LES 25E ENTRETIENS DU CENTRE JACQUES CARTIER

Les JEUNES et la sécurité routière

20 ET 21 NOVEMBRE 2012

Partenaires de l'événement

Le Centre Jacques Cartier

IFSTTAR

Rhône, le département

Décennie d'action pour la sécurité routière 2011-2020

Sécurité routière, tous responsables

Service public fédéral Mobilité et Transports – Mobilité et Sécurité routière

CIRRELT

Réseau de recherche en sécurité routière

BIVV-IBSR

Québec
- Ministère des Transports
- Société de l'assurance automobile

Youth and Road Safety
Lyon 20, 21 November 2012

The point of view of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union

George Morfakis

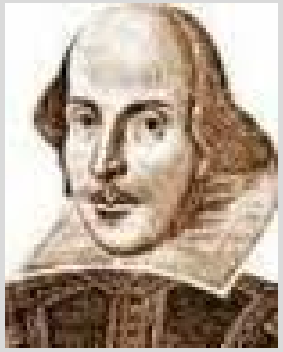
Head of the Road Safety Unit

Ministry of Communications and Works

Republic of Cyprus

Road crashes are the primary cause of death and disability for young people globally

William Shakespeare wrote in his Winter's Tale,



"I wish that there were no age between sixteen and twenty three, or that youth would sleep during that time, for all they do is getting girls pregnant, harass the old , steal and fight"

It is true that,

The young are, very often, reckless!

But youth is the future of mankind and it is the utmost duty of society to protect the young

It is also true that,

The young, especially juveniles,

do not like to be told what to do and what not to do!

We, in Cyprus, are convinced that,

The way to tackle the problem, is to get the youth actively involved in the road safety efforts

Our motto is that,

"Youth is not part of the problem,
it is part of
the solution of the problem"

As Floor Lieshout, President of YOURS, said

"Young people are engines for change, but they need to be taken seriously and for that, they need to be well informed"

For all those reasons…

4rth European Road Safety Day

25 July 2012, Nicosia, Cyprus

"Active involvement of Youth in Road Safety".

The event was …

…co-organized by the Cyprus EU Presidency and the European Commission
and was strongly supported by YOURS and the Cypriot youth organization REACTION

In the conference,

Youth road safety workers from the EU member states and neighbouring regions, scientists and road safety officials and experts, shared their knowledge, experience and ideas, through the excellent presentations and the animated debates in the workshops

A series of invaluable conclusions were drawn. The most important were:

The best way to raise road safety awareness among the young, is through a peer-to-peer interactive approach

(by trained and skilled young educators, who speak the same language and understand the young)

Conclusions (continued)

A culture of ***"Safe is Cool"***

should be created among the young

Conclusions (continued)

Governments should invest money in providing safe transport options to the young

Conclusions (continued)

Equal focus should be given by the police to checking for drug driving and drink driving

Conclusions (continued)

The message should be clear:

There is <u>no</u> safe maximum for drink or drugs behind the wheel!

Conclusions (continued)

Effective enforcement of rules and raising of road safety awareness should complement each other

Conclusions (continued)

Provide young bikers
with training
by experts
(role models)
for safe riding

Conclusions (continued)

Young bikers should be taught to

<u>think beyond the rules</u>

Conclusions (continued)

The young should be convinced that

<u>distracted driving kills</u>

Conclusions (continued)

Young women should be empowered ***to say no***

Conclusions (continued)

Young women should also be convinced **not** to reward reckless driving

Conclusions (continued)

Parents are role models
to their children
and they should be
encouraged
to give the right example
in safe driving and safe
road behaviour in general

Conclusions (continued)

Parents should provide driver training and driving experience to their children

Conclusions (continued)

A graduated driving licence system is most appropriate.

Alternatively, some restrictions for novice drivers may be enforced

Conclusions (continued)

- Police and youth organizations should cooperate in raising road safety awareness of the young and in the design of enforcement activities targeting the young

- Youth organizations should be encouraged and empowered to support enforcement activities, with their own parallel awareness raising activities

Conclusions (continued)

Through the cooperation between
the police and youth organizations,
the young should be convinced that ***enforcement aims to save lives***

Finally, the most important conclusion was,

Society should work together with youth for the road safety of the young

An excellent question by Floor Lieshout

"How could <u>you</u> involve youth in <u>your own</u> road safety work?"

UN Youth Declaration for Road Safety

"Together we can make road crashes history"

Thank you very much for your attention