

Using Peers and Information and Communication Technology in Improving Road Safety for Young Drivers

QUT Ethics Approval Number 170000846

RESEARCH TEAM

Principal Researcher:	Daniel Vankov	PhD student
Associate Researchers:	Dr Ronald Schroeter	Principal Supervisor
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Queensland University of Technology (QUT)**

DESCRIPTION

This project is being undertaken as part of Daniel Vankov's PhD study on improving road safety.

The purpose of this project is to evaluate the role technology-based interventions in the car (e.g. smartphone based driving applications) and/or social connections to other drivers can play in changing driving behavior and/or attitudes towards driving.

You are invited to participate in this project because you:

1. Are a young driver, aged 18 to 25;
2. Have a valid open or provisional Australian driver's license;
3. Drive a car as the only means of transport;
4. Drive a minimum of 100 kilometres per month
5. Own a smartphone.

PARTICIPATION

Your participation will involve:

1. **Survey 1:** Completion of a 10 minute anonymous online survey. Immediately after completing it you will get instructions to install the "Sensor project" app. If you fail to install the app at this moment a reminder email will be sent to you after one week which will contain the same instruction information.

Example questions:

- To what extent do you intend to drive faster than the speed limit over the next 3 months? (Possible answers: No extent at all (1) to A great extent (9))
- How often do you do the following on your smartphone while driving: Initiate communication on social interactive technology? (Starting a communication) (Possible answers: More than once per day; Daily; 1–2 times per week; 1–2 times per month; 1–2 times per 3 months; Once a year; Never)
- I plan tasks carefully. (Possible answers: 1 (Rarely/Never); 2 (Occasionally); 3 (Often); 4 (Almost Always/Always))

2. **Driving Study:** Driving for three months with a smartphone app, installed on your smartphone, for which you will be advised by the research team. You will be invited to join a leaderboard group in the app where the research team will be able to observe evolution in the participants' driving scores.

Approximately three months after you completed the first survey an email communication will be sent to you with the Internet address of a second survey to be completed.

3. **Survey 2:** Completion of another 10 minute anonymous online survey.

Example questions:

- To what extent do you intend to drive faster than the speed limit over the next 3 months? (Possible answers: No extent at all (1) to A great extent (9))
- How often do you do the following on your smartphone while driving: Initiate communication on social interactive technology? (Starting a communication) (Possible answers: More than once per day; Daily; 1–2 times per week; 1–2 times per month; 1–2 times per 3 months; Once a year; Never)
- Do you often refrain from doing something because you are afraid of it being illegal? (Yes / No)

After completing Survey 1 you will be randomly assigned into one of two groups (intervention and no intervention/control). Depending on the group, you are assigned to you will: A) drive as normal with no additional tasks; B) install and use an off-the-shelf safe-driving app (e.g. Flo – driving insights, chosen by the research team) while driving, which will be providing you with information on your critical events such as speeding, hard braking, hard acceleration and fast cornering. Additionally you will join a leaderboard group in the chosen safe-driving app. The leaderboard will sort participants (highest to lowest) according to assigned score. The score represents an overall number of points that are awarded by the app for your driving. The score is calculated by the app itself in regards to critical events such as speeding, hard braking, hard acceleration and fast cornering as well as phone use. However, the research team does not know what formula and methodology is used when calculating the score. The score also does not provide any information in regards to whether there was any illegal behaviour. Participants will not be identifiable through the leaderboard because it will use only scores and usernames, chosen by the respective participant, decoding of which is possible only for the person that generated it.

There is no cost related to your participation in the study. However, as noted above the safe-driving app will use your smartphone sensors. Continued use of those sensors, such as GPS for example, running in the background can decrease battery life. The driving app we will be using is built to use minimal power. We dislike empty phones too.

Your participation in this project is entirely voluntary. If you agree to participate, you do not have to complete any question(s) you are uncomfortable answering. Your decision to participate or not participate will in no way impact upon your current or future relationship with QUT. If you do agree to participate you can withdraw from the project during your participation without comment or penalty. However as all collected data is not identifiable once it is submitted thus it will not be possible to withdraw.

EXPECTED BENEFITS

It is expected that this project will not directly benefit you. However, on a broader scale this research will help create a sustainable environment to motivate safer behaviour among young drivers.

To recognise your contribution should you choose to participate the research team is offering you the chance to win a Coles/Myer voucher if you complete the two surveys and participate in the Naturalistic Driving Study as a prize.

Please note the opening date for entries is 27 March 2018, the closing date for entries is 30 April 2018 and the prizes are 10 Coles/Myer vouchers of 150 AUD each.

The Terms and Conditions of the prize draw can be located at:

<https://survey.qut.edu.au/survey-data/67/67667/media/62/6254.pdf>

RISKS

There are no major risks beyond normal day-to-day living associated with your participation in this project. Nevertheless you should consider the following:

1. There is a small risk that you may experience discomfort in completing the surveys. Please, make sure that you understand all the provided information in this form before consenting. In case you start experiencing discomfort you can withdraw from participation without any comment prior to completing the surveys by simply not finalising them.
2. There is a small risk that you may experience discomfort from your driving behaviour being monitored. Your information will be treated as confidential and will not be shared, with all reports maintaining the anonymity of participants, unless (in the unlikely event) that the research team is legally required under subpoena and oath to answer specific questions that may include information gained from this research. However, this risk is negligible because after de-identification it will not be possible to establish a link between a dataset and a participant's email.

PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

All collected survey responses and driving scores data are anonymous and will be stored in a separate database than the one with emails. Collected data will be de-identified before data collection begins. Emails collected for the purposes of prize draw related communication will be treated confidentially unless required by law. The names of individual persons are not required in any of the responses. As data is collected online, there is no need for personal contact between the research team and the participants.

Any data collected as part of this project will be stored securely as per QUT's Management of research data policy. It will be property of the research team and it will not be accessed/made available to third parties unless required by law. However, the research team does not exercise control over the supplier of the off-the-shelf safe-driving app (e.g. Flo – driving insights), which will have access and ownership of the data their app is collecting. Please, note that non-identifiable data from this project may be used as comparative data in future projects.

The project is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education through a 2015 Endeavour Postgraduate Scholarship and they will not have access to the data obtained from the project.

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE

Submitting the completed online survey is accepted as an indication of your consent to participate in this project.

QUESTIONS / FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT

If you have any questions or require further information please contact one of the listed researchers:

Daniel Vankov	07 3138 7727	daniel.vankov@hdr.qut.edu.au
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Melanie White	07 3138 4714	melanie.white@qut.edu.au

CONCERNS / COMPLAINTS REGARDING THE CONDUCT OF THE PROJECT

QUT is committed to research integrity and the ethical conduct of research projects. However, if you do have any concerns or complaints about the ethical conduct of the project you may contact the QUT Research Ethics Advisory Team on 07 3138 5123 or email humanethics@qut.edu.au. The QUT Research Ethics Advisory Team is not connected with the research project and can facilitate a resolution to your concern in an impartial manner.

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING WITH THIS RESEARCH PROJECT.
PLEASE PRINT THIS SHEET FOR YOUR INFORMATION.**