

CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR 2018 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J0428

Project Title

How Do Phones Affect Your Reaction Time?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The objective of this study is to determine how phones affect humans reaction time and how phones alter humans awareness to their surroundings.

Methods/Materials

10 people, timer, ruler, ball. Timed how fast people could react to a ball dropping in front of them when they were calling someone, texting someone, or off their phones completely.

Results

A ball was dropped in front of each of the 10 subjects and they were timed to how fast they could react to it when they were calling, texting, or off their phones. 100 trials were run per category to determine if phones affected peoples reaction time or altered their awareness. The performance of people off their phones was shown to be more efficient than those calling or texting.

Conclusions/Discussion

Repeated trials showed a significant difference between the category of when people were off their phones and when they were texting. It is concluded that when people are physically looking at a phone, they have a harder time reacting to their surroundings leading to their reaction times being slower than those who were calling or those who were off their phones.

Summary Statement

Measured the time it took to react to a ball dropping in front of them while they were either texting someone, calling someone, or off their phone all together.

Help Received

None, I conducted the tests and researched on my own.