Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/12/2024 4:42:55 PM First name: Chloe Last name: Chavez Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hi, I am a 17 year old rock climber and I've been climbing in Utah my whole life. By prohibiting the use of bolts in rock climbing it will simply ruin the sport, ruin the tradition of these classic climbing spots and even ruin the lives of the beloved climbers who do thoroughly enjoy these routes. I genuinely believe that by prohibiting the use of bolts, lives will be lost. Some may resort to freesoloing (yikes!) others may resort to using trad gear which takes time and experience to learn to use and if not done properly, it can be extremely dangerous. Others may just become depressed from the loss of climbing, I ask, why just why are we banning bolts even when they have been around for years?? I don't get it. It may not matter to you whoever is reading this but I know that I will be devastated if bolts become banned. Right climbing is a major outlet especially for those who struggle at home, mentally, with drugs, family issues etc. It is a clean way to cope and by banning bolts and from stopping those from doing what they love, so many lives will be changed for the absolute worse. Not many lives at all on the other side of banning bolts will be changed, who does this benefit? A small fraction compared to all of the climbers that it will negatively impact. I hope you read this, and actually count up the amount of people against it, I am confident that there will be enough climbers to overrrule this, in fact I know there will be enough climbers against it. Consider what you are doing and who you are really impacting by making these big and unnecessary changes.