



Online Ethics Center  
FOR ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

# Excerpt from Letter to Carson from Huckins

## Author(s)

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## Description

The following is an excerpt from the letter Olga Huckins sent to Rachel Carson which influenced Carson to write Silent Spring.

## Body

The mosquito control plane flew over our small town last summer. Since we live close to the marshes we were treated to several lethal doses, as the pilot crisscrossed over our place....We consider the spraying of active poison over private land to be a serious aerial intrusion.

Air spraying where it is not needed or wanted is inhuman, undemocratic, and probably unconstitutional. For those of us who stand helplessly on the tortured earth, it is intolerable (Sterling, pp. 147-148).

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## Resource Type

Case Study / Scenario