Idle At Home, Not In Your Car

For every 10 minutes your engine is off, you'll prevent one pound of carbon dioxide from being released (carbon dioxide is the primary contributor to global warming)

-Environmental Defense Fund

It is a planet problem.

- Idling for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel and creates more CO_2 than just restarting
- 30 million tons of CO_2 is created yearly by personal vehicular idling = 5 million vehicles off the road

  -US Department of Energy

It is a people problem.

- Idling cars spew the same pollutants as moving cars
- Pollutants are linked to human illnesses: asthma, heart disease, chronic bronchitis, cancer
- Emissions concentrate closer to the ground

Claim: "Letting my car warm up is good for its engine."

Fact: Car manufacturers agree that even on the coldest days, a car's catalytic converter is optimal "at work" versus standing.
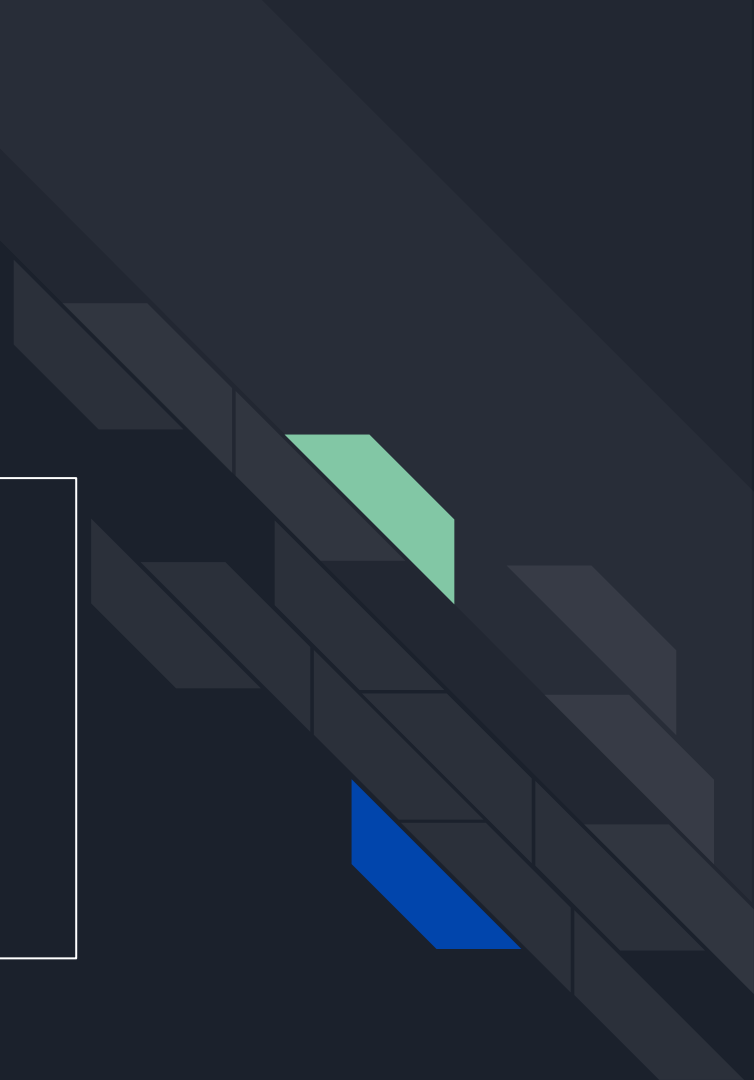
Claim: "On a cold day, it takes too long to warm up my car unless I let it idle first."

Fact: A driving vehicle reaches its ideal operating temperature faster by driving than idling. In fact, your vehicle warms up twice as fast in motion than running at rest.
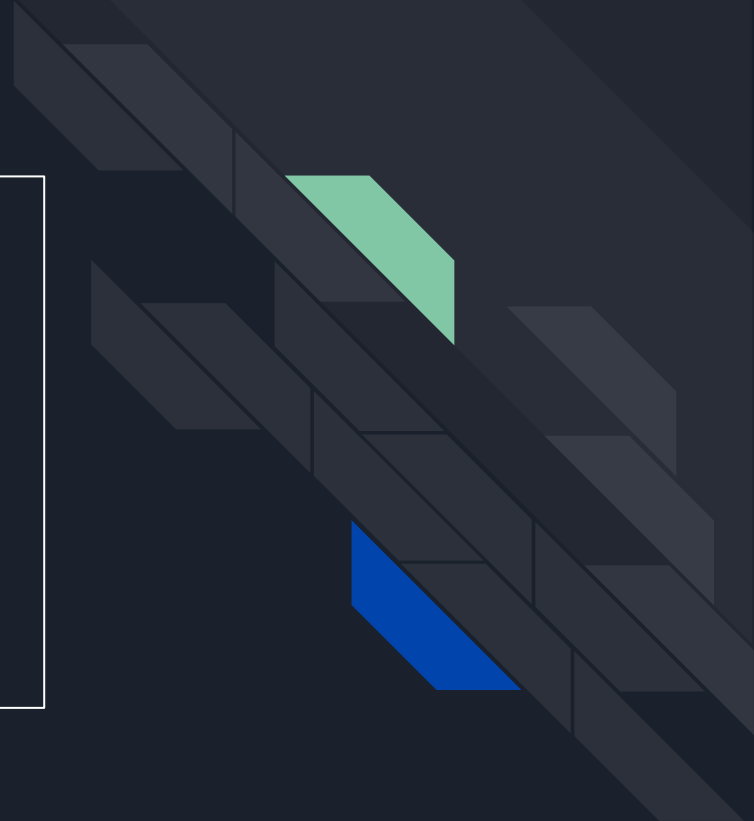
Claim: "I save more money on gas by idling versus re-starting my car"

Fact: Contrary to perception, starting a car burns less fuel and emits less CO2 than idling your car. In America, we empty our wallets by spending a whopping $13 million every day on gasoline by idling.
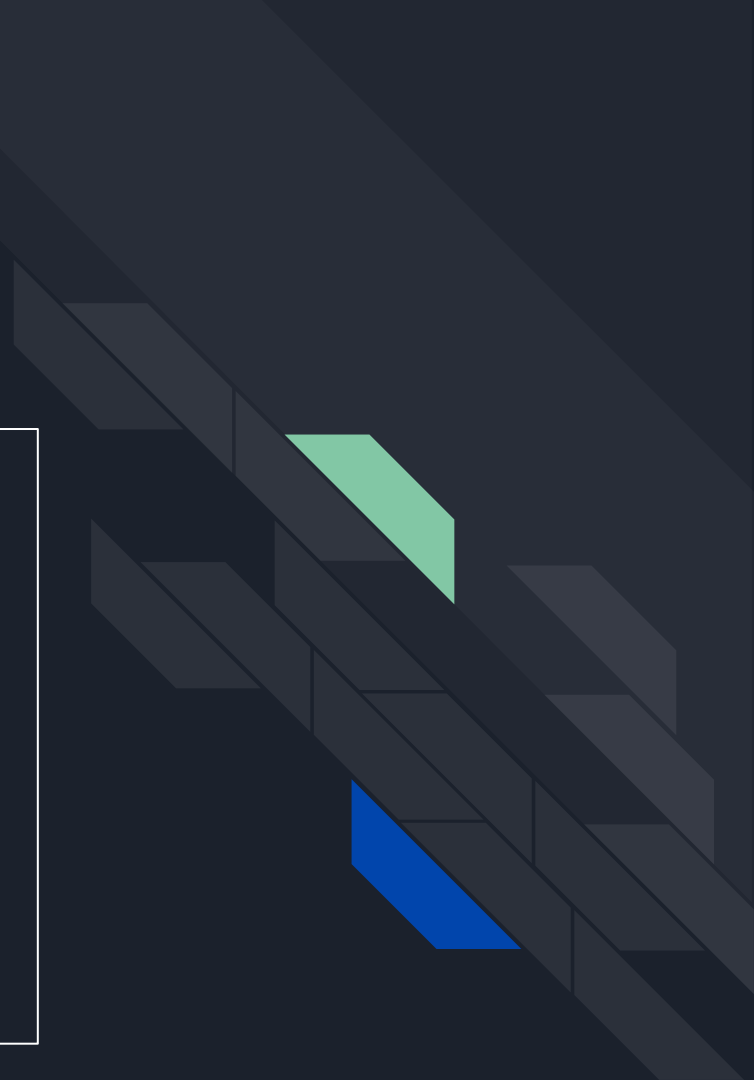
Claim: Starting and restarting my car will wear out the engine quicker

Fact: Fuel is only partially combusted when idling because an engine does not operate at its peak temperature. This leads to the build-up of fuel residues on cylinder walls that can damage engine components and increase fuel consumption.

-California Energy Commission
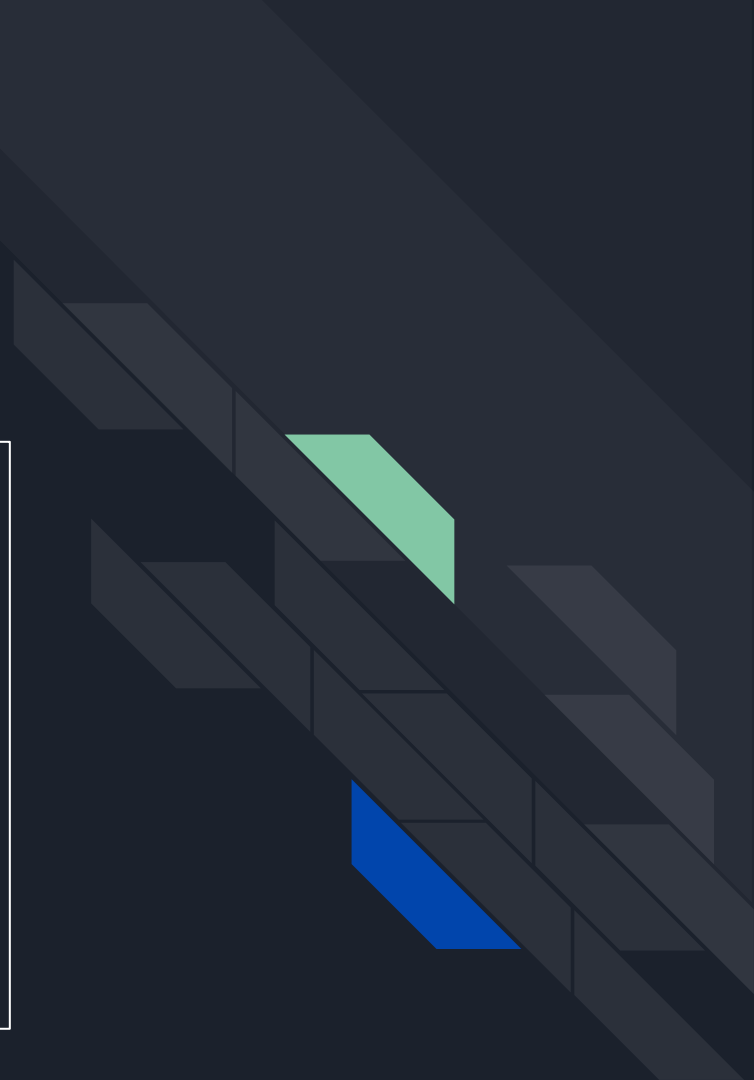
Twenty- nine States and the District of Columbia Currently Have Laws to Reduce the Engine Idle Time of Motor Vehicles Within the State

Bottom Line:

- It is unhealthy.
- It is harmful for the environment
- It is bad for your engine
- You expose yourself to theft
- 10 second rule