Many of todays drivers have dangerous habits



DANGEROUS HABITS OF TODAY'S DRIVERS OUTLINE: Introduction Rash Driving Drunken Driving Under Age Drivers. Conclusion Every few hundred yards on the highway, a board can be found showing a red eyed skeleton warning, 'speed thrills but kills', cautioning motorists to drive safely. But how many of us actually pay heed to this warning? A few yards beyond these signs, hardly anyone remembers them, leave alone implementing the accident-prevention banners. Even as the accident figures show an upward mark and we all think of the alarm that it brings with it, rash drivers and motorists with little regard for the safety of others continue to masquerade as a fatal threat to the road users. One of the main reasons for this increase in figure is that people have very little regard for traffic laws and many have a poor road sense. Moreover, the condition of the roads is very poor and needs lot of improvement. No amount of booking cases and fining motorists can cure this menace.

One incident that constantly reminds me of the ugly face of rash driving is from news clipping, when an old man was hit from the back on the highway while he was driving within the speed limit. He suffered a severe shock and when he climbed out of the car and attempted crawling to cross the road to reach a point of safety, none of the many motorists on the road stopped to help him. I have particularly pointed out this incident not because it was the case of an old man but because it was a case of inhumanity or human insensitivity.

Drunken driving has shown a gradual rise over the years. No amount of cajoling or strictness has hampered the enthusiasts who enjoy driving after getting heavily drunk. It has been observed that such incidents increase especially on festive occasions. Everyday, 36 people in United States die,

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and approximately 700 more are injured in motor vehicle crashes because of alcohol impaired drivers. This demands a zero tolerance laws against drunk drivers. Laws for the road should be followed with more determination.

According to some members of the law and administration branch, fast driving does not mean rash driving. Thus, in case of an accident, it needs to be seen whether the driver was driving fast or rash. Rash and negligent driving accounts to the maximum percentage of life-claiming accidents all over the world.

Next is the crop of under-age drivers who very often violate the traffic rules. The best possible way to address this road safety hazard is to educate both the parents and the children on road safety and bring about more strict rules for such offences which cradle under the term childish. About 30% of crashes killing young drivers involve alcohol and are often combined with factors like over speed. The feeling that they can get away with anything accompanied with inexperience is the reason why these drivers underestimate hazardous situation.

According to a news website, a court in Mumbai, India, fined a mother for letting her son ride a motorbike without a licence because it is the responsibility of the parents to ensure that their children do not break the law of any sort. The most important way of advising responsibility would be by becoming an example of it. If the parents drive with caution and follow all the traffic rules, their children will also show respect for the laws of the road and those of travel on these roads.

(Jindal).

(National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month).

(Rash Driving Leads to Only One Outcome-Accidents).

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