

Submission

No 4

DRIVER AND ROAD USER DISTRACTION

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Distractions by drivers is a big contributor of traffic accidents. There are many reasons for those distractions, most are those from within the vehicle, they include mobile phone use, use of navigation and entertainment systems, behaviour of others especially children within the vehicle, eating, drinking and grooming by the driver. Distractions that occur outside the vehicle, constant change of speed zones, school zones that do not have warning systems and street advertising. Most of the internal issues are dealt with by the traffic act. I firmly believe that the external issues can also be dealt with.

1. Constant changing of speed zones. In the past, built up areas were a 60 zone. Non built up areas (those areas without street lights) were 100 zones. It was simple and non confusing. Due to our nanny state mentality, that would most probably be changed to 50 and 90.

2. School Zones without warning systems. Drivers are constantly checking their watches clocks while driving to determine the time so as not to offend while driving through school zones without warning systems. Every school zone should be so equipped and until that occurs the existing signs should be removed. In relation to some schools zones that are equipped with fences, traffic light crossings and some even have overpass pedestrian crossings, these should not have school zones at all.