Submission No 51

Mobile speed camera enforcement programs in NSW

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as a former road crash rescue operatorfor 10 years, I find myself totally disagreeing with the objection to the removing the speed camera warning signs here in NS W!

I have been a driver for the past 52 years and have been observing the driver attitude of oh so many drivers and after having been involved in many road crash instincases during my time as a rescue operator, I have become very aware of the driver mentality of the majority of drivers not only here in NSW but also during my 16 years up in north QLD!

The mentality of what seems to be the majority of drivers has shown all too often that they have a totally complacent attitude to their responsibility as a licenced driver and have no regard to the rules that are there for every drivers safety!

All too often, the standard behaviour of most drivers when they observe a warning sign advising of a speed camera ahead, they slow down for the area of the camera and once passing that camera, they speed back up!

I myself once fell victim to a speed camera where there was no advisory sign!

I had attended a serious road crash accident where a women had fallen asleep at the wheel and suffered a major crash!

I assisted in the recovery of the women and once she was transported to hospital, I continued on my way to my destination. Having been involved in her rescue, my mind was going through all the trauma that had taken place and this resulted in my distraction to my current situation and as a result, my speed was above the designated posting and a sped camera detected this and I received my first fine in many years of driving!

I totally agree with all removals of signs advising drivers of any speed camera warnings as it is high time that drivers faced up to their responsibility of following the rules put in place that are there to protect all road users!

My idea is that if a driver is obeying the rules they are bound by, no matter how many speed cap eras, red light cameras there are, they have no need to worry!

Having no warning signs, if they are disobeying the laws of the road, they must pay the penalty and if they get a surprise in their mail regarding their negligence, so be it!

Something needs to be done to make these arrogant drivers wake up and realise that they are the ones that need to adjust their attitude and abide by the road rules!

The attitude that speed and red light cameras are purely a revenue raising regime needs to be seriously negated!

The figures showing a large increase in the amount of revenue being raised clearly shows that driver attitude has gone to the dogs big time! The governing bodies need to stop pandering to the media and the promotion of the attitude that revenue raising is what is leading the way for the increase in funds raised by the government!

Oh so many years of advertising campaigns to try and curb the number of speeding, red light camera, mobile phone deaths etc has done nothing to educate drivers as to road crash trauma etc and it is high time that a strong, tough stance is put in place to kick all those offenders in the butt to convince them that laws, and road rules are there for a reason!

The results of their negligent attitude are hitting damned hard on all emergency service personnel, police and innocent victims does not seem to hit home to way too many! I know that for sure! Time to get tough for sure because this pussy footing around and bantering to the whingers has to stop NOW!