

Some people think that strict punishments for driving offenses are the key to reducing traffic accidents. Others, however, believe that other measures would be more effective in improving road safety.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Every day many people are killed or seriously mutilated in roads. While some people argue that it is important to impose serious punishments on drivers who break the law, it seems to me that other steps should be taken for providing safer roads

On one hand, extreme punishments such as heavy fines, revoking the driver's license, and even prison might lead to fewer traffic accidents in short term. In cities, many inconsiderate people drive unconsciously while being under the influence of alcohol or drug. If drivers were aware of serious punitive consequences, not only would they think twice before risking other people's lives, but also pedestrians would feel more confident walking around. Furthermore, many people depend on their vehicles to commute and run errands on a daily basis, so that governments deprive them of their cars could undoubtedly affect their life quality. Also, many accidents are the result of passing red lights or using mobile phones while driving. Issuing expensive tickets for these drivers could act as a deterrent for many drivers, as it levies a financial burden on drivers. Thus, we would witness less-fewer accidents caused by these offenses.

On the other hands, it is perhaps even more crucial to alleviate the effect of other external factors if we aim at achieving more secure roads. Firstly, many highways have not been built with minimum safety considerations. For one, motorists, unless roads were equipped with enough lights, ordinarily would not have a clear vision, which may cause terrible clashes between cars and even people who are crossing the streets; in addition, obliging manufacturers to use the latest safety equipment and tests in their cars should be considered. Cars, in many countries, should have airbags, ABS brakes, and pass vigorous crash tests before being releasing in to the market. Defined carefully, these safety regulations lead to less-far fewer unfortunate accidents and safer roads.

In conclusion, whilst the positives of punitive approaches cannot be overlooked, I believe that governments should invest more in other safety measures like safer cars and roads.