

Lisa Hall

Dear Santa,

Hi there. How are you?

I just thought I'd write to ask for some Christmas gifts. That is, if I'm still on your 'give' list.

I don't know if I deserve anything -I have been sorta bad this year. But then, I've just been doing what everyone else has been doing, just doing what's always been done. And it's hard to break a bad habit.

But I've been wondering if these bad habits do more than exclude us from your 'give' list.

Do they affect you in other ways? For example, I'm sure you still have rosy cheeks, Santa. But are they rosy from the arctic wind blowing across your face?

Or did a man-made hole in the ozone layer provide your red cheeks, by sending harmful sun rays to burn your face?

For the sake of our own convenience, we've used disposable styrofoam products, hairspray, and more, which have loaded the sky with ozone eating CFC's that have drifted north to create an arctic gap in the protective layer.

For the sake of our own convenience, we've inconvenienced you, by turning sunlight into your enemy. I'm sure the winter solstice and continual darkness are welcome up there.

And now we want Christmas from you.

We all-well, most of us-know that our habits are harmful to the environment. We've read the articles and seen the TV specials on deforestation, the depleting ozone layer, and the greenhouse effect.

Many of us realize that it is important to stop our destructive habits. But that's damn hard, Santa. We've been socialized into this lifestyle of disposable products, and socialized into a lifestyle where An urgent Christmas wish

you're not cool if don't drive a car everywhere, all the time. Taking the bus is for dweebs.

We just can't socialize ourselves out of habits, even though we know we should.

Probably the only way we will ever stop destroying the environment is when it does something detrimental in return that will affect us personally.

We are notoriously guilty of doing something that we feel we shouldn't: then when it blows up, we gain a huge amount of hindsight. It's like

a smoker who knows he should quit, but doesn't. Then when he gets cancer, says, "I should have

At this rate, Santa, we all will be saying, "We should have quit that... in 20 or 50 years.

So what we need for Christmas, Santa, I don't know if you can deliver. But if you can, it would help you and everyone and everything greatly.

What we need, Santa, is foresight. Sincerely,



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