

Mr Jordan Wilkes

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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It is my belief that a lack of road rule knowledge as well as knowledge of roads being driven at the times of fatal accidents must be a contributing factor to the "Lives Lost" tally. This coupled with an unenforced medical review

section inside our road authority and an increase in distracted driving due to technological advancements.

I find it hard to fathom that road condition plays a major part in one-off accidents in that the road itself is 100% responsible for an accident. Whilst it may be hard to govern who drives what road and if they should be driving the road unknowing of the condition or geographical features of a particular road, there will be no reduction in the "Lives Lost" tally should people continue not to use all available tools (eg. mapping, navigation, transport services that are operated by people who frequent the areas).

At the same time, public transport standards, compared to other states and countries, is deplorable. Infrastructure lacks sorely meaning that there are more people on the road as there are no other options than to drive. More drivers on the road obviously increases the risk of an accident, fatal or not. This year alone there has been an increase of 250% in accidents in the metropolitan area of Victoria. I personally travelled on a train the other day from Ballarat at 8am that experienced overcrowding due to a shortage of services. This is beyond comprehension. Focus on completing upgrades before starting new ones. Focus on developing underdeveloped infrastructure (the fact I cannot travel on a train from Ballarat to Geelong is no longer a laughing matter). Focus on educating the younger generation and immigrants who have obtained their licence in a different country about the road rules. It is too easy to forge a log book and fluke their way through a Learner Permit test.

Outside of this, medical reviews of drivers need to occur more frequently to curb the ever increasing epidemic of driving with conditions that inhibit a driver's ability to drive safely. It's not just drug driving and drunk driving that have increased but driving with conditions or driving whilst prescribed, and taking, medications that inhibit reaction times and cause drowsiness. All factors that contribute to fatal accidents.

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File1:

File2:

File3: