

For an ever merrier Christmas and a happier New Year, Lucas Psillakis offers you his rules on Holiday etiquette:

### **Holiday Drinking:**

If you insist on drinking and driving, try not to do both at the same time. If necessary, sellotape a miniature bottle of J&B onto your dashboard and use a very long, flexible straw. And remember to drive carefully, as neither the author nor this publication take any responsibility for your actions.

### **Holiday Food:**

Holiday food at hotels is generally awful and should be avoided. Try a lightly sautéed rubber tyre with shoelace carbonara followed by poached tennis balls with shaving foam instead. It will be just as delicious and have a lower cholesterol content as well.

### **Holiday Sex:**

Holiday sex can be fun, as long as a few rules are first considered. First and foremost, do not have sex with anyone at an office party. If you do, do not be tempted to turn on the photocopier. If nothing else, scientists are still debating the long term effects of radiation on human private parts.

And, secondly, do not behave as if sex is the purpose of your existence. For some species of invertebrates, copulation is the be all and end all of their existence. In the case of both the praying mantis and the black widow spider, the female gobbles up her partner before he even has a chance to have a post-coital cigarette, thus ensuring that he never gets a chance to cheat on her. Although death by cannibalism sounds pretty horrific, in some ways the males are lucky- their life ends on a high note, they can avoid years of nagging and having the in-laws over for tea, and they save money by holding their wedding reception and funeral together.

However, please remember, that regardless of how spineless your ex-partner may feel you are, you do not qualify as an invertebrate.

### **New Year's Resolutions:**

Most people see the New Year as a chance to reflect on the trials and tribulations of the last twelve months, as an opportunity to reassess one's targets, or as an occasion to get drunk and have lots of greasy food in the company of similarly drunk friends who like you, will remember little in the morning, thus giving us a chance to repeat the old post-party adage "I will never, ever drink again", to which we may optionally add "as long as I live".