



#10446

DRIVER'S EDUCATION: PART 10--ROAD RAGE

DEAF SUCCESS PRODUCTIONS, 2004
GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
23 MINUTES

DESCRIPTION

An ASL narrator shares many driving behaviors that can incite road rage in ourselves or others. Common-sense actions and courtesies can keep it at a minimum. Offers tips on how to calm a road-rage situation and stay safe. Voiced in English.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Working with Others

- Standard: Displays effective interpersonal communication skills.
 - Benchmark: Demonstrates appropriate behaviors for relating well with others (e.g., empathy, caring, respect, helping, friendliness, politeness).
 - Benchmark: Knows strategies to effectively communicate in a variety of settings (e.g., selects appropriate strategy for audience and situation).
 - Benchmark: Uses nonverbal communication such as eye contact, body position, and gestures effectively.

Subject Area: Health

- Standard: Knows essential concepts and practices concerning injury prevention and safety.
 - Benchmark: Knows injury prevention strategies for community health (e.g., neighborhood safety, traffic safety, safe driving).

Subject Area: Self-Regulation

- Standard: Considers risks.
 - Benchmark: Knows potential safety hazards, and knows common strategies to avoid hazard or injury.
 - Benchmark: Knows emergency safety procedures before undertaking hazardous procedures.

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To define road rage.
2. To identify the causes of road rage.
3. To discuss the importance of handling road rage and keeping yourself safe.
4. To demonstrate ways to control your own anger when driving in difficult road conditions.

BEFORE SHOWING

Define and discuss "road rage" and "reckless driving."

Background: A driver may be liable for an accident due to his or her intentional or reckless conduct. A driver who is reckless is one who drives unsafely, with "willful and wanton disregard" for the probability

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

that such driving may cause an accident. A driver could be found reckless, for example, if he or she drives in a threatening or harassing manner out of “road rage” and causes an accident. (Criminal charges will also stem from such behavior.) *Road rage* is defined as “uncontrollable anger experienced by a driver in difficult road conditions.” Legally it is defined as “an assault with a motor vehicle or other dangerous weapon by the operator or passenger(s) of another motor vehicle or an assault precipitated by an incident that occurred on a roadway.”

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Discuss these characteristics of aggressive drivers from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:
 - a. These high-risk drivers climb into the anonymity of an automobile and take out their frustrations on anybody at any time.
 - b. For them, frustration levels are high, and level of concern for fellow motorists is low.
 - c. They run stop signs and red lights, speed, tailgate, weave in and out of traffic, pass on the right, make improper and unsafe lane changes, make hand and facial gestures, scream, honk, and flash their lights.
 - d. They drive at speeds far in excess of the norm, which causes them to follow too closely, change lanes frequently and abruptly without notice (signals), pass on the shoulder or unpaved portions of the roadway, and leer at and/or threaten—verbally or through gestures—motorists who are “thoughtless” enough to be in front of them.
2. Discuss the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety guidelines for avoiding being a victim of an aggressive driver:
 - a. Don't offend others (cutting drivers off, driving slowly in the left lane, tailgating, rude gestures, and cutting in line instead of taking turns).
 - b. Don't engage (steer clear of angry drivers, avoid eye contact, and get help).
 - c. Adjust your attitude (forget winning and put yourself in the other drivers' shoes).
3. Discuss the three categories of road rage causes as delineated by Penn State University as follows: The three main categories used to classify what causes road rage are the environment, intrusive responses, and territorial defensiveness. Environmental conditions are the main factors associated with road rage. These conditions can consist of traffic congestion, another's dangerous driving habits, the weather (i.e., heat, humidity, etc.), noise levels, and time constraints. The other two causes of road rage, intrusive responses and territorial defensiveness, are also closely related. Intrusive responses are actions of retaliation to get back at another for their careless driving. Territorial defensiveness is the act of defending ones personal space (the car) in response to another individual's driving.

RELATED RESOURCES

Captioned Media Program

- [*Citizens' Guide To Safe Driving #7914*](#)
- [*Driver's Education: Part 1—Becoming a Safe, Skillful Driver #10445*](#)
- [*Road Rage and Aggressive Driving: A View from the Driver's Seat #3649*](#)
- [*Streets of Danger & the Road to Safety #10764*](#)

To view more titles in the *Driver's Education* series and other related media, please connect to our Web site at <http://www.cfv.org/browsetitles.asp?sn=98>.

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and “kid safe” sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **ROAD RAGE VS. DEFENSIVE DRIVERS**

<http://roadragers.com/>

Provides resources on driving style analysis, a road rage quiz, polls, advice, bad driver and road rage reports, and message board.

- **ROAD RAGE & AGGRESSIVE DRIVING**

<http://www.coedu.usf.edu/zalaquett/roadrage/roadrage.html>

Four links related to road rage: “What is Road Rage?” “What are the Statistics?” “Who is the Typical Aggressive Driver?” and “How Can I Tell if I’m an Aggressive Driver?”

- **AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY**

<http://www.aipsnews.com/>

Their mission is to save lives, as well as taxpayer dollars, through effective, national delivery of their proprietary, proven, humor-based training programs. Covers traffic safety, driver improvement, and road rage.