



While driving home through Shrewsbury I came across a clearing where all of the trees and foliage had been stripped, leaving the land naked and bare. That really struck me, because it was a location that had always been a dense woods on the corner of two streets. Seeing it in this state was shocking and made me realize the importance of preserving our planet, not for its sake, but for ours. Our society today is ruled by superficial matters such as appearance and fashion. We too often forget the value of our lives here on Earth. As a result, I embarked on a mission to point out our flaws in a connected world and encourage people to realize their folly. Let's focus on what really matters: saving our planet and enjoying our lives to the fullest in a non-materialistic manner. Please enjoy!

## **Addressing the Needs of a Mobile Age**

As we drive down a bustling avenue in downtown New York or swiftly sail an endless river of black asphalt, it pains us as passengers to be stranded and detached from the human world. With the demise of unlimited data, it is no longer a simple feat to divulge to all our acquaintances our experiences and feelings, from the overtly petty dialogues and mundane tasks to the profound philosophical insights about the meaning of Taylor Swift's latest single. On ceaseless trips without internet, minutes are eternities, and filling the abysmal void with mindless games is simply a bore. A short stop at a restaurant is sweet relief from the isolated capsules: a chance to take pictures of the healthy salads that we eat and one up our best friends who claim to be on a diet. There's nothing simple about a life in which every passing moment of the day is documented and uploaded for the world to see. It is paramount to uphold our appearances and fashion choices such that nothing is out of date. What else is there to do but elucidate last night's episode of Game of Thrones and whisper our secret celebrity crushes? As such, being in a car in the absence of an internet connection, our lives become meaningless. So often am I lacking this when in city traffic that I, myself, struggle greatly with depression. I catch short glimpses of the telephone towers atop the tall skyscrapers, yet their beacon of hope fails to reach me. Our society is now in dire need of better infrastructure or we will have to face an epidemic of social anxiety and be devastated by a bout of depression.

Though technology marches on with a swift pace, our infrastructure is hardly contemporary. Yet the fault lies not with the politicians who work tirelessly for our benefit, but with the poor and middle class who fail to pay their taxes in a timely manner. As a result of the laziness of the poor, living off of government subsidy such as food stamps and Obamacare, the government must operate at a loss. How then can we expect it to maintain our infrastructure? There have been a number of proposed solutions, such as introducing internet balloons floating high in the sky or sewing antennae into our clothes. These simply cannot work as the balloons will just float away in the wind and be lost forever and I know of no vogue person who would dare have metal poking around their delicate lace clothes. However inexpensive and readily available the solutions are, our police force is simply not ready to deal with renegade balloons and our society is not ready to embrace such an immense change in clothing style. I shall now attempt to propose a simple solution, which I hope will not raise any objections from even the most vapid individuals.

My humble proposal to solve this crisis is extremely elegant, refined, and sagacious. I propose that we genetically modify trees all over the world to produce wifi signals. Rather than producing antiquated oxygen, the trees will emit a vital resource for the modern age. Not only will genetic modification encourage people to plant more trees for increased internet connectivity, but also provide a tasteful splash of green in an otherwise gray and metallic world. Is it not immensely important for both ourselves and our environment to be fashionably dressed? As many experts in the field have highly

regarded this proposition, only a deleterious individual could disagree. With emerging advanced genetic modification technologies such as CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats), it takes months to do what previously took years. Obviously, after the genetic modification of the trees, they will stop producing oxygen. However, this is not an issue, as we can still purchase oxygen tanks from local suppliers and hospitals and put them in our homes and cars so that we may breathe at ease. Every car, workplace, and home would have its own portable oxygen tank to provide for our breathing needs. By the time the atmosphere will be entirely depleted of its oxygen content, the human race will have advanced to the point where going outside would simply not be a necessity. In the meantime, society needs to stop focusing on superficial matters such as global warming. Last winter was the coldest winter on record! Rather, we must focus on what is most important to us, connecting with our friends and families to share pictures of all our meals, morning routines, and social gossip that binds us together as society.

This unpretentious scheme is thus so far unsurpassed in its ability to bring society together and resolve its most pressing issues. I request with great fervor that this proposal is brought forth to our government and considered by the people. Genetically modifying trees to produce wifi signals is an excellent strategy to proliferate our social network and bring the whole of society closer together to talk about just how bad Justin Bieber's fashion choice is.