

# Rachel Carson's Silent Spring at 50 Years

Joshua Swain | September 27, 2012

---

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dNL5vOpMZiY>

"It's not polite to talk about brown and black people dying because rich white people in America feel better about themselves when the brown and black people don't get to use DDT," says the University of Alabama's Andrew Morriss, co-editor of the new book [\*Silent Spring at 50: The False Crises of Rachel Carson\*](#).

Published by [the Cato Institute](#), the collection of essays by environmentalists, law professors, economists, and other analysts argues that the legacy of Carson's best-known book - widely considered the starting point of the modern environmentalist movement and the international ban on the malaria-fighting pesticide DDT - has caused many more problems than it has solved.

*Reason's* [Katherine Mangu-Ward](#) sat down with Morriss to talk about Carson's work and influence on environmental policy.

About 5.30 minutes.

Camera by Meredith Bragg and Joshua Swain; edited by Swain.

Scroll down for downloadable versions, and subscribe to [ReasonTV's YouTube Channel](#) to receive automatic updates when new material goes live.