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Organization:

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Comments: Please do not stop safe rock climbing in National Parks. I'm a sport climber, which means we climb on the rock and feed the rope through bolts every 5-10 feet to limit the distance we can fall down.

Removing/restricting the bolts or anchors means you are removing and restricting the thing I enjoy most in my life, besides my children. Rock climbing in the gym is just exercise, where the point is to climb outside on real rock to be in nature.

Some people hike, some people ride mountain bikes, some ski, snowboard, snowshoe, camp, sled, etc in the mountains. Me and so many people I know sport climb in the mountains. For your edification, ALL of the climbers I know make the natural world better not worse. We clean up our messes and preserve nature. If you've met a climber, then you've likely met a person of high moral character.

At a time when more and more Americans are growing up scared of nature and are not as vested in the natural world, there is still this small, growing subset of the population that believes in coexisting with nature. I'm not sure what the underlying demand is in introducing this initiative, but bolts and anchors do so VERY little harm to the wilderness yet protect our lives. Bolts/anchors have immensely less impact than human hiking trails, or the exhaust from vehicles, or the loud sound of motorcycles racing up the mountain, or camping.

If I did not sport climb, I would have to trad climb - placing "pro" protection in the mountain as you climb which is much riskier. If you choose to decimate outdoor sport climbing, you would unknowingly elicit more crazy free solo climbing.

If you haven't realized it yet, most climbers are outstanding, intelligent, productive members of society. I'm a Data Manager at the Cancer Center. I would guess 30% of the climbers I know are doctors, nurses, and physical therapists. We are rule following, tax playing citizens. Let us have our fun in nature. We are not hurting anyone.