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China's pollution problem gets hairy with 'nose-tache' to filter smog

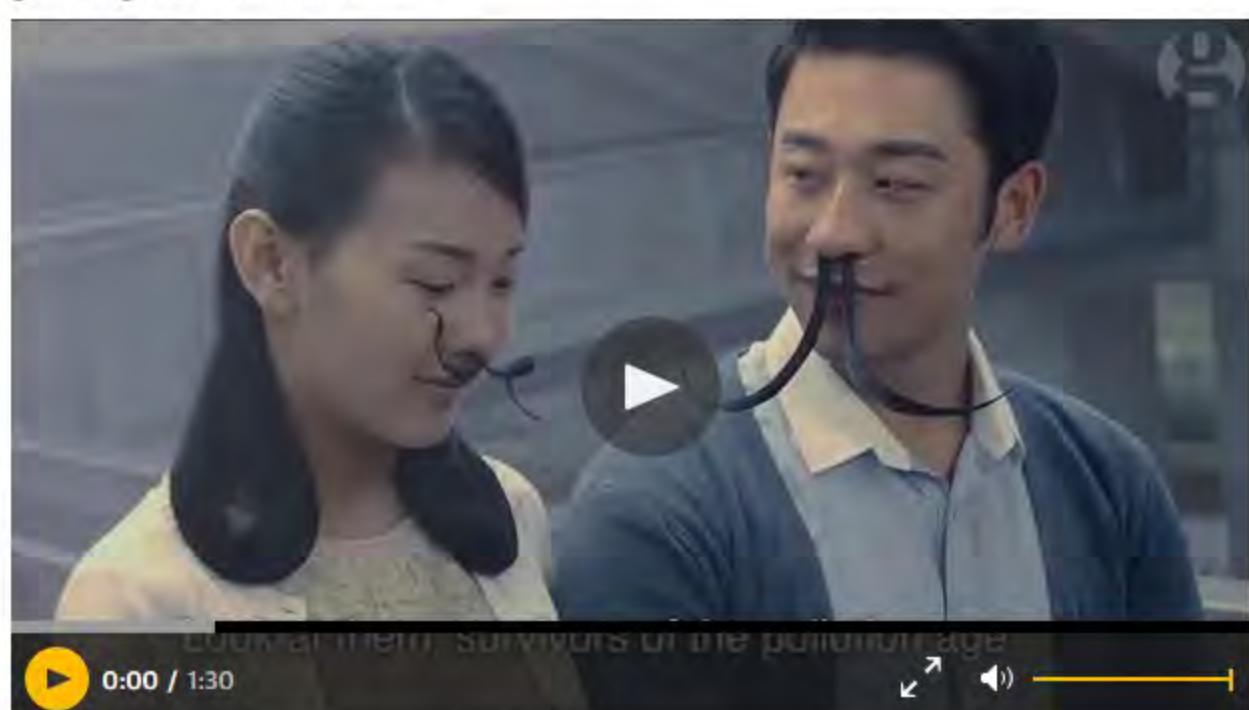
Quirky video shows a population of 'pollution survivors' who have adapted by growing luxuriant nose hair

Stuart Leavenworth

Monday 29 February 2016 05.03 GMT

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The video suggesting a hairy future for China.



For almost every Beijing resident it will be a familiar sight which quite literally gets up their nose.



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The smog which pervades the skies of the capital - and many other large cities - is sometime so all pervading that it can almost turn day into night and force children to be kept indoors.

Now an environmental group, concerned that residents in China's cities are becoming blandly accustomed to pollution, have produced a video raising the issue in a quirky way.

The video depicts a dystopia where people in China have adapted to the air by growing long moustaches - actually nose-taches - to filter out the smog.

"Look at them - survivors of the pollution age," says a narrator. On the screen are street scenes of kids, couples, businessmen and even a dog with long nose-taches.

On a billboard a fashion model is shown advertising a hair care product. From her nostrils flow a mane of shiny, luxuriant hair.

The video ends with a young man saying he will not "blindly submit." He is seen shaving off his nose-tache and vowing a return to the blue skies that he remembered.

"Change air pollution before it changes you," says the video, which was produced by WildAid China as part of its GOBlue campaign.

About one-third of China's 1.35 billion people regularly breath smog deemed unhealthy by the World Health Organisation.

Wealthy Chinese are increasing investing in air purifiers and "clean air vacations" abroad to protect themselves and their families.

While the Chinese Communist Party allows some discussion of air pollution, it cracks down on any criticism of government policy.

Last February, an air pollution documentary by Chinese journalist Chai Jing went viral in China. Four days later, China's censors scrubbed the film, "Under the Dome," from the internet, after it had been viewed more than 200 million times.

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Capitalist running dogs make China polluted. It's much worse in USA. It's not pollution, it's low cloud.

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An 1 1d ago 1

Due to northern winds the smog has dispersed south and currently sits over the majority of the eastern half of China, meaning a billion or so people are breathing AQI 150+ air. From personal experience, long term exposure to these levels is not healthy.

As I write I notice as the winds have dropped, the heavy industrial zones south of Beijing now are approaching Hazardous once again.

India's current levels are similar if not a little better except for Dehli, I would be interested to research the extent of the smog over the Ganges region and the principle pollutants. I think it may be largely motorcycle related, in which electric bikes will help, yet more info is required. To be fair to India, a study of winds is is order, as much of the north has light winds for most of the dry season, whereas much of China has regular trade winds resulting from the anticyclone often sitting over eastern Siberia.

Either way, for all that suffer, wherever they are, it is a worrying situation.

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Indeed.

You might like to take a look at this to see how much worse than China India and Pakistan suffer on average :

<http://www.theguardian.com/cities/2015/dec/02/where-world-most-polluted-city-air-pollution>

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