Distracted Driving

Any Student

Elmira District Secondary School

Due Date, 20XX

Chris Wattie (2013), in the article “How the war on drunk driving distracts from the real danger, published in Macleans.ca, suggests that distracted driving has become more of a problem in Canada than drunk driving. He says that the rate of deaths caused by drunk driving are at the lowest level in 25 years (para. 4). According to the Ontario Provincial Police, from January to August 2013, there were 32 deaths due to impaired driving compared to 47 due to distracted driving (para. 7). The Canadian Automobile Association also states that “texting drivers are 23 times more likely to be in an accident than a driver who’s paying attention to the road” (para. 7). Wattie also notes that “drivers under 25 are two to three times more likely” to text and drive (para. 8). His point is supported by Dr. Andrew Adesman who says, “The reality is kids aren’t drinking seven days per week [but] they are carrying their phones and texting seven days per week, so you intuitively know this is a more common occurance” (para. 8). Wattie suggests that this behavior could be changed through greater enforcement by police forces, and by using “public attention, opinion and condemnation” to encourage people to change their behavior (para. 11). Wattie makes a strong case that distracted driving has become a greater problem in Canada than drunk driving.

References

Wattie, C. (2013, October 21). How the war on drunk driving distracts from the real danger. Retrieved January 5, 2015, from http://www.macleans.ca/politics/how-the-war-on-drunk-driving-distracts-from-the-real-danger/