

October 19, 2009

To: Jon Gosselin, c/o Mike Heller

From: Michelle Cho

**Via e-mail:** [REDACTED]

Dear Jon,

I hope this message finds you well. As you might know, PETA is the largest animal rights organization in the world, with more than 2 million members and supporters dedicated to the protection of animals.

We're writing today after seeing [photos](#) of you and Hailey taking a recent horse-drawn carriage ride. We wanted to let you know about the new movement to get [horse-drawn carriages](#) banned in New York City because of the pain and suffering that working horses endure. We hope to replace the exhausted working horses with new, eco-friendly replicas of classic cars. A bill to ban horse-drawn carriages was introduced by New York City Council member Tony Avella after all attempts to regulate the industry failed. A movie called [Blinders](#) was even made to document the cruelty inherent in the industry.

Horse-drawn carriages cause countless traffic accidents that injure both horses and people, and veterinarians have shown that the horses contract lung disease from working every day in city traffic with their noses near exhaust-spewing tailpipes. The damage to horses' lungs is comparable to what heavy smokers experience. Horses are forced to pull carriages in all weather extremes, and many of them go lame from constantly walking on hard pavement (their hooves were designed for grass and dirt). When they grow too old, tired, or ill to continue pulling heavy loads, many worn-out horses are slaughtered and turned into dog food or feed for carnivores in zoos or are shipped overseas for human consumption.

We're sure that you had no idea about the cruelty inherent in the horse-drawn carriage industry, but we're also certain that you'd want to know about it, and we hope that you will refuse to support the industry in the future. Other compassionate celebrities who support the horse-drawn carriage ban in New York City include Calvin Klein, Cindy Adams, Sharon and Ozzy Osbourne, Pink, Kristen Johnston, and Alec Baldwin.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at [REDACTED], extension [REDACTED], or [REDACTED]. Many thanks for your time and attention.

Best regards,

Michelle Cho  
PETA