John Spinks On Stuck Clutch

Anybody out there!
Got to trying to have some fun with our Airflow today and find I have a stuck clutch. Not fun!! Best--hopefully simple way to get it loose I could think of was to put it into reverse with the clutch in and have my wife pull me backwards. Well it left rubber for about 5 feet then the engine just started turning over darn it. I really don't want to have to tear into the assembly and take the clutch loose since it appears you can't get there from here without many hours of pain and wrenching. Any better ideas out there? Thanks in advance.
Terry Hoeman,

Terry,
This can be a problem with any car that is allowed to sit around for awhile. I have freed up the clutch on a number of cars before by first disconnecting the main ignition High Tension cable from the distributor so that the engine won't start. After selecting reverse gear I would hold the clutch pedal on the floor with

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one foot and apply the brakes very hard with the other whilst pushing the start button. The clutch has always released this way.

Regards,
John Spinks, Pakenham, Victoria, Australia

Hoeman writes back,

……..thought of that but felt it was a huge load on the starter. May anyway though--sure don't want to drop the pan under the clutch!

Terry

Spinks returns with:

Terry,
The starter motor on your car draws something like 200 amperes of current from the battery under normal starting conditions. It, however, can be subjected to a maximum locked rotor current of around 880 amperes of current and will produce a torque of 25 lbs feet. As the torque that the clutch would see when the starter is engaged is multiplied by the gear ratio that exists between the starter motor and the flywheel ring gear then sufficient torque would be generated to release a stuck clutch. It will not do any damage to the starter motor under any circumstances. Rest easy.
Cheers,
John