

Dear Santa: Christmas Sucks!



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By Daggi Pulz

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Christmas time is finally here, and most people during this holiday are happier than a fat kid eating a Krispy Kreme donut. Christmas brings so many great things to the table; the caroling, the NO SCHOOL, the snowmen and hour long snowball fights that ends with bloody noses, the eggnog and drunken relatives, the presents, holiday parties, and the drinking hot coco next to a roaring fire while cuddling up with your loved one. How could anybody not love this great holiday! It's a hiatus from the dark sadness of reality and a time where you can be ridiculously happy! But maybe too happy...

In a recent poll, over 45 percent said that they dreaded the holiday altogether. Not everyone seems to see the light that Christmas brings, and if you look harder into the eyes of this joyous holiday, you may see why. More people kill themselves around Christmas time than any other time of year. "Well," Khayeni Sanders, a fellow Christmas lover states, "I think you should make a club, or a house, for those people. It's like an equivalent of a homeless shelter! Wait, what's the question again?"

There are several reasons why people just don't like Christmas, one is that spending Christmas alone is a very depressing situation for anyone. The couple theme that constantly exists with this holiday is not easy to hide from if you are single. For people who are already suffering from depression, the Christmas season only makes it worse. Another reason is the belief that Christmas has become too commercial. In fact, over 50 percent of people polled said that they think Christmas should be toned down a bit. "It definitely has become too commercial with people putting out decorations two months in advance, but the spirit behind it has generally stayed the same for most people" declared Sarah Geiger. A third common reason why Christmas isn't favored by some is that there is often a feeling that

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everyone else is having a better time than you. The constant belly–full–of–jelly laughs around the company water cooler may have you thinking, "Did I miss something? Am I being left out?!"

What's going on?!" Other more common dislikes are the constant money spending, the overeating, and the Christmas parties. Christmas time can also remind people of a lost one, which could make anyone, have a miserable Christmas time. All of these horrible things that tag along with Christmas could make even Satan cry a tear of sympathy for the people who just can't see the joy Christmas can bring. It's a shame not everyone can be happy during this time of year, but being depressed on Christmas is completely understandable. These poor saps seem to miss the Christmas bliss train every year, but who knows; this year maybe, just maybe, they'll catch it.

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Christmas Recipes, Crafts and Kids Activities.

INTERNET OFFERS HOLIDAY FUN FOR FAMILY, CO–WORKERS

By Maria Heckaman

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Whether you celebrate Christmas, Chanukah, or Santa Claus, the holiday season is the perfect time for having fun with family and co–workers.

Of course, the Internet proves to be a great resource for gathering recipes, crafts, songs, and interesting tidbits about the holidays.

Santa's Net and The Kids Domain are two of the best holiday Internet sites, both offering information for many beliefs.

Do you know what year the British Parliament officially abolished the celebration of Christmas? What about the date and location of the first printed reference to a Christmas Tree? How do you say "Merry Christmas" in Bohemian, Yoruba, and Chinese?

Santa's Net can help you find the answers to such questions, while filling you up with many more holiday

Dear Santa: Christmas Sucks!

facts and myths.

On its home page, visitors can countdown to Christmas and choose from many categories to browse, including carols and songs, Christmas traditions from other countries, recipes, toys, Christmas movies, bookmarks, and more.

Keeping with its world-holiday theme, the site also has posted recipes such as Amaretti from Italy, Billy Can Pudding from Australia, Christmas Lebkuchen from Egypt, and Kourabiethes from Greece.

The Kids Domain may sound like a place, well, just for kids, but the whole family can find something fun and interesting at the site.

It offers gift-making ideas, electronic greeting cards, crafts, games to download, holiday clipart, recipes, book suggestions for parents, music, stories and world traditions.

Promoting family unity with All They'll Need to Know & 24 Days of Christmas.

The site includes holiday variations for several countries and/or beliefs such as Kwanzaa and Ramadan. There also is the Grownups Place for parents.

Children have the opportunity to send Santa Claus a letter, provided in an easy-to-use form.

Other sites that offer letters to Santa are The North Pole's Christmas Mission, Claus.com, Santa at Home, Dear Santa Claus, Santa Claus Online, and The Christmas Pages.

Finally, children of all ages can track Santa Claus' travels on Christmas Eve at www.noradsanta.org.

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