



*Christmas Gift Exemption Voucher*



I hereby declare

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is exempt from the exchange  
of Christmas gifts with

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*by order of the Buy Nothing committee*

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*Signature*

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*Signature*

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*Date*

*Merry Christmas!*

Christmas is that time of year when we're made to feel guilty if we don't get into the "spirit" of things. But how much of that "spirit" comes from the heart and how much is ad-fueled myth? This year, don't lose your Christmas joy in the malls.

Here are a few suggestions to help you artfully dodge the shopping frenzy:

- *The \$10 Rule. Put a cap on the value of the presents you give and receive.*
  - *Buy within your community. Locally made gifts support local producers and reduce transportation.*
    - *Make your own gifts and cards.*
    - *Donate the money you would have spent to a charity.*
  - *Reuse packaging and wrapping paper. With a bit of creativity, even brown shipping paper can look great.*
- *Opt out altogether. Copy this voucher and give it to everyone this year — ask them to spend time with you, not money on you.*

Whatever you choose to do, be sure to explain why you have chosen to re-write the Christmas story, or the point will be lost — and you'll come off looking worse than ole' Ebenezer Scrooge.

— *Fiona Jack, Auckland, New Zealand*