

To Whom it May Concern,

I would like to express my objection to compulsory helmet laws.

Firstly I believe it should be up to the individual to decide if they wish to use a helmet, particularly when they are sound minded adults.

I think the chance of a helmet saving you in the event of a collision with a vehicle is pretty minimal, as catastrophic injury to other parts of the body will probably do the job without need for a head injury, however we, thankfully, are not forced to wear a suit of armour!

Falling from a bike is less likely than falling from a horse... trust me I ride both! However horse riders get to choose whether they wish to wear a helmet or not.

I enjoy riding my bike and do so for fitness as well as pleasure. There are many times I would like to ride my bike to the shops when shopping for clothes or gifts, but due to the fact that my hair is squashed down, sweaty and looking very unflattering, by the time I get there, I take the car instead. Unnecessarily adding pollution to the air and further congesting the roads as well as depriving me of exercise.

I think people should have the right, in a democratic society, to choose for themselves whether they wear a helmet or not. My father sold his bike as soon as compulsory helmet laws came in and never cycled again, so I can personally testify that compulsory helmet laws do stop people using bicycles.

I hope you will seriously consider abolishing this ineffectual law and allow us the right to choose for ourselves whether to wear a helmet or not.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my opinion on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Jill Hardman