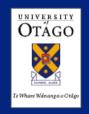
The politics of alcohol: What can be learned from tobacco?



Introduction – Nick Wilson, University of Otago

The societal context (from a public health perspective)

- Powerful industries often multinational corporations
- Weak government controls insufficient regulation of hazardous products
- Political processes excessive influence by commercial interests eg, long delays seen in NZ for:
 - tobacco control
 - removal of leaded petrol
 - end to asbestos imports
 - greenhouse gas controls

Wilson N. The Politics of Alcohol: What can be learned from tobacco? Introduction [Oral presentation]. The Politics of Alcohol The Politics of Alcohol: Imagine NZ without Alcohol Damage – Conference. Wellington, Te Papa, 1 June 2011.

Tobacco control vs alcohol control



- 1) Somewhat different goals "Smokefree NZ" vs minimising harm from alcohol (but some "elimination" goals possible for alcohol, eg, end to alcohol-related traffic deaths)
- 2) Much joint relevance for: (i) tax/pricing; (ii) marketing controls; (iii) mass media campaigns.
- 3) Limited (but still some) overlap: Smokefree environments & local liquor bans / other local controls.