

The march was organized by the Stop Climate Chaos coalition, who estimate that 20,000 people turned up. It kicked off with a rally outside the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square to demand that the Bush administration ratify the **Kyoto Protocol**. Here, the demonstrators followed in the footsteps of that other well-known progressive Osama bin Laden (and numerous others, of course) who in a Letter to America in 2002 accused it of having “destroyed nature with your industrial waste and gases more than any other nation in history, [yet] you refuse to sign the **Kyoto agreement** so that you can secure the profit of your greedy companies and industries.” This was almost the exact same argument made by most of the demonstrators, though I’m pleased to report that there was no ‘Al-Qaeda against climate change’ contingent.

**Source:** Brendan O’Neill, "A March of Middle-Class Miserabilists," *Spiked*, 11/7/2006

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Renault...says pedestrian safety takes a high priority, but that it has chosen not to make its cars safer for pedestrians because of uncertainties over a forthcoming European Pedestrian Safety Directive. "We are waiting to find out which direction the EU wants to go in," a spokesman says. The directive will force car makers to meet minimum standards for pedestrian safety.... In Phase 1 of the directive, new models sold in the EU must meet preliminary standards from October 2005, and all new cars must meet the standards by 2012. ...

Phase 2 imposes more demanding tests, which apply to new models from 2010, and to new cars from 2015. ... EU-wide, Phase 2 is expected to prevent 854 deaths a year among pedestrians and cyclists, and 36,917 serious injuries.

However, the European Commission is under pressure from Europe's car makers and their representative body, ACEA, to make the Phase 2 tests less stringent. ... ACEA's proposals have been calculated to **lead to** 443 additional deaths and 9,746 additional serious injuries every year, relative to the original proposals.

**Source:** Oliver Tickell, "Crash Course in Safety", *Guardian Unlimited*, 7/7/2005

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Hate based on skin color and/or ethnic and cultural differences still festers among us. It's an aggressive monster that actively seeks putrefaction like itself so it may commune and **spawn**. It spreads **like a fungus**, seeking to multiply.

The Internet has been a fertile ground for groups to plant **evil** seeds. As ways to interact on the Internet have grown, so **grow** the hate groups. Online communities, which so innocently attempt to bring like-minded individuals together for virtual socializing, created a nice **breeding** ground for **venom**.

**Source:** "Google Should Act," *Contra Costa Times*, 3/10/2005

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We hated the war, but we loved it too. Vietnam made us special, a generation with a mission. Vietnam gave the semblance of moral shape to what was actually a formless hatred of "the system." The war justified every excess, every violent thought and deed. Heaving a rock at some corporation's window, we banished guilt by the thought: This is for the Vietnamese. Trying to set fire to a university library, we said to ourselves: This is for the Vietnamese. If the war gave us license, it also gave us an addictive sense of moral superiority: we were better than the circumstances in which we were forced to live. If we committed small misdemeanors of indecency, they were in the long run justified by the much larger and more obscene crime in Southeast Asia.

**Source:** Peter Collier, "Something Happened to Me Yesterday", in *Destructive Generation: Second Thoughts About the Sixties*, with David Horowitz (Summit Books, 1989), p. 264.

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On the campaign trail, [John Kerry]'s in favor of raising taxes on everybody who makes over \$200,000 a year. Unless, of course, he's the one being asked to pay more, in which case, forget about it.

We know this because of a little whoopee cushion recently inserted into the income tax forms of his home state of Massachusetts. ...[A]n anti-tax group managed to place a line on the tax form giving Bay Staters the option of paying at the old, since-repealed 5.85 percent rate, rather than at the current 5.3 percent rate.

For two years now, John Kerry has had the opportunity to pay his "fair share." But the Democratic Party candidate for president has taken the money and ran.

"Why do you even call asking about this?" his spokesman, Michael Meehan, said Saturday morning. "He has made the same decision as 99.9 percent of his fellow Massachusetts residents"

**Source:** Howie Carr, "A Flying Squirrel", *New York Post*, 4/19/2004

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The case of the ecologist who linked the cycles of the Canadian lynx and its prey, the snowshoe rabbit, with the sunspot cycle is instructive. The ecologist analyzed records of the Hudson Bay Company, which had been collecting pelts of the two species since 1735; he found that the two populations fluctuated up and down, displaying a periodicity of approximately ten years. Not surprisingly, the variations in the predatory lynx population tended to follow the ups and downs in the rabbit population with a time lag of a couple of years.

Then the ecologist superimposed the two curves atop a similar graph representing the concurrent sunspot activity: *voilà!* The three cycles approximately coincided over a good portion of their range. The ecologist leaped to the conclusion that the annual fluctuations of the lynx and rabbit populations were controlled by the eleven-year sunspot cycle....

**Source:** Lawrence E. Jerome, "Astrology: Magic or Science?", in *Objections to Astrology* by Bart J. Bok & Lawrence E. Jerome (Prometheus, 1975), p. 57.

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