



# **IMPACT OF SOCIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL DISTRACTIONS ON PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN NIGERIA**

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## **1.0 Introduction**

The 7<sup>th</sup> KRSD Annual International Conference brought together Federal Road Safety Corps, Directorate of Road Traffic Services, Road Transport Associations and Owners, Market Women Association, National Council for Women Societies, Non-Governmental Organisations, National Youth Service Corps, Students, The Media and other road users. Three youth corps who emerged winners in KRSD/FRSC Annual Road Safety Essay Competition received their awards.

### **1.1. ISSUES RAISED**

- i. Lack of traffic rules compliance by drivers, pedestrians and passengers.
- ii. The inappropriate use of Socio technological gadgets such as; Phones, Ear-piece, Car Stereos and so on.
- iii. The increase in the usage of Psycho-active Substances by the youths which usually affects their emotions and attitudes.
- iv. Inconsistencies in attitude of drivers
- v. Distraction of drivers by attitudes of either passengers or pedestrians
- vi. Some drivers were not trained in a proper, well licensed driving school. E.g. some women being trained by their husbands instead of in a driving school.
- vii. Poverty which prompts drivers to overload their vehicles to make extra money.
- viii. Lack of government policies that will compel road users to adhere to safety guides.
- ix. Neglect of road signs
- x. Absence of Inadequate road infrastructures

## **1.2. RECOMMENDATIONS/RESOLUTIONS**

1. The motoring public and pedestrians should say NO to the use of phones and other electronic devices that causes distraction while driving or walking on the road
2. Passengers have a big role to play by cautioning drivers against over speeding and other driving vices.
3. There should be adequate advocacy, sensitization and awareness campaigns on drug abuses, alcoholism using traditional rulers, mosque, churches, motor-parks, markets and road shows.
4. Drug Law Enforcement Agencies should step up efforts to scrutinize dark spots like markets, empty buildings e.t.c for illicit drug users by bringing perpetrators to book.
5. Drug users should be rehabilitated in rehabilitation facilities before allowing them to operate on the high ways.
6. Vehicle owners should be mandated to pass through driving schools and obtain driving license before driving any type of motor vehicles on our Nigerian roads.
7. Road Safety officials should prosecute traffic offenders that violate traffic rules such as over loading, over speeding, no- use of seat belts and so on.
8. Practical steps be taken by both the State and National Assemblies to ensure they provide safety tools like Ambulances, Fire Extinguishers, other vehicles and funds to facilitate the activities and movement of crash victims to hospitals for treatment.
9. Nigerians should imbibe the right attitudes of safety while on the roads by obeying traffic rules and regulations.

Assistant Corps Marshal Jonas Agwu; the representative of the Corps Marshal commended KRSD for their efforts for initiating and organising the programme and the essay competition award and urged other NGOs and individuals to emulate them in the fight against the bane of road traffic crashes.

**Signed**

**Mr. Henry Nwasike, Conference Chairman**

**Hon. Justice M.B. Dongban-Mensem, Founder KRSD**