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ENC 1101

16 October 2017

The Dangers of Distracted Driving

One of the biggest causes of car accidents is undoubtedly driving while distracted. Whether it be changing the radio station, making a quick call or text, or even simply talking to a passenger in the car, the potential danger of what could happen in each of these situations is all the same. The problem is continuing to grow, but the efforts that are made to combat it aren’t working to the extent that they need to be. Distracted driving is an extremely dangerous problem among the nation that needs to be significantly lessened.

While the majority of distracted driving incidents are caused by cell phone use, there are many other causes that aren't heard of as often. It doesn’t only happen on the roads; it can happen “in the skies, on our rails, or in the water” (Hart). There have been many instances where people driving in these places were distracted, causing many deaths and injuries. An example is a train engineer in California who missed the red signal that he was approaching due to the use of his cell phone. He hit a freight train, causing the deaths of 25 people. Another uncommon distraction not thought of by most is having small children in the car. They can be loud and impossible to comfort without taking a person’s attention off the road. Looking at them, listening and paying attention to them, and reaching back to them for any reason is a major distraction to the driver. In fact, “eighty percent [of parents] feared it could cause an accident” (Petrie). This goes to show that there is more than one form of distracted driving that needs to be brought into the light.  
 Currently, the biggest problem that is attempting to be eradicated is cell phone usage …

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