

# Cans don't litter, people do; pick it up

*By Mark Mt. News - 14 October 1989*

How do they get there? All of those soda pop and beer cans and bottles! That unsightly waste, the litter, that accumulates along roadsides, lakes, rivers and in campgrounds, parks, the wilderness, etc. Not all by themselves; that's impossible, inanimate objects just can't move by themselves. These objects are dependent for transport and for the choice of their destiny. Who chooses to activate litter? People do! That animated group with

careful aim to neatly lodge the container into a gully or wash, under a tree or shrub or into the middle of a cactus. Some make sure the bottle shatters.

Type C can possess the general characteristics of both A and B, except he seems to stop and leave a neat collection of his beverage debris in one localized place.

Type D might be the one who verbalizes his love



the advanced brain!

What could be the attitude of some individuals who discard leftovers and trash wherever they might be? Other individuals who do choose to be more responsible about trash disposal will probably never know.

However, if one is observant, people who litter seem to have types:

Type A simply leaves the container, in plain sight after consuming the contents, wherever he might be. These cans and bottles gather in view everywhere.

Type B takes a little more effort to be less conspicuous with his discards. He hurls the cans and bottles several feet over the road shoulders into the countryside. Some Type Bs aren't particular where the object rests; however, other Bs take

for the beauty of the out-of-doors. This could be the sportsman, the camper, the river tuber or the back country explorer. He makes elaborate preparations to take his refreshments into the beautiful areas, only there the refuse remains. Hardly an enhancement to nature's beauty, when Type D returns to his own door. Regardless of which type tosses it, the flow seems never-ending and the volume of accumulated junk is impressive.

To visually demonstrate the number of cans and bottles thrown out in our own communities,

everyone who feels there is a better way to deal with beverage discards, is invited to become involved in a Desert Foothills cleanup effort, Oct. 16. From 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., carry a collection bag and investigate which litter type is the most active in your neighborhood. Or come to Frontier Town, where extra bags will be available, and pick up cans and bottles on the more traveled roads.

Bring all the retrieved debris and add to the stack by the gallows in Frontier Town between 11:30 a.m. and noon. Then, at hi-noon, with all the collected containers serving as incriminating evidence, the good guy, "Bottle Bill," will champion justice and hang bad guy "Can Man" (the effigy of litter types A, B, C and D). The media and television cameras will be present at the event, and other displays and attractions are being planned.

To make this community involvement even more worthwhile, the large volume of aluminum cans collected will be donated to the Cave Creek School for recycling. The recycled proceeds will be spent to assist second grader Micah Stoykovich's serious accident injury convalescence.

Disenchanted with litter? You are invited to join us at Frontier Town, Oct. 16 to combine caring and constructive involvement with a nice time. See ya at the hangin'!

On Oct. 16, at 5:30 p.m., Channel 3's Jan d'Atrey, of "Under the Sun," will re-run her special on the Bottle Bill, (Proposition 200).