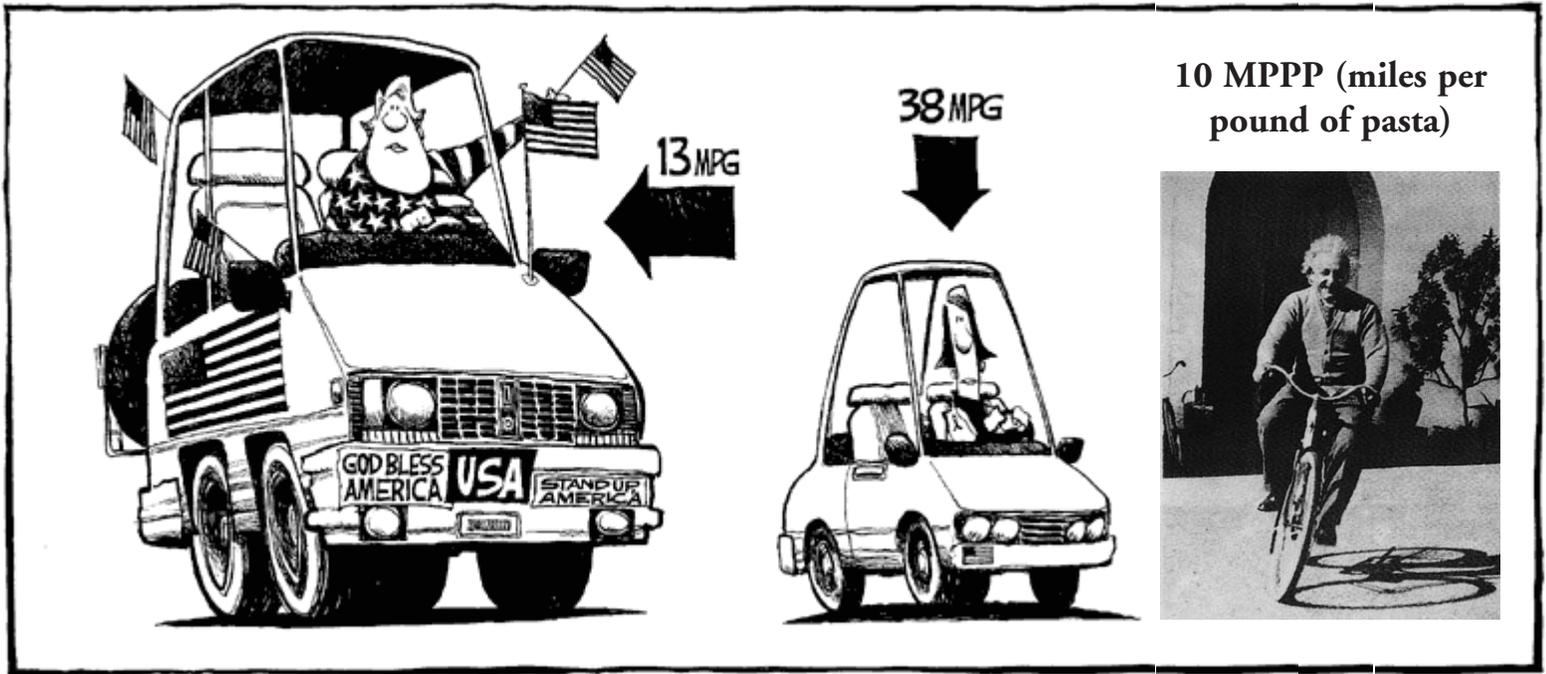


CAR SHOW COMICS!

W. BRIGMAN
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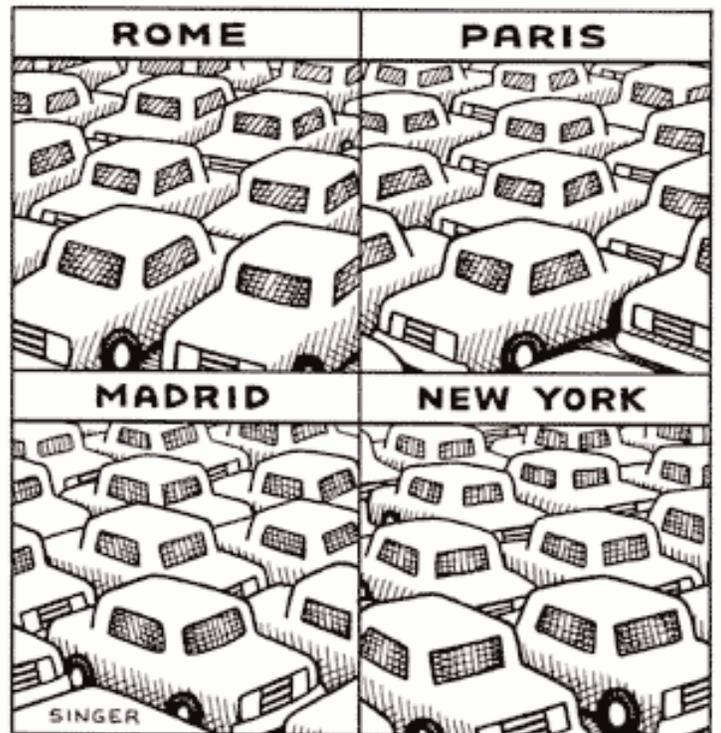
Choose the Patriot



DRIVE TO WORK / WORK TO DRIVE



GREAT CITIES OF THE WORLD



CHICAGO?

Welcome to the 2003 Chicago Auto Show Protest!

The automobile industry spends over \$10,000,000,000 (ten billion) dollars a year to glorify automobiles. Please take a few minutes to read this single page of facts to counter their propaganda.

The Auto Show will tell you that cars are safe, when **43,000 Americans and 500,000 people worldwide are killed by cars every year**, and automobile fatalities have held steady for the last twenty years. Many of victims of cars are not even drivers. In fact, **automobile accidents are the leading killer of children ages 4 to 14 in the U.S.** And the ever-increasing size of cars and SUVs makes the roads more hazardous every day.

The Auto Show will tell you that cars are the most efficient way to get around. They will tell you that public transportation doesn't work because it "loses" money, while **the U.S. spends nearly \$200,000,000 per day building and rebuilding roads**. There is a better way to plan cities that are not completely car-oriented and to invest in real transportation options instead of simply building more roads that only increase traffic and congestion. Transportation should be planned around people, not cars.

The Auto Show will tell you that cars give you personal freedom. But **think about how much time you spend every year stuck in traffic**, looking for parking, or simply cooped in a your car, not to mention the costs of gas, insurance, and parking. Is your car really saving you time or money?

The Auto Show will tell you that cars are getting more fuel-efficient, when in fact **the average fuel economy of cars in the U.S. continues to decline**. Most of the technological advances in the automobile industry in the last thirty years have gone to increased horsepower, not fuel efficiency.

The Auto Show will even tell you that driving a car is patriotic. Well, **think for a minute about where your gas money goes**. Most of it goes out of the country to regimes that are not always friendly to America. Oil dependence causes us to forge alliances with despots and tyrants, and pulls us into conflicts. Even if we drill all of our own land dry, including Alaska, we would still have to import oil. U.S. reserves of oil will be depleted by 2020, and world reserves by 2040. Within the next decade, new U.S. oil will require more energy for extraction than is obtained from the oil itself.

So, what do we want? After all, it's cold out here, and we're not making any money from this. Do we want everyone to throw out their cars and ride bicycles? No. (Although riding a bike is a fun, quick, and healthy way to get around!) **We only want you to know the facts**. Just like cigarette companies, the automobile industry wants to increase your dependence on their product. We are not protesting drivers, only the culture, created and perpetuated by the automobile industry, that tries to give you no other options than to drive.

Why are we protesting the Auto Show? For all the reasons listed and more. We believe that our children deserve to live in a world where congestion, smog, global warming, and urban sprawl do not threaten their health and their economy. Our city, our nation, and our planet deserve better.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. For more information, please visit the following web sites: www.carfree.com, www.culturechange.org, and www.chicagocriticalmass.org.