Texting and driving

Texting and Driving Report
Angel Reyes
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Abstract

Texting and Driving is a big issue we face today as a community killing many individuals and injuring even more. From teenagers to mid aged adults this a issue that must be dealt with better by educating those who have a bad habit of pulling out their cellular devices while driving. We have passed laws and created billboards but that is not enough we must teach people to have patience when it comes to beating that itch to grab your phone whenever you receive a text message from whom ever. The causes of driving distracted vary but death is one of them which is a horrible event nobody should be a part of because of a cellular device.
Texting and driving

Many of us know about texting and driving, what causes it and what can result from driving distracted on the road, so why does a good portion of us still do it? In El Paso Texas everywhere you go you will see many individuals either talking or texting on their cellular devices. And the irony in this is that there are constant billboards trying to reduce the amount of people doing so. Lets break it down to inform you the causes and effects of using a mobile device while driving and how it affects a whole community.

The causes of texting and driving are simple, we are texting our girlfriends or best friends or somebody before we drive somewhere and as soon as we get into the vehicle, we want to continue that conversation. So we pull out our phone and continue texting and/or call them which are both major distractions that reduce your reaction time and your cognitive thinking. But we do not know it effects us as much as it really does. When we drive and feel our phone vibrate, especially if the conversation is very interesting at the moment, we feel the need to check it right away. We cannot wait till we hit the red light or get home to where it would be much more safer to read that oh so special text rather than pulling it out at that moment while driving to where you're driving 65mph on the freeway constantly taking your eyes off the road. It's like we have no patience anymore to hold off a conversation that probably isn't worth your life if you were to crash and die because of it. You can even get a ticket being parked and texting because as long as your vehicle is on and you're using your cellular that's considered texting and driving.

The impact it has on the community is really a big impact if you think about it. Such as college students for instance, if you drive to school every day and you live on the eastside of El Paso and you have to take that 20 to 30 minute drive to school and you are constantly texting and crash one day, how would that affect your parents. And not only would it affect yourself but the other people involved in the accident. It affects more than just the driver who chose to text and
Texting and driving
drive it affects the victims and everybody that cared for them. It also affects the city of El Paso in general because now the Texas department of transportation gets involved and the city council which creates laws etc. for the city. And let’s say there were to be a family emergency and you got a phone call and you happened to pick it up while driving and this were to be the incident you were on your phone while being behind the wheel and you get pulled over and get a fine, would that be fair because others abused their own devices and made the law enforcements fine anything with a phone in its hand.. it affects the community as a whole.

The effects of texting and driving differentiate depending on how "lucky" you are and factors such as how the vehicles collided, if there were to be multiple vehicles, the speed, if you were wearing a seatbelt etc. Accidents involving texting and driving for the most part are severe and in most cases victims ends up being "able to walk away from the accident" without too much of serious injuries. On the other hand there have been many cases where there were fatalities of the driver. There was an article about a women who was texting while driving on the freeway and hit the back of a parked eighteen wheeler because there was traffic. She was in the fast lane and when her vehicle hit the back of the truck her car literally sliced in half because of the tail of the trailer that had been hooked onto the truck. Her body was sliced in half as well and the lower portion of her car went under the tires of the truck and the top portion was cut off and was smashed into the back of the trailer. " You never know what can happen the second you take your eyes off the road and into your phone". - Phillip Jones.
Texting and driving

This shows one of the many ways driving while using a cellular device can end an individual's life in an instant moment.

Many people text and call while driving every single day risking their lives for quick via messages that seems to important at the time. A proper solution would be to educate and show people the after math of that quick text they need their girlfriend to see right away etc. The problems it creates are undeniably a big issues we face today. So we must cut down on it as a community and learn to discipline ourselves to where we don't give into texting and any other distraction for that matter.
Texting and driving

References

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