

**Submission
No 5**

INQUIRY INTO VULNERABLE ROAD USERS

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With the cost of petrol more people are turning to motorcycles and scooters and only recently Sydney city council have made the CBD more bike friendly in consultation with the NSW Motorcycle council by having free bike parking spaces and free metered parking which encourages more bikes in the city which reduces congestion and pollution. I can only hope other councils follow suit as one car space can equal up to 4-5 bike or scooter - also allowing motorcycles and scooters on transit lanes also helps the traffic moving.

Education during the L training we were educated about wearing the right protective clothing but maybe show some videos of some crash scenes might shock some riders. Also my instructor brought out 2 full-face helmets and leather riding gear; showing the damage he suffered while riding motorcycles made us all thinking on the first day.

I don't know what responsibility a rider has over his pillion as I have seen the pillion passenger with only a helmet and no protective clothing (wearing a blouse, mini skirt and high heels) but I think the rider should be accountable as well just like seat belts in cars.

Having both a bike and car makes me a better car driver as I am constantly looking for fellow bike and scooter riders and I think all drivers should have a more in depth motorcycle/scooter component to make drivers aware, like this video from youtube made in the UK:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rWpFPeiRplA>

The other danger for motorcyclist is the rope wire barrier. It might be good for stopping cars crossing to the wrong side of the road but to motorcyclist it causes untold death and carnage where riders have been decapitated or lost parts of limbs and sometimes pass under or between the strands of rope to oncoming traffic. There must be a better barrier or modification to existing ones which brings a better outcome for all.

Have manufacturers of motorcycles and scooters bring out more bikes with ABS as standard, which would help cut down stopping distance in a emergency.