

**Joint Select Committee on Road Safety**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Inquiry into Road Safety – Public hearing 7 October 2021**

**Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety - Queensland**

**Committee Question Number: RSQN030**

**Proof Hansard Page: p. 43 (7 October 2021)**

**Mr THISTLETHWAITE:** I have just one question: Your submission goes to distracted drivers and particularly mobile phone use. Under our road rules, you're not supposed to touch or use a mobile phone while you are driving a vehicle. We have the technology to ensure that can't occur, but we don't use it. Are there any jurisdictions in the world where they are starting to use this technology on a compulsory basis? For instance, you point out in your submission the 'do not disturb' feature on Apple technology. I can't understand why that isn't a feature of being on the road as a rule.

**Prof. Haworth:** I don't know of any country that has mandated it, but I'll certainly find out and, if that is the case, then I'll get back to the committee about it.

**Answer**

In response to the question on notice, it is the understanding of the Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety Queensland (CARRS-Q) that there is no country that has mandated mobile phone blocking apps. We note that while different apps are required for different phones, it would be possible for a government to mandate that any phone sold should have a functional app.