how to spot parlors/artists who practice safe tattooing.

Appendix I
Example “Do and Don’t” List for Consumers

Do’s	Dont’s
Go to a trusted and reputable tattoo parlor	Consume alcohol before receiving a tattoo
Ask if your artist has completed blood-borne pathogens training	Allow inexperienced artists to give you a tattoo
Ask your artist how much tattooing experience he or she has	Pick or scratch at your tattoo while it is healing
Ask your artist if they properly sterilize reusable equipment with an autoclave	Expose your tattoo to direct or indirect sunlight while it is healing
Ask your artist if stencils and preparation equipment are reused	Get a tattoo in an unsanitary environment
Ask your artist to use new latex gloves when cleaning and tattooing your skin	Submerge your tattoo in water until it is completely healed
Make sure your artist cleans and disinfects your skin thoroughly before tattoo	Get a tattoo if you are taking certain medications that could increase bleeding (discuss with doctor)
Tell your artist of any allergies you have particularly metal or chemical	
Eat and drink prior to the application of your tattoo	
Ask for verbal and written aftercare instructions	
Contact a medical professional right away if you believe an infection is developing	

Appendix J

Email to Local Universities and Points of Contact

We sent the following email to local universities about marketing an educational campaign on their campuses:

Dear (Name Here),

I hope this email finds you well.

By way of background, The University of Pittsburgh School of Law and the Graduate School of Public Health are currently engaged with the Allegheny County Health Department in an investigation into the state of tattooing in the county.

One result from this semester long project, is the recommendation that the health department undertake a consumer awareness campaign, so that all potential consumers are aware of the risks associated with tattooing and the best practices to be employed if a person intends to get a tattoo. Currently, there is no formal regulation of tattoo parlors in our county.

A large percentage of individuals who frequent the county's tattoo shops are students at the area's many schools. The purpose of this email is to gauge interest about a possible partnership if the health department should undertake the awareness campaign. For example, would your office email students the health department's informational material? Would your office consider allowing the health department to offer pamphlets about the health implications of unsafe tattooing? We do not need a concrete "Yes" or "No," we would just like to get a sense of stakeholders' interest in participation.

Please let us know if your institution would be interested in discussion the initiative further.

Thank you for your consideration.

The following individuals responded to our email and said they would be interested in working with ACHD to promote an educational campaign on tattoo health and safety to their students:

Keith A. Paylo
Associate Vice President of Student Affairs
Dean of Student Affairs, Dean of Students
Point Park University
412-392-3862
kpaylo@pointpark.edu

Paula Martin, MS RDN LDNI
Director of Health Promotion Programs
Carnegie Mellon University
1060 Morewood Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412-268-1390
paulam@andrew.cmu.edu
cmu.edu/health-services
cmu.edu/healthy-campus

Dr. Ron Giles
Director of Student Health and Wellness
Chatham University
Student Health & Wellness
412-365-1269
rgiles@chatham.edu
<http://www.chatham.edu/campuslife/osa/afc/>

Christopher J. Willis, MA
Director of Housing and Residence Life
La Roche College
9000 Babcock Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
412-536-1194
christopher.willis@laroche.edu

Steve Anderson
Associate Dean and Director of Residence Life
University of Pittsburgh
412-648-1200
stevea@pitt.edu

