

Richard Lee-6<sup>th</sup> grade  
Cell Phones should be banned in Cars.

Imagine this. You are a driver on the highway. You brought a cell phone with you just in case of emergencies, and there's a traffic jam. You see a huge accident up ahead involving three cars that smashed into each other, and one of the cars are on fire. You reach for your cell phone only to remember you can't use a cell phone in cars. You like the other drivers, didn't get a Bluetooth just yet, and drive down the street. One hour later, a police car and a fire truck drive on scene, only to see that what's left is a huge wreck with smoldering pieces of metal and ash. This is exactly why I took up the Con side on this week's debate", Cell phones should be banned in cars." This is because, cell phones are safe and handy, and the problems it would cause for cell phone users.

The first reason Cell phones should not be banned in cars is because of the safe and handy benefits it contains. Cell phones can let people coordinate schedules with their family, stranded motorists can call a tow truck, and motorists can report fires and accidents to the police. Also, there are 41,000 deaths per year due to car accidents, and cell phone accidents only make up 300 of these deaths. If we wanted to effectively curtail car accidents, the government would set the speed limit to 10 mph and enforce it harshly. However, Americans are not willing to do this. There's a huge difference between using a cell phone, and cell phones causing accidents. This leads to my next reason.

The Pro team mentioned that cell phones were causing accidents and that drivers should pull over to give calls. However, when you compare 41,000 to 300, you can obviously see that banning cell phones in cars would lower the rate of deaths per year, but would only curtail less than 1 percent of the automobile accidents and the deaths involved. Also, in the perfect world, anyone would be able to pull over and give a quick 5 minute call. But, in the real world, what would the streets look like if everyone single commuter decided to stop at the side of the road and give a call. The road is not a parking lot, and you should only pull over if you're out of gas or things like that. Also, I don't think in a huge traffic jam during rush hour, you would try to get through a mass of thousands of cars just to get to the side of the road to make a 5 minute " , how are you?" call.

The last reason I believe there should not be a ban on cell phones is the problems cell phone users are going to have. The market is going to cause huge financial problems for these people. Insurance companies will put these people in the "high risk," category and demand much higher premiums from these people, and thus cause more people on the streets begging for a morsel of meat. What will modern technology look like if you can't even use these devices on a car while you're going to work?

As you can see, a prudent urge for safety doesn't mean you have to ban cell phones in cars. Also, statistics show that cell phone bans will not finish off the number of automobile accidental deaths in the US or any other modern country. I hope my essay has led you to think so, just like many of the rest of us who look at the facts.