

10 OPINION

Your say

The best reader comments from print and online

SMS 2 ED

■ Mayor Antonio, we don't need the NRL here during Covid, we have been doing OK so far, you only need one person to not do the right thing and Toowoomba will be on the news like Victoria.
Sandy Stone, Twba

■ Invest in education, social housing and renewable energy. Debt can be an economic driver. Govt can borrow money at less than 1% interest rates. Govts are not households.
SJM, Harristown

■ Council should know that when a homeowner has a water leak they find where the leak is & fix the problem the council when a leak is reported to them it takes 2 weeks for them to come to fix the problem in the mean time the water is trickling down the street just how much water has been wasted.
HC, Toowoomba

■ US marines from Japan in Darwin! Pandemic?!!
Amazed



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Confiscate mobile phones
 TODAY, more so than ever before, mobile phones are not only an essential part of people's lives, but for some they are an extension of their lives; indeed for many more, mobile phones are their lives - they are glued to them 24/7.

For drivers, a mobile phone in a vehicle is a wanton distraction, period. Drivers using mobile phones to speak and text with others and checking their social media status and likes when driving are playing Russian roulette with the lives of everybody.

This past week, I have been almost rear-ended on three occasions, rammed and cut-off at turns by distracted drivers more times than I can remember. Thank God I have a crash-cam.

The high number of fatalities and carnage on our roads is a slaughter, not so much the result of sheer stupidity, unintentional mistakes, dumb carelessness, uneducated drivers, or ignorance of the law, but rather the culmination of calcu-

lated arrogance and a premeditated contempt for the law. Consequence, it seems, is little considered.

You have witnessed the bad behaviour of drivers on the road all too many times, and so to have I: young or old, man or woman, fully licensed driver or P-plate, truck driver, car driver, cab driver, tradie, lay person or professional, it makes no damn difference.

Driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, speeding, using a mobile phone, failing to give way to emergency vehicles, distracted, or just blatantly flouting the road rules, drivers just don't get it - do they?

No matter how good a person thinks he or she is in handling a motor vehicle, other drivers can be unpredictable, erratic and impulsive.

Accidents will happen - it is only a question of when, not if, and as to whether a collision will result in just an accident, damage to life, limb or property, or fatalities?

The likelihood of serious accidents and/or fatalities on our roads is further compounded by reckless and culpable drivers.

Culpable drivers are known for their sheer audacity, arrogance for the rule of law, and wanton stupidity when it comes to them intentionally taking chances.

One only has to watch RBT (Random Breath Test) on the television to see the ludicrous and idiotic lengths that speeding, distracted, drunk, drugged and fatigued drivers will go to "avoid" not only apprehension, but detection, roadside speed cameras, breathalyser and drug tests.

The extant premise of thought and action seems to be that "if I can see it, I can avoid it".

Using a mobile phone when driving is illegal, everybody knows that and everybody (well most) understand the morality of right and wrong.

Tougher penalties need to be considered for drivers who continu-

ally give a finger to the law.

I am not talking stiffer fines and the loss of demerit points, I am talking about hitting drivers where it really hurts.

Drivers and front seat passengers caught using mobile phones should immediately be forced to surrender them for a period of at least seven days for a first offence, so on.

Inconvenience is about all people understand, but sometimes you just have to be cruel to be kind.

Efficient communication devices, mobile phones were made to make our lives easier, whether by connecting people in an instant, banking, productivity, medical support, entertainment, or for social gratification; but yet in bringing us closer together, mobile phones have pushed us further apart as we have become so anti-social and care little of those more than a fingertip away.

GEORGE W. HELON,
 Toowoomba



ONLINE POLL

Today: Should drivers caught using their phones behind the wheel have them confiscated?
Yesterday: Have you ever been caught up in a scam?

YES 30%

NO 70%

BIBLE THOUGHT

"Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy;" (1 Timothy 6:17 AKJV)
 Riches can come and go. We must have our confidence in the Lord.

NATION'S SAY: A FINGER ON THE PULSE WITH EXPERT OPINION



Want to sell your home for more?

Ask your real estate agent how a newspaper ad can help you get a better price.

Independent research* shows that advertising in your local real estate guide and online together can help you get a better price.

*RP Core Logic Data 12 months to April 2018.

Ask your agent how you can reach all potential buyers!



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