### **Background Information**

A local cafe owner has written a letter to the editor of the local newspaper expressing their support for the idea of allowing dogs in cafes. They have received a response from a concerned citizen and both letters are on pages 12 and 13.

Kaos Kafe

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News>Letter from the owner Last updated 11:48 AM on 8 July 2021



<< Image description: A photo of a cute dog sitting next to a latte>>

Dear customers of Kaos Kafe,

I am writing to express my support for the idea of allowing dogs in cafes. As a dog owner myself, I understand the struggles of finding a place to bring my furry companion with me while I enjoy a cup of coffee or a meal. It is a constant battle to find a place that not only allows dogs but also makes them feel welcome.

Many studies have shown that having pets around can have a positive impact on mental and physical health. Allowing dogs in cafes would provide a space where pet owners can relax and enjoy time with their pets while also supporting local businesses. It would also make it easier for people with disabilities who rely on service animals to have access to more public spaces.

I understand that some people may have concerns about hygiene and safety, but I believe that with proper guidelines and regulations in place, we can create a safe and comfortable environment for both customers and dogs.

I am excited about the possibility of creating a more inclusive and welcoming space for pet owners at Kaos Kafe. Let's work together to make this happen.

Sincerely, Jaunty Jeffkins



<< Image description: A photo of a group of friends sitting in a café with their dogs sitting next to them>>

## Response from a concerned citizen

Last updated 11:48 AM on 8 July 2021



<< Image description: A photo of a person holding a coffee cup looking uncomfortable>>

## Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my concerns about the idea of allowing dogs in cafes. As someone who suffers from severe allergies to dogs, I am worried about the impact this change would have on my ability to enjoy a cup of coffee or a meal in a public space.

Furthermore, not everyone may be comfortable or willing to be around dogs, and it could make the café uncomfortable for them. Allowing dogs in cafes could also be a potential health risk, as not all dog owners may take proper care and hygiene of their pets.

I understand that many people love their pets and want to bring them everywhere, but it is not fair to put the comfort and health of others at risk. Instead of allowing dogs in cafes, I suggest creating designated dog-friendly outdoor seating areas. This way, pet owners can still enjoy time with their furry friends while also respecting the comfort and health of others.

Sincerely, Concerned Café Connoisseur

**Background Information** In the latest issue of "Our Town" magazine, a local business owner writes an article about the effects of online shopping on brick-and-mortar stores in the community. They also include a response from a resident who has a different perspective on the issue.

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# **Online Shopping vs Brick-and-Mortar Stores**

Last updated 11:48 AM on 8 July 2021



<< Image description: A photo of a small, local bookstore with a "Going Out of Business" sign in the window>>

As a local business owner, I have seen the effects of online shopping on brick-and-mortar stores in our community first hand. With the rise of e-commerce, more and more customers are choosing to shop online, making it increasingly difficult for local stores to stay afloat. Shopping at local stores not only supports the local economy but also allows customers to have a personal and unique shopping experience, something that online shopping can't replicate. Local stores also provide jobs and contribute to the community in ways that online retailers do not.

It's not just small, independent stores that are feeling the effects of online shopping. Even large chain stores are struggling to compete with the convenience and low prices offered by online retailers. We need to support our local businesses by shopping at brick-and-mortar stores and encouraging others to do the same.



<< Image description: A photo of a person sitting on their couch, holding a tablet and shopping online>>

# Response from a resident

I understand the concerns about the effects of online shopping on brick-and-mortar stores in our community, but I also see the benefits of e-commerce. Shopping online allows me to compare prices, read reviews, and find a wider range of products all from the comfort of my own home.

Additionally, online retailers often offer free or low-cost shipping, making it more accessible for people with mobility issues or those living in rural areas to have access to a wider range of products. I believe that brick-and-mortar stores and online retailers can coexist and that supporting local businesses also means supporting consumers' needs.

Sincerely, Hamish Aster

#### **Background Information**

A city council member delivered a speech at a public meeting discussing the proposed construction of a new mall in the city. The speech transcript is provided below.

### Ashley Rando:

"Good evening everyone,

I am here tonight to talk to you about the proposed construction of a new mall in our city. I know that many of you have strong opinions on this matter, and I want to address some of the concerns that have been brought to my attention.

First and foremost, let me start by saying that I understand the importance of economic development for our city. The construction of a new mall would bring jobs and revenue to our community, and it would provide residents with more shopping and entertainment options.



<< Image description: A photo of a busy shopping center>>

However, I also understand the concerns about the potential negative impact that a new mall could have on our community. Some of you have expressed concerns about the increase in traffic and congestion, as well as the potential strain on our infrastructure. Others have expressed concerns about the potential harm to small, local businesses. I want to assure you that these concerns have not been ignored. The city council has been working closely with the mall developers to address these issues and to ensure that the construction of the new mall will have a positive impact on our community.

One of the ways we plan to mitigate the potential negative impact on local businesses is by working with the mall developers to provide incentives for them to support and collaborate with small, local businesses. We also plan to work with the developers to address traffic and

infrastructure concerns by investing in transportation improvements and by working with surrounding neighborhoods to minimize the impact of increased traffic.



<< Image description: A photo of a busy street with cars and buses>>

I understand that there are strong opinions on both sides of this issue, but I believe that with careful planning and community engagement, we can ensure that the construction of a new mall will have a positive impact on our city. I look forward to continuing this conversation with all of you and working together to make the best decision for our community.

Thank you."