



Texting distracts you from driving for an average of five seconds every time you look at your phone

DISTRACTED DRIVING 1

May 24, 2014

Alex Bodnar: **Gosh** it's really difficult to watch a video like that, **isn't it?**

José Cruz: I I I, I don't often become lost for words, but that, the way that that video just saw those two cars crashing was scarier than just about any sort of way that Hollywood can make it in its fake way of trying to make crashes more exciting. It was super real.

Alex: Yes, Yes it was very real. Yes, it was scarier than watching a movie that's for sure.

José: Um do you, uh admit it, do you touch (uh-huh) your phone while you drive?

Alex: Yes. I do, I do.

José: I'll- I'll admit it. I do too.

Alex: Yeah.

José: And um. I- I swear, I I, you see something like that **and it** makes you go, "holy **cow!**" **And it-** you, you kind of promise to yourself you'll never do that again after seeing something like that.

Alex: Yeah yeah. I think I think we all make uh excuses, you know, uh "it won't happen to me", or, (Mm-hmm) "there's nothing going on around me". You know uh, uh the video that we saw there, Uh that's, I'm familiar with those **kinds of** roads in Canada. You know,

because you can drive for a long time on an open flat road and see nothing.

José: Right. Right. (you know) Right. Uh that, there's um- there's a road like that from, I think it's from Toronto to Peterborough. Beautiful (uh-huh) road. (Mm-hmm) I forget the number, or the name of the road. Beautiful road, but, beautiful winding curvy road, (mm-hmm) like out of a movie, and lights, I'm sorry*, or no lights, for hours and hours. Anyway, uh just back to the distracted driving. (Yeah) Um, what you mentioned before about how people think that it'll never happen to them, there's almost like (Yeah) um, a psychological name for that. It's called the, um the "better-than-average" syndrome.

Alex: "Better-than-average" syndrome?

José: I **don't know** if that's the exact name, but that's the effect. (Uh-huh) Basically most people have this idea (yeah) that they are better than the average person (ah right) when it comes everything.

Alex: The other person's an idiot, right?

José: Right, right. And it- that's why you get the idea of, "it'll never happen to me because I'm such a careful driver".

Alex: Ah right.

José: “Oh and you know, It’s- I only do it when there’s nobody around me.” And that’s exactly what’s going through my head right now. (Mm-hmm) And I, and I do touch my phone. But at the same time I try to guard against that and, (yeah) the way I have my phone right now is that... in Japan, the **legal law** says you are not allowed to physically touch the phone while your- while the car is moving.

Alex: Mm-hmm.

José: Even if you’re driving but the car is parked, you can touch your phone.

Alex: Huh? If the car is parked **you can, or can’t?**

José: You can touch the phone. (You can. Yeah) You are, you are allowed to touch the phone. If the car is parked, if the car is stopped, as long as the car’s not moving.

Alex: Well I, I I don’t, I don’t touch my phone when the car is moving. If I come up to a red light, then uh, I may change a setting, right, because uh, I play music off my iPod.

José: Ah, me too, me too.

Word count	Time	Words/Min.
583	3:11	183.14

Pointers:

Alex and Jose had just finished watching a youtube video (link below) just before this conversation began. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KILUIAGgZcg>

“**Gosh**” another way to say “**god**” that is acceptable for polite conversation. It is not always considered acceptable to mention religion in an interjection (0:00)

“**isn’t it**” At speed, ‘isn’t it’ is pronounced, ‘**IZINIT**’. The middle ‘T’ sound is dropped. (0:03)

“**and it**” pronounced, “**EHNIT**”. (0:49)

“**holy cow**” a milder way to say “**holy shit**” in polite conversation. (0:50)

“**kinds of**” pronounced, “**KAINZA**”. (1:12)

“**because**” Alex says this word very quietly. (1:15)

“**a**” Alex Alex should have said “**an**”. (1:19)

“**don’t know**” pronounced, “**DOHNO**” or, “**DUNNO**”. (1:57)

“**legal law**” José didn’t need to say both ‘legal and ‘law’. Just ‘law’ would have been enough.(2:32)

“**you can or you can’t**” Alex got confused at what José was saying because of the way José pronounced it.(2:46)

Discussion:

What do you do most on your phone (eg. testing, talking, games, e-books)?

Do you ever use your phone when you know you shouldn’t?

Have you ever seen one of your friends try to do something on their phone while driving? How did that make you feel?

IMAGE COURTESY US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (WIKIMEDIA COMMONS)
<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:USMC-111104-M-YP696-003.jpg>

