

# The Gift Giving traditions

by Zach Harding  
Arts and Life Editor

Okay, maybe I am cold-hearted, but I think this whole sham of giving gifts over the upcoming holiday is one of the biggest wastes of time, effort, and money that we, as Americans, take part in.

I can accept giving someone a gift on a personal basis, because every now and then someone you care about deserves a present just because of who they are. But the process of exchanging presents over the December holidays seems to be done just because that is what everyone else does.

And I don't believe that there is any true religious or spiritual connection with transferring gifts. There may be some vague religious reasoning behind the action, but any religious practice that would actually consider such a tradition truly worthwhile is not itself a

worthwhile belief system for me.

And now on to the practical side of things. No one on Earth knows more about what I want than me, so why should some family and friends waste their money and time buying presents that they think I would like. If I really want something, and I have the resources and proper reason to do so, I buy it.

Everyone should just save themselves the trouble of buying things for countless others over the holidays and buy the one thing that they can really know will be appreciated: something for themselves.

The astounding numbers of returns and take backs after the holidays are proof that spending so much on others is often a waste of time. And money is not the real issue here, it is the fact that no one besides yourself can know what you want. And I don't want any presents, nor do I want to give any.

Bah Humbug.

## Chico Bags



**BC Recycles** is now selling woven nylon bags called Chico bags for **only \$5 each**. Chico bags are an eco-friendly alternative to using disposable bags from the grocery store. All profits will support recycling efforts on campus.

These sturdy woven nylon bags come many colors and can be washed in a washing machine. We will have them for sale in the cafeteria during lunch in the upcoming days. You can also request one via email at [thompsonp@brevard.edu](mailto:thompsonp@brevard.edu)

**They make great Christmas presents!**

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