

Title**Masculinity Delinquency and the Risky Road Use Behaviour of Young Male Offenders.****Name, affiliation and address**

Clive Williams

PhD Scholar

Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety – Queensland

Queensland University of Technology

Carseldine Campus

Beams Road

Carseldine. 4034.

Topic Field

Traffic Psychology, Young Males

Discussion

Despite the considerable evidence confirming the predominance of young males in traffic injury, gender has not been considered a significant factor in road safety education programs. This research examines the relationship between the perceptions of young males with motor vehicle offending histories concerning their masculinity and the relationship, if any between the enactment of these perceptions and their road use behaviour. Focusing on the specific behaviour of Opportunistic Vehicle Theft (Unlawful Use of a Motor Vehicle) the Theory of Planned Behaviour was used to examine personal attitudes, subjective norms and beliefs concerning how much control the participants believed they exercised over internal and external factors regarding the execution of a vehicle theft. Semi-structured interviews and focus groups were conducted with young men and associated agency staff through a range of youth justice agencies. Qualitative results from these interviews are presented. This study is part of a PhD program developing a theory-driven intervention for young male offenders.

What does paper offer that is new in the field?

The road use behaviour of males has not been targeted in road safety education interventions. That subgroup of young males engaged in opportunistic theft, namely at-risk youth, has traditionally been excluded from road safety initiatives as these young males typically have poor school histories where road safety education efforts have been directed.

Work in Progress

Part 2 of a three part PhD research project.