



Episode 9:

Welcome to Gilded Garbage Can, **the** podcast dedicated to defogging the image that is San Francisco.

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Today we answer the age-old question, are San Francisco drivers aggressive? I've heard people say, yes, drivers in San Francisco are very aggressive and apparently the city thinks so too because I read recently that City Hall is considering lowering the speed limit on most streets to 20 miles per hour. Let me repeat, 20 miles per hour.

We must have a terrible problem here – perhaps the ghost of Ken Miles has possessed every San Francisco driver forcing them to use city streets like a racetrack, as we zip around pot holes and construction cones, flying over steel plates and dodging MUNI buses as they pull away from stops in their dedicated bus lanes, yet somehow still encroach on traffic. All the while, Penelope Pitstop and Dick Dastardly (and his dog Muttley of course), race up behind us to see who can reach that poorly timed, inefficient traffic signal as it turns red.

So, certainly we must have a problem with aggressive drivers here...unless...it is all BS and the wise people in City Hall, just want to enact some stupid ordinance to make themselves look busy addressing a problem that we really don't have.

Let's be honest folks – San Francisco doesn't have an aggressive driver problem – San Francisco has a timid driver problem. San Francisco has an incompetent driver problem. The drivers in the city are possibly the worst of anyplace anywhere in the world.

The drivers here – the ones who don't use turn signals, though when they do, they get it backwards – the ones who leave 15 lengths between them and the car in front of them out of an abundance of caution – the ones who make wide left turns for some strange reason...all the time – the ones who creep along at a snail's pace, impeding the flow of traffic – the ones who can't parallel park worth a damn and take forever to make a turn off a busy thoroughfare – these drivers don't need a 20 mile per hour speed limit, unless it is enforced to require them to pick up the pace. These drivers need to go back to driving school. They should have their licenses renewed annually **and** be required to take the practical test each time. And the double-parkers who sit in the middle of the street...don't get me started there.

Who in San Francisco drives 20 miles per hour? No one! Most of the drivers here don't even get to 15.

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