Texting and Driving

BE FORWARNED: DANGER AHEAD



Texting while driving is perhaps the single most dangerous thing a driver can do – arguably even more dangerous than driving while under the influence of alcohol. *

Daydreaming, fiddling with the radio, and using a cell phone have been cited in 75% of the United States' dangerous driving incidents. Although most Americans believe that talking on the phone and texting are the most dangerous behaviors behind the wheel, 81% of drivers admit to making phone calls while driving.

For every 6 seconds of drive time, a driver sending or receiving a text message spends 4.6 of those seconds with their eyes off the road. This makes texting the most distracting of all cell phone related tasks.

Teen drivers are three times more likely to be involved in a fatal car accident than any other age group. Car accidents remain the number one cause of death of people 16 to 20 years old.

Just talking on a cell phone can double the likelihood of an accident and can slow a young driver's reaction time to that of a 70-year-old.

The highest degree of distracted driving takes place in the age group below 20 years.

56% of teens in general admit to talking on the cell phone while driving and 13% of teens admit to texting while driving.

52% of teens age 16 and **17** admit that they make and answer phone calls while driving.

34% of teens age 16 and 17 admit that they send and respond to <u>text</u> messages while driving.

48% of Americans between 12 and 17 report that they have been in a car when the driver was engaged in text messaging.

A good video to watch at:

http://www.att.com/gen/pressroom?pid=2964

This is the last few feet of his car that hit a semi head

on!!

This young man was texting a friend when he crossed the center line!!!!













He did not survive



Personal Activity Take out your wireless device. **Read the last text message you** received out loud. Would reading or responding to that text message while driving be worth the risk of getting into a car accident like the one you just saw? I bet the message could wait.

Resources

<u>http://www.edgarsnyder.com/car-accident/cell-phone/statistics.html</u>

http://notextingwhiledriving.us/

*

http://www.cnbc.com/id/31545004/Texting_ And_Driving_Worse_Than_Drinking_and_Driving