

Sent: Wednesday, 5 August 2020 12:55 PM

Subject: Submission 30 reply to questions

Dear Committee members,

In addition to submission number 30 and the honour of attending the Brisbane hearing, I would like to take this opportunity to respond to Senator Hanson's questions to me on Driver Training.

Senator Hanson asked me about "should there be a national campaign for training young drivers and how to drive around trucks."

I wish to make this further submission.

1. Driver training in general needs to be reformed. Drivers appear to be failing to understand and follow the basic road rules. Driver trainers need to have a Code of Practice to ensure Learner drivers are covering all aspects of driving and not just sufficient knowledge to pass a test.
2. All drivers need to be made aware of Heavy Vehicle stopping distances and what the signs on the rear of the trailer means. "Do not overtake turning vehicles" needs to be explained. Many drivers exhibit a complete lack of knowledge.
3. From my first hand personal experience, I have witnessed these main Issues with Light vehicles.
 - a/ Distracted driving
 - b/ Fail to give right of way
 - c/ Fail to overtake in a safe manner
 - d/ Fail to merge in a safe manner.
 - e/ Fail to travel at a safe distance
4. When I mentioned heavy vehicle drivers also suffer from ignorance of stopping and safe travel distances, we must address this matter urgently.
The level of tailgating on the roads at present, is totally unacceptable.
These appear to be new heavy vehicle drivers who exhibit anxiety and when you add light vehicle drivers into the mix, it is a recipe for disaster.
5. In my experience, Anxiety is a leading causation of Aggressive driving and is symptomatic of workplace pressure.
It takes an experienced driver to identify and manage this pressure.
A new driver may not be aware of the causation of this aggressive driving and should be mandatory that a module "Managing Anxiety" be included in all Heavy vehicle driver training.

I thank you for your questions Senator Hanson.

Trevor Warner
Submission 30

