

Youth Summit 2019

Topic: Distracted Driving

Main issues on this topic:

- Peer pressure.
- Observing parents behavior in car.
- Talks from accident survivors on dangers.
- Comfortable with way I drive, but not with other drivers out there.

Resources the students mention for getting help, both informal and formal around this topic:

(Adult scribes)

- FCCLA: FACTS-Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety.
- Autonomous vehicles reduce possibility of driver error.
- Discuss good driving techniques in school.

How they cope with this issue.

(Adult scribes)

- Positive influence of parents and others demonstrating acceptable behavior.
- Rely on parents to help: accept consequences from parents vs. injured or dead.
- Be a good passenger:
 - Ride with safe driver.
 - Wear a seat belt.
 - Encourage drivers to pay close attention and drive safely.

What they wish it was like.

(Adult scribes)

- Wish that texting and driving wasn't so prevalent.
- Qualities of good driver:
 - Drive the speed limit.
 - Have situational awareness.
 - Mental skill.
- All drivers should understand the dangers of poor driving behaviors.

Other feedback

(Adult scribes)

- Influence of parents not wearing seatbelts, also lack of New Hampshire law:
 - Behaviors demonstrated by parents are likely to be adopted by kids.
- Texting and driving:
 - Narrowly avoided accidents.
- Autonomous cars
- Role of drugs in distracted and dangerous driving:
 - Driving impaired/under influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Behaviors of ideal passenger:
 - Ride with a safe driver.
 - Wear a seat belt.

- Encourage driver to pay close attention and drive safely.
- Biggest distraction when driving is other people in car causing distraction or encouraging dangerous behavior.
- Scare tactics can be ineffective in driver education.
- GDLs: Graduated driver licenses.
- Forms of impaired driving: not just drinking, also smoking marijuana, vaping, etc.
- Part of fclla, covered seat belt usage. If you're with your parents and see they are not wearing a seatbelt, you are more likely to not wear a seatbelt.
- Students have seen parents' texting and driving, even though it's illegal.
- My mom is on a phone a lot, and looks down at the screen.
- Took phone out of mom's hand.
- Doing it because he caught mom, or because it's a risk?
- Do as I say, not as I do.
- Affects your perception.
- When your parents tell you something, do they say DON'T or DO.
- Eventually you get to the point of which of these No's matter.
- One time, we were on a road and a bus in front stopped, and he didn't see it because he was going fast and looking at phone. If she hadn't seen it, they would have crashed. He said he wouldn't do it again, but he did.
- Autonomous cars. Been in one, weird, all of a sudden driver takes hands off wheel.
- What makes autonomous cars good? Reduce driver error. Monitors front, side to side constantly.
- Weak – don't know what to do in certain instances.
- Race drivers get paid to concentrate, focus.
- Texting takes away concentration.
- Distraction – changing song, has almost caused me to drive off road. "I'm not going to do that again." Instead have someone else change song.
- Driving under the influence.
- Googles – skew vision, but doesn't mess with judgement.
- If someone is drunk, they don't always realize something that's wrong.
- Why do people drive drunk? People don't realize don't feel affected by it. It's a timing thing, alcohol doesn't necessarily affect you right away.
- They don't have any other way to get home, so they drive drunk. What else could you do? Walk, call friend, call mom.
- It's better to call my mom than drive impaired.
- What can change your behavior? A tragedy. Someone passed away in her town due to an accident, they weren't wearing a seatbelt. Another person in car had to have facial reconstruction surgery
- "I'm not scared of me driving, I'm scared of others driving"
- What makes a good driver? Focused on the road, driving the speed limit, aware of what is going on.
- Passenger with friends, how do you behave? I always tell them what to do. I don't want to be in the car with someone who doesn't follow the rules
- I do the same thing. But I won't be a passenger in many friend's cars, they are very distracted. Many of my friends have had accidents already.
- Sometimes I feel like the mom, remind the other driver what to do. Tell friends to slow down.
- If I'm driving, I'm responsible for my passengers.
- Need more awareness among teenagers about tragedies that have happened to others.
- Studies suggest no. 1 influencing factor in driving behavior is parents.
- Biggest distraction: other people.
- Other people demand your attention, have to think how to answer a question.
- Friends can affect concentration.
- Peer pressure, friends can tell you to do something. Dare you.
- You have to think about the consequences of your actions, both short term and long term.
- I don't want to die in a car because you acted in like an idiot while driving.
- Consequences: you might get hurt, but you might also lose friends.
- How to influence the rest of your peers? Report to police. Remind of consequences. Open conversations like this.
- Drivers Ed – instead of just focusing on how to handle a car, have people come talk about their experience in a car. Have someone come talk with someone who has had an accident.
- Semi-trucks – dangerous to drive right behind.

- Don't want to scare someone so bad they don't want to drive.
- Also don't want to feel it will never happen to them.
- Talk about it more in health class, discuss risks.
- GDL – rules for beginners – seatbelt, no friends in car, not use phone, even if use gps have to set it up before the car starts, no driving midnight to 5:00 am.
- GPS units distract you.
- In New Hampshire, can't be designated driver until over 18.
- Marijuana impairs driving. Many think that being high while driving isn't as bad as being drunk, a lot of kids don't realize their impaired.
- Prescription drugs can affect you.
- Can you test for marijuana in a driver? (Like breathalyzer test)
- In school they teach kids how to look for signs of being high.
- Driving after taking Nyquil is considered impairment.