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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Should the bear that ate human remains be killed?

Home » Opinion » Letters

Lives worth more than green lawns

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JUNE 5, 2012

B.C. banned smoking in all workplaces in 2008. It has been thought that smoking causes cancer since the 1950s and our government is just now banning it. We have no doubt now that we, citizens and employees of B.C., have a right to health as it relates to smoking. Why should the same right not be extended as it relates to pesticides? They, too, are known carcinogens.

Are we to sit idly while the province hems and haws about whether to ban the use of cosmetic pesticides? Or should we take matters into our own hands and join the 39 other municipalities in B.C. that have already taken a stand? Many health organizations, including both the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation and Canadian Cancer Society, support the ban. This should resonate with you.

Mr. Giles attacks Donovan Cavers' credentials but I was able to obtain much information about the links between pesticide use and cancer, reproductive problems and neurological illnesses using a short Internet search.

If you have doubts, try the Canadian Cancer Society's website. Worksafe B.C. also has extensive information for workers applying pesticides. They wear protective gear to ensure their health is not damaged by exposure to the chemicals they spray. Mr. Giles, when these workers leave your property, do you wear the same protective gear?

Cancer is prevalent. Not a week goes by that I don't hear of a person or a pet that has been diagnosed with it. Prevention is the key and reducing our exposure to unnecessary chemicals is one of the ways to accomplish this. A green lawn can't possibly be worth more than the health and well-being of Kamloops' families.

DAPHANE NELSON

Kamloops

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Comments

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nofabians

Welcome to "Brave New World" of the precautionary principle. If you think the problem as dire as indicated by your Search Engine Optimized results, pararded by the usual suspects, you may also consider abandoning all prescription medications...10,000 deaths/year in Canada when used as directed. All

- Yes
- No

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Survey results are meant for general information only, and are not based on recognised statistical methods.

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vaccinations containing mercury and/or aluminum preservatives (pretty much all of them), all commercially grown foods, all chlorinated water, breathing anywhere petroleum consuming vehicles travel etc.

ALL substances are poisons depending on dosage, from water, to salt, to 2-4-D, to plutonium. If you seriously believe temporary exposure to substances whose toxicity would be manifestly obvious after more than 60 years of continuous use at concentrations hundreds of times greater in the past than present is really a big problem you need to find a non-toxic, organic bubble to live in.

People die in plane crashes, we still travel. People die in road accidents, we still drive. People die in house fires, we still live in houses...or do you want to ban them too? No? Could it be that's because you drive, fly and live somewhere?

Look up totalitarianism in the dictionary, then look up property rights, be thoughtful when considering which system of law you prefer.

4 days ago 6 Likes Like Reply



LetmebeFrank1

Prescription medications have benefits that outweigh the risks.

Vaccinations have benefits that outweigh the risks.

Chlorinated water has benefits if water must travel and sit in pipes after treatment, and if you're worried about the health risks you can remove it with a simple carbon filter.

Houses have benefits that outweigh the risk of a house fire when compared to living outside.

The benefit of being able to travel quickly and easily outweighs the risks of dying in a car or plane crash.

Cosmetic pesticides help your lawn look "pretty". Sorry, that's not worth the risk.

3 days ago in reply to nofabians 4 Likes Like Reply



LivintheLoops

Just to add an ironic touch to your well-said comment. Every year about 2%, or about 60-70, of all road fatalities are cyclists. The irony is that the grand poo-bah of the "ban the weed'n'feed" set is also the same guy that is doing everything he can to get people on a bicycle. Do you suppose he understands that 2% of those he sends out there are destined to become a statistic?

Funny, in cycling helmets they don't put, "If you choose to put this helmet on you have a 2% chance of winding up dead!" and accompany it with a full colour photo of some poor schnook splattered all over an F350's front grill. People are odd, some deaths we completely accept and others become such a cause-celeb. I tend to think the bandwagon we are most likely to jump on is the one that personally inconveniences us the least or personally benefits us the most.

4 days ago in reply to nofabians 1 Like Like Reply



bcgirl22

Livin' - you have misused your statistic. It does not say that 2 percent of cyclists end up dead, it says that out of all those that die in a year in road fatalities 2 percent are cyclists (I assume the

other 98% are in cars and by your logic our cars should say "If you drive me you have a 98% chance of ending up dead.")

I don't know where you got the stats but your interpretation is completely incorrect.

4 days ago in reply to LivinintheLoops 3 Likes

Like Reply



nofabians

You are clearly deluded bcgirl. Your probability of being killed or seriously injured in an accident on a bicycle are several orders of magnitude higher than in an automobile. Variables are: total passenger miles traveled by bicycle, total passenger miles traveled by car, divided by fatalities and/or injuries. Of course like all statistics individual results may vary based on type of travel and risk taking behavior of individuals. But, the only overall conclusion one could draw, based on your own criteria for pesticide/herbicide banning is that bicycles should be outlawed as a clearly unacceptable risk to individuals and an unsupportable cost to healthcare.

4 days ago in reply to bcgirl22 2 Likes

Like Reply



LetmebeFrank1

Looks more like you're confused than that bcgirl is deluded. She was showing LiningintheLoops the lack of logic in his claim that you have a 2% chance of dying if you choose to put on a helmet and ride, not saying that 98% of people who get into a vehicle will die. It would really help if you would fully read a response and actually try and understand it before responding.

Cycling, while having some risk, also has rather large health benefits which more than make up for and negatives. I look forward to you showing the health benefits of cosmetic pesticides.

3 days ago in reply to nofabians 3 Likes

Like Reply



nofabians

It must make you feel smug to live in an echo chamber where every sound you hear reaffirms your beliefs and any discordant evidence to the contrary of the "product" your belief system posits is delusional. IN A FREE SOCIETY BASED ON COMMON LAW IT IS ENCUMBENT ON YOU TO SHOW THE HARM. That is to factually demonstrate the harm with evidence, not ideological claptrap. The narcissism of the "mean green meme" boggles my mind.

3 days ago
in reply to LetmebeFrank1 2 Likes

Like Reply



LetmebeFrank1

Seeing as you are the only one labeling anyone with a contrary believe delusional I guess your post applies most to you.

3 days ago
in reply to nofabians

Like Reply

WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE & NORAH G, WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NOR...

Daphane Nelson is WRONG !

There are NO pest control products that are known or probable carcinogens.

Even Canadian Cancer Society's own web-sites states that scientific research does NOT provide a conclusive link between pest control products and cancer.

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-4qC>

There is NOT ONE KNOWN CANCER DEATH from the proper use of pest control products used in the Urban Landscape.

Pest control products are SCIENTIFICALLY SAFE, and NO HARM WILL OCCUR when they are used according to label directions.

Anti-Pesticide Activists like Nelson also attempt to compare cigarettes with pest control products — this is PITIFULLY RIDICULOUS, as well as LAUGHABLY STUPID !

There is NO FEDERAL REGISTRATION of tobacco products.

By comparison, there ARE agencies that REGULATE pest control products — EPA and Health Canada.

There is NO agency that regulates tobacco, except perhaps for restricting access to young people.

By comparison, there IS an agency that REGULATES pest control products — EPA and Health Canada.

Moreover, cigarettes are ABOVE THE LAW because our governments have chosen to shield them from the regulatory process.

This is NOT the case with pest control products.

Our governments have chosen to HEAVILY REGULATE pest control products.

Pest control products are STRINGENTLY TESTED and REGULATED in order to ensure that they are SCIENTIFICALLY SAFE and CAUSE NO HARM.

MYTH-BUSTING - CANCER, THE MYTH OF (Web-Page)

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-2nl>

WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G



NORAHG is the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to harm the Green space industry.

<http://pesticidetruths.com/>

<http://wp.me/p1jq40-4mS>

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr>

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