



Is the Car a Star?

It's 12:30 and you're listening to Let's Talk Radio on 97.2 FM. I'm Heather Mills and today's dinnertime debate is about cars. Are they really our four-wheeled friends or should they be towed to the scrap yard and scrapped for good? First on the line is Abdul from Bradford.

Good afternoon Heather. In my opinion, the car's effects on the environment is huge! Britain is quite a small island and yet lots of families own two cars. It's no wonder then that we often see workmen constructing new roads. Fields are dug up and forests destroyed in order to make way for bigger roads and even bigger motorways. What a scar on the British landscape! Why does a family need more than one car anyway?

An interesting question Abdul. Now over to Peggy from the Isle of Wight on line twelve.

many of them children. With fewer cars on our streets then surely this number would fall. We would also be healthier. In my day there weren't as many cars on the roads and people walked more. It's not surprising young people today are getting fatter and lazier.

Thanks Peggy. On line three we have Stefan from Cardiff.

I'm sorry Heather but I think it's a bit unfair to call for cars to be scrapped altogether. My daughter is disabled and so having a car is vital. It allows us to go where we want, when we want. If it weren't for our car then we would find it extremely difficult to go shopping or take Jane out on trips. I know cars can be dangerous and harm the environment but what else can we do?

Thanks Heather. I totally agree with Abdul. But as well as the cost to the environment we also need to consider the cost to human life. Every year thousands of people are killed or injured on Britain's roads,

Well Stefan we have in the studio a government spokesperson for transport, Miss Patricia Davenport. Let's see what she has to say. Miss Davenport, welcome to Let's Talk.

Thank you for inviting me. I'm not surprised people have strong opinions on this subject. It's true what all your listeners have said. Perhaps the way forward is to improve public transport so that fewer people would need to use their car for shorter journeys.

Thank you Patricia. We'll return for more of your phone calls right after we play this tune...

