

# An Unethical Experiment



Warning! The people in this room are unwittingly participating in a scientific experiment. For the past hour, they have been exposed to increasing amounts of nitrous oxide. Laughing gas. At first, the unsuspecting test subjects appeared stuporous, dreamy, euphoric. As the level of effluvium in the room rose, they began to giggle. Each increase in  $N_2O$  led to an analogous escalation in the degree of laughter, from snicker to chuckle to chortle all the way up to an unmitigated guffaw. The research scientist conducting this unethical experiment hopes to prove that, administered sufficient nitrous oxide, a user will transcend euphoria and experience uncontrollable projectile vomiting. And he expects that to occur in five seconds, four, three, two ... Everybody! *Duck and cover!*