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College Students' Perception and Usage of Seatbelts in Promoting Young Driver Safety

Myah Kuhn

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Project Topic:

College Students' Perception and Usage of Seatbelts in Promoting Young Driver Safety

Myah Kuhn and Sunanda Dissanayake

Abstract:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states that the leading cause of death for 15- to 20-year-olds is motor vehicle crashes. When looking at the age groups, teen and young drivers have the highest fatality rate, where lack of seatbelt usage is a key contributory factor. This study is expected to understand the seatbelt usage among college students so that safety could be improved.

This is a study based on Kennesaw State University (KSU) students' and their perception on wearing seatbelts. A survey that consisted of sixteen questions was prepared. A total of 404 surveys were completed at the campuses of KSU. Basic questions regarding age, GPA, and even household income was asked alongside of the main topic questions that relate to seatbelts were also asked for gaining a better understanding.

Some of the details were: 45% of respondents drive every day, 93% wear their seatbelt every time while in the car, 66% wear their seatbelt the same amount since being in college, 43% had above a 3.5 GPA, and many more.

Based on the results from the survey, many respondents answered with places they are less likely to wear their seatbelts, and a total of 3% do not wear their seatbelt while driving. Another finding was that 30% of the respondents have not worn seatbelts within the past month. Based on the findings, ways to increase seatbelt usage and hence reduce many of the motor vehicle crashes caused by teenagers and college aged students are suggested.