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Subject: Re: How many of you own bicycles and make use of them?

Posted by [EvilWhiteDragon](#) on Wed, 23 Mar 2011 09:32:28 GMT

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reborn wrote on Wed, 23 March 2011 09:45 Don't own a bike.

Any journey I take is either short enough to walk, or long enough to drive.

I could cycle to work I guess, but as London is dangerous on the roads and I value my life, I never would. Why the mayor decided to add public bicycles is beyond me (it doesn't ease congestion or pollution, as cars are on the roads longer and in lower gears poodling along behind the bikes).

Well, if you have less cars on the roads, they are less often involved in traffic jams, so the air gets cleaner. Another argument is that it's easier to fit a lot of bicycles on the road than a lot of cars, and that the road safety for cyclists and pedestrians increases with less cars on the road. A cyclist crashing into another cyclist or pedestrian will have less severe injuries than when a car crashes into a cyclist or pedestrian.

Edit:

I got to mention that I know of only two countries in which bicycling feels rather safe: Denmark and the Netherlands. Motorists in these countries are used to people on bicycles and are more aware of the potential dangers I think.

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