



Online Ethics Center  
FOR ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

# Excerpt from Letter That Prevented Reader's Digest from Publishing Pesticide Article

## Author(s)

Anonymous

## Description

A letter from Rachel Carson to the editor of Reader's Digest.

## Body

In 1958 Carson found out about an article that the *Reader's Digest* was about to publish. It was dealing with the benefits of aerial spraying. She wrote to DeWitt Wallace, the magazine's editor-in-chief, telling him of the danger, both to wildlife and to public health, in the projects for insect control by poisons, especially when distributed by airplanes [\\*](#) (Graham, p. 17). By documenting her case, Carson was able to convince Wallace not to publish the article.

## Rights

Use of Materials on the OEC

## Resource Type

Case Study / Scenario