

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO ALL MY FRIENDS  
WHO WERE BORN IN  
THE**

**1930's 1940's, 50's, 60's  
and early 70's !**

**First, we survived  
being born to mothers  
who smoked and/or  
drank while they  
carried us and lived in  
houses made of  
asbestos.**

They took aspirin, ate blue cheese, raw egg products, loads of bacon and processed meat, tuna from a can, and didn't get tested for diabetes or cervical cancer.

**Then after that trauma, our baby cots were covered with bright coloured lead-based paints.**

We had no childproof lids  
on medicine bottles,  
doors or cabinets and  
when we rode our bikes,  
we had no helmets or  
shoes, not to mention,  
the risks we took  
hitchhiking.

**As children, we would  
ride in cars with no  
seat belts or air bags.**

**We drank water from  
the garden hose and  
NOT from a bottle.**

Take away food was limited to fish and chips, no pizza shops, McDonalds , KFC, Subway or Nandos.

Even though all the shops closed at 6.00pm and didn't open on the weekends, somehow we didn't starve to death!

**We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle and NO ONE**

**actually died from  
this.**

We could collect old drink  
bottles and cash them in  
at the corner store and  
buy Toffees,  
Gobstoppers, Bubble Gum  
and some bangers to  
blow up frogs with.

**We ate cupcakes,  
white bread and real  
butter and drank soft  
drinks with sugar in it,  
but we weren't**

**overweight  
because.....**

**WE WERE ALWAYS  
OUTSIDE PLAYING!!**

**We would leave home  
in the morning and  
play all day, as long as  
we were back when  
the streetlights came  
on.**

**No one was able to  
reach us all day. And  
we were O.K.**

**We would spend hours building our go-carts out of old prams and then ride down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. We built tree houses and dens and played in river beds with matchbox cars.**

We did not have Playstations, Nintendo Wii , X-boxes, no video games at all, no 999 channels on SKY ,

no video/dvd films,  
**no mobile phones, no  
personal computers,  
no Internet or  
Internet chat  
rooms.....WE HAD  
FRIENDS and we went  
outside and found  
them!**

We fell out of trees, got  
cut, broke bones and  
teeth and there were no  
Lawsuits from these  
accidents.

Only girls had pierced  
ears!

We ate worms and mud  
pies made from dirt, and  
the worms did not live in  
us forever.

You could only buy Easter  
Eggs and Hot Cross Buns  
at Easter time...

**We were given air  
guns and catapults for  
our 10th birthdays,**

**We rode bikes or walked to a**

**friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just yelled for them!**

**Mum didn't have to go to work to help dad make ends meet!**

RUGBY and CRICKET had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Imagine that!! Getting into the team was based on

MERIT

**Our teachers used to hit us with canes and gym shoes and bully's *always* ruled the playground at school.**

The idea of a parent  
bailing us out if we broke  
the law was unheard of.  
**They actually sided with  
the law!**

Our parents didn't invent  
stupid names for their  
kids like 'Kiora' and  
'Blade' and 'Ridge' and  
'Vanilla'

**We had freedom,  
failure, success and**

**responsibility, and we  
learned HOW TO  
DEAL WITH IT ALL !**

**And YOU are one of  
them!  
CONGRATULATIONS!**

**You might want to  
share this with others  
who have had the luck  
to grow up as kids,  
before the lawyers  
and the government  
regulated our lives for  
our own good.**

**And while you are at  
it, forward it to your  
kids so they will know  
how brave their  
parents were.**

PS -The big type is because your eyes  
are not too good at your age anymore