

Governments are getting too uppity

The Quebec government wants to ban smoking even in private clubs, bars, outdoor terraces that have a rain cover, and within nine metres of many buildings. A municipal government in Newfoundland has ordered a man to dismantle a children's tree-house on his own property because it doesn't meet the national housing code standards. Several North American levels of government are considering a tax on junk food. The United States is planning on a mandatory national ID card. New improved surveillance cameras will have their eyes on us on St. Denis St.

Is it just me, or is there a pattern emerging here? On the 60th anniversary of VE Day, I wonder if this is what my grandparents' generation fought for.

David Romano

Montreal

Smoking ban will hurt my business

Last week, I decided to do a small survey in the bar I own, and the results astounded even me.

Over a five-day period, 94 per cent of the people who walked into my bar were smokers. Ninety-four per cent! What will happen to my business? Why can't we make some bars smoke-free and others for smokers? Why not leave the choice up to us?

The last time I checked all bar patrons had to be at least 18. I think as adults we have earned the right to make our own choices.

Herc Nikolopoulos

Laval

May 16, 2005
Gazette