



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2010 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Kate C. Harvey	Project Number J0313
Project Title How Do Cell Phones Affect Your Driving?	
Abstract Objectives/Goals My objective was to learn if talking on a hand-held cell-phone affected your driving. I believe talking on a cell- phone does lessen your ability to drive. Methods/Materials I made a driving course out of cones. Drivers were instructed to stop at all the blocks in the road, stay within the cone lines, stop for a red ball that rolled across the lane, all while staying under 10 miles per hour. I had 14 people do the course twice, once while talking on a cell-phone and once without talking on a cell-phone, alternating whether the drivers got called the first time or the second time they drove the course. Results Two of my drivers did not answer the cell-phone. Of the other 12, the average driving accuracy (stops and staying within the lines) was the same for people who were talking on a cell-phone and people who weren't. The reaction time to the ball was 1 second longer for people talking on a cell-phone. The drivers talking on a cell-phone took about 50% longer to drive the course. Conclusions/Discussion My conclusion is that talking on a cell-phone does affect your driving. Both slower driving and longer reaction times by cell-phone users in my experiment shows that cell-phone use significantly reduces the attention given to driving.	
Summary Statement My project was to see if talking on a handheld cell-phone affected your driving.	
Help Received All the drivers who drove the course, my mom who called the drivers, my teacher who helped me enter my project in county, and my dad who helped me set up my course, graph my results and type the backboard.	