

Russell Deller

2 March 2018

As a professional truck driver for over 30 years and having covered well over two million kilometres, I see some fairly ordinary and sometimes very dangerous and stupid 'stunts' by drivers of all ages. Commonsense and general courtesy seem to have disappeared all together these days. People need to remember that having a licence is a privilege not a given right. These are some of the issues I feel need real attention for road safety.

Drink driving - when we will drop the limit from .05 to .03 with far bigger fines imposed. As a professional truck driver (I do not drink) but truck drivers are expected to blow 00 whilst in charge of a vehicle, while car drivers are allowed to drive (some of them severely impaired) at .05

Drug driving - severe fines imposed & loss of licence, even loss of car.

Graduated licensing – limiting peers in vehicle is good, but this is bad in country areas eg. Party – a sister to drive car for her brother & his mates.

It should be mandatory 120 hours in a large manual car, not small automatic cars – you learn engagement, balance & control of the vehicle.

People in general should be encouraged to be driving a manual vehicle thus being more engaged and attentive in their driving – unfortunately people become lazy, disengaged and complacent when driving automatic vehicles.

HAZARDS – slow moving traffic (NSW L & P platers) 80 & 90 km this is extremely dangerous on the freeway when other vehicles are doing 100 & 110km & all of a sudden come upon a vehicle doing 80. This is also exceedingly dangerous on single carriage ways.

Roundabouts – if you are turning either left or right indicate, but using your indicator if going straight through a roundabout is ridiculous as this causes so many near misses & accidents. It becomes a miscommunication and a roundabout is there to keep the traffic flowing.

Day cabs on trucks should be banned from being used on any trip that requires a log book to be used.

Car brochures are full of the latest CO2 data but nothing on braking distance at 40, 60, 80, 100 & 110km per hour or lateral grip – when buying a car you want which is the safest car not CO2 information!

I am very happy for this information to be published.

Yours sincerely,

Russell Deller