Language Arts

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Texting and Driving

Do you ever wonder about the dangers on the road? Yeah, everyone knows about drinking and driving or crossing animals. So, what about the simple things? The things people do *all* the time, without a second thought? Things like texting and driving? Texting and driving makes being on the road dangerous, a huge threat to you and those around you. Therefore, texting and driving should be banned in every state for all ages. This essay will share with you some of the biggest threats of texting and driving. Texting while trying to drive a car causes thousands of deaths and accidents a year. Even though some people say texting and driving can be done safely, it’s simply impossible. No matter where you are it’ll always be a threat, humans don’t have enough brain capacity for so many tasks at once.

You may think texting and driving is easy! You see your parents do it, your friends do it, and even you do it! It’s easy right? You *may* believe that, but the human brain simply cannot handle the pressure. The word multitasking means: to be doing more than one thing at a time. Trying to have both hands on the wheel, read the text, watch the road, and think of a message to send back is nearly impossible. If a person does complete this task their chances of crashing were still very high! A texting driver is twenty-three times more likely to crash than a non-texting driver. Studies show that a person spends a minimum of five seconds reading or writing a text. While traveling about fifty-five miles per hour, that’s like driving the length of a football field blind! Texting while driving has the same effect as driving after drinking four beers, and causes twenty-five percent of all accidents. But texting and driving not only cause’s accidents, they cause deaths, and no one wants to lose a loved one to something so preventable.

Texting and driving kills. Texting and driving can cause up to eleven teen deaths per day. Picture this in your head; you’re in the backseat with your baby brother while your mom is in the front seat and your dad is driving. You dad receives a text and without thinking twice he decides to read it. That’s a possible four lives taken because of one text, not to mention the people in the other car or at the side of the road. A death caused by texting while driving is a horrible way to lose someone. Death occurs all the time, all over the world, but dying to such an avoidable danger is no way to end it. Opening that text may not only change your life but will change the lives of the people around you; the people you love. Drivers think it’s easy to text while driving a car, but what’s not easy is trying to live your life paralyzed or knowing that you lost your sister to a text message.

Many people text and drive; hands off the wheel, eyes off the road. But what’s the big deal if you’re at a light or a stop sign? Seventy-seven percent of adults **THINK** they can safelytext and drive, while fifty-five percent of teens claim it’s easy to be texting and driving. People are learning bad habits by thinking this is okay. Forty-eight percent of teens have seen their parent’s text or talk while driving and forty-eight percent of kid’s ages twelve to seventeen years old have been in a vehicle while the driver was texting. No matter the circumstances, texting and driving will always be dangerous. Whether you’re young or old, small or large, texting and driving is one-hundred percent dangerous and one-hundred percent avoidable.

Regardless, texting and driving takes lives! A person’s brain just can’t develop such a high skill for the ability to multitask so many things! When you’re texting and driving you’re not only putting yourself in danger, but also the people around you. In 2011 at least twenty-three percent of crashes involved cell phones, and almost one million people talk or text while driving each day! In my essay I have explained the dangers of texting and driving, the risk of texting and driving, and have explained the reasons why texting and driving should be banned in all states. Ten states including Washington D.C. prohibit all drivers from using hand held devices, thirty-two states (as well as D.C.) prohibit beginner and young drivers from cell phone use in a vehicle, and thirty-nine states (once again, including D.C.) prohibit ALL drivers from texting. If this many states have gone through the trouble of eliminating one more danger from the road, we all might as well ban texting and driving throughout the United States.

Works Cited

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