

Texting and driving



Chantay Lowe English 1301 Persuasive Essay People should be cited for texting while driving because not only are drivers putting themselves in danger but also everyone else around them. Statistics have indicated that over 6, 000 deaths and well over half a million injuries have occurred due to drivers using cell phones in 2011 alone. Drivers sending or receiving text messages take their eyes off of the road for at least five seconds which is enough time to cover an entire football field.

One could only imagine the tremendous amount of damage that can be done driving across a football field with unopened eyes. “ The more cognitive workload capacity that you consume, the less likely it is that you’re going to scan the road” (Romoser, 14). People tend to lose focus on what they are actually supposed to be doing while driving and using cell phones. People as a whole can be pretty selfish and often worry only of themselves. Drivers should be cited for texting while driving to ensure the safety of all drivers on the roads and highways.

Citations should be given to drivers who text while driving because in order to view or reply to any text message, their eyes have to be completely off of the road for a given time period. There is absolutely no such thing as the perfect driver, let alone somebody being able drive perfectly while text messaging no matter how advanced the technology may be because it will still be a constant distraction taking your attention away from the road. In 2009 about twenty percent of all automobile accidents were caused by distracted driving.

Of that twenty percent, over 900 of those accidents were caused by people who happened to be texting while driving. “ Some make the argument that texting while driving actually makes them more dangerous than intoxicated driving” (Kirsten 2). Today the statistics of automobile accidents involving cell phones are dramatically increasing, especially with teenagers and young adults. Drivers using cell phones have delayed reactions as much as a driver who is intoxicated. The justice system fines and imprisons people for intoxicated driving, why not distracted driving?

Drunk drivers don't necessarily have a clear understanding about what they're doing because they're not in their right state of mind; all they want is to get home safely. Intoxicated drivers don't have intentions of being blamed for the tragic death of someone's teenage daughter. Yet, there are drivers who are blindly aware of what they're doing, who knowingly take their eyes off of the road, people who knowingly put themselves and others around them in danger, and who knowing practice extreme risks that may take someone's life. However, they are actually able to get away every day that is until someone actually gets hurt.

Are intoxicated drivers really any worse than anyone who drives while text messaging. Some people might believe citations should not be given for texting while driving because they see it as just another activity to partake in while driving, such as doing your hair, or even changing the radio station. Some people seem to believe that they have it down packed; they put the cell phone up to the steering wheel and text. Drivers believe that using this method they are able to read and respond to their messages as well as keep their eyes on the road.

Drivers believe that they are actually helping others out and reducing the number of automobile accidents because they have their cell phone at eye-level. People may also believe that it's the most effective way to communicate with others because there is an unlimited amount of time to respond. However, texting and driving comes with extremes risks and precautions that should be taken by the driver at all times. Drivers who send or receive text messages should receive citations so that the safety of other drivers who actually drive safely can be ensured.

The safety of other drivers on the road may not be important to other drivers, but there are families and people who care about them, and it would be devastating to lose someone over something that could have been so easily prevented. People should be cited for texting while driving because they put themselves as well as others in grave danger. Being able to drive across an entire football field with unopened eyes safely is beyond impossible for anybody regardless of how well they know the field.

People should also be cited for texting while driving because in order to text while driving you must completely turn your attention to another subject meaning your attention is no longer focused on the road. However, people who text and drive are as negligent as drunk drivers, if not worse. To knowingly put somebody else's life in danger should be a crime all its own. For someone to have enough power to take a person's life in less than five seconds and not do something to prevent it show lack of judgment.

But for a person to have that much power and not try to prevent an unnecessary event from taking place is simply idiotic and selfish. Therefore,

people should have to reap the consequences just like any other criminal. On the other hand, citations should not be given because there are some people out there who are actually able to text and drive at the same time with no complications at all. If the justice system can give someone a sentence for pre-meditated murder, then they should be able to put someone away who texts while they're driving because the same methods apply just in different ways.

People who text and drive are just as dangerous as people who drive while intoxicated or maybe even murderers, they just aren't as easy to find and aren't punished as harshly. They commit the same crimes as everyday criminals, they just don't get caught. Don't let their everyday disguises fool you too. Work Cited Wier, Kirsten. " Driven To Distraction. " 1. (2011): 3. Print. Romoser, Matthew. " Don't text, or drink, behind the wheel. " Front Line. (2008): 2. Print. " Cell Phone Statistics and Texting While Driving. " . N. p. , 2007. Web. 8 Dec 2011. <http://www.edgarsnyder.com/car-accident/cell-phone/statistics.html>,