



Support Children & Youth in Louisiana By...

A Text or Call Can Wreck it All

1. Issue Statement

Texting while driving has the potential to destroy lives.
Is a text message worth a LIFE?

2. The Current Picture

- ⊖ The fine for texting while driving is \$175 in Louisiana. Each additional fine is \$500.
- ⊖ Driving while texting is 6 times more dangerous than driving while intoxicated, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.
- ⊖ The United States Department of Transportation notes that cell phones are involved in 1.6 million auto crashes each year that cause a half million injuries and take 6,000 lives
- ⊖ Drive-safely.net says that the number of people that text and drive are close to 80% of the driving population. 75% of teens say their friends text and drive and 77% percent say their parents text and drive. Those who text and drive spend about 10% of their time outside their driving lane.

3. As young people, our humble recommendations are...

- ⊖ In Southwest Louisiana we can start:
 - Awareness for parents so they know they can put control over their childrens' phone during driving
 - Raising awareness in schools by getting victims to speak
 - Device that comes with insurance that puts your phone in "driving mode" perks for your bill